

Sports

New season begins for Aggs

By MARK PATTERSON
More than 51,000 people will crowd into Kyle Field tomorrow afternoon to watch the Aggies open the 1977 season against the Kansas Jayhawks. It is only the second meeting between the two schools, with Kansas taking a 28-10 victory in 1974.

Kansas coach Bud Moore knows this game will be a battle. "They scare me. I don't know of any weaknesses they have. They are replacing a lot of people on defense, but they have quality people to do it with."

Offensively, they have to be among the best teams in the country. They were last year and everyone is back.

Regarding his offense, Moore has his own worries. Senior halfback Bill Campfield, who led Kansas to its number four ranking in the nation in rushing last year, may miss Saturday's game with a knee injury.

"There is still some swelling and at this point I'm not optimistic," coach Moore said. "We'll have to make considerable improvement to be ready. It will be a tremendous handicap if he cannot play. He is one of the people we can least afford to lose this year."

Moore went into spring drills without a starting quarterback, but has since solved his problem.

"Mark Vicendese has established himself as number one. He has

earned that based on his performance in practice.

"At the same time, Brian Bethke has also performed well and I would never hesitate to put him in. I feel much better about our quarterback situation knowing that we have two people who can get the job done."

On defense, Moore sees a weakness in his secondary.

"I think we have seen some improvement this fall, although not as much as I would have liked. We're just young and inexperienced. This is still the area of our team I'm most concerned about. However, I think before the year is over we can become a good defensive team."

Not only is this Kansas' first visit to Kyle Field, it is also a homecoming for Moore and fullback Norris Banks.

Moore served as an assistant coach at A&M from 1965 through 1970 under Gene Stallings.

Banks, a senior at Kansas, was a star running back at Houston Memorial Hall High School. He is returning home to play football in Texas for only the second time since high school.

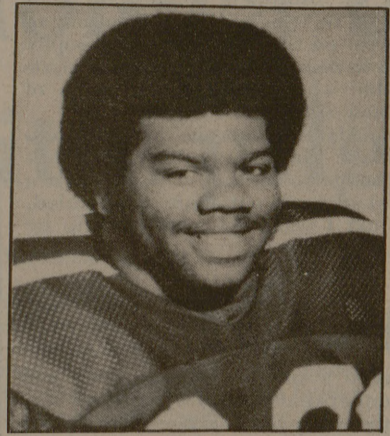
"Since I came to Kansas, I've only played in Texas one other time; the Sun Bowl my sophomore year," Banks said. "I'm really looking forward to the A&M game. With quite a few of my friends and family coming to the game, my biggest worry is trying to get tickets for everyone."

With 1,271 career rushing yards, Banks needs just 493 more this year to become the fifth leading ground gainer in Kansas history. But that is not his goal.

"My number one goal since I've been at Kansas has been to play in

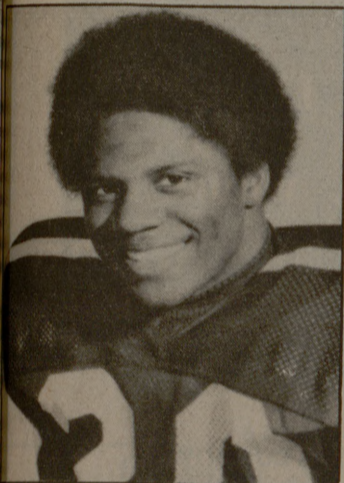
the Bluebonnet Bowl in my hometown. I want to play there in the worst way. This is my last shot."

And tomorrow is the last shot the Aggies have at Norris Banks.



Woodard

Smith likes change



Smith

By DAVID BOGGAN
Last spring, as many Aggie football faithful know, running back Darrell Smith made the transition to split end.

No longer must Smith be content with being a second-stringer. He has a starting position and his attitude shows that he wants to keep it.

"I enjoy it," the 5-foot-9, 170 lb. junior says of his new position. "Split end lets me do what I want to do, which is get out there and every time I touch the ball—six!"

"Coach Bellard felt that I was needed to start somewhere on the field," Smith says, explaining the change. Both halfback slots are filled by sophomores Curtis Dickey and David Brothers.

Will the Aggies pass more this year than last? Smith says yes.

"(Quarterback) David Walker and I have worked a lot and we have confidence in each other," he says. "Plus, the coaches have confidence that Walker can pass and I can catch."

The 1976 Aggies completed 77 of 147 attempted passes and averaged 100 yards passing per game.

Smith will also continue to return kicks and punts for the Aggies. Last year he averaged 18.4 yards per kick return and 2.7 yards per punt return.

Smith attended Ft. Worth Wyatt High School where he lettered two years as running back and safety. He received all-district and all-Tarrant County honors and was named offensive player of the year. He also won all-city honors in basketball and track.

Smith was injured his freshman year. He lettered as a sophomore and rushed for 222 yards on 25 carries, the most memorable being two touchdown sprints of 53 and 90 yards against TCU.

Smith will also run sprint relays for the Aggie track team next spring.

Off the field "I'm a quiet type," Smith says. "I enjoy myself regardless of the situation."

"I like music and aquariums," Smith says, and the room he shares with sophomore running back Holly Wilson reflects those interests. He has music that ranges from the Isley Brothers' soul to Santana's Latin-rock and in the middle of the room is an aquarium containing various types of fish and plant life.

"I plan to get my degree and go to pro ball," Smith says of his future. He is an Industrial Education major.

The team's goal is "to win the Southwest Conference and the national championship, if possible," Smith says. "And my own goal is to try to make all-Southwest Conference."

Women's teams face busy year

While football takes the fall spotlight at Texas A&M, there are several other sports preparing for a busy fall schedule. Women's teams in volleyball, softball, tennis, golf and cross country all have matches scheduled in September. Men's golf and cross country teams also face upcoming competition.

The women's volleyball team, under the direction of new coach Dave Schakel, is the first team to get off the mark with a scrimmage against the University of Houston in Houston Sept. 9. The Aggies open the regular season at home with a match against Rice Sept. 19 at 7:30 p.m. in Deware Fieldhouse. Then comes a tri-match against Utah State

and Baylor Sept. 20 at 6 p.m. These will be the only home appearances for the team.

The women's softball team, coached by newcomer Diane Justice, opens its season in Huntsville Sept. 13 with a 5:45 p.m. doubleheader against Sam Houston State. On Sept. 16-17, the Aggies will host their annual invitational tournament.

The women's tennis team, coached by Ellen Buchanan, gets into action Sept. 15 in a dual match against Texas Tech in Lubbock. On Sept. 16-17 the Aggies will play in the Midland Invitational Tournament.

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BOWLING	TUES., SEPTEMBER 20, 5:00 P.M.
GOLF SINGLES	TUES., SEPTEMBER 20, 5:00 P.M.
HANDBALL SINGLES	TUES., SEPTEMBER 27, 5:00 P.M.
BADMINTON	TUES., SEPTEMBER 27, 5:00 P.M.
BIKE RACE	TUES., OCTOBER 4, 5:00 P.M.
FIELD GOAL	TUES., OCTOBER 11, 5:00 P.M.