

sports

Color Cougar-A&M game even

By DAVID BOGGAN
Battalion Staff

As the rest of the Southwest Conference football teams sit back tomorrow and think of upcoming bowl games or dream of next year, the Texas Aggies and the Houston Cougars square off in the final conference game of the 1977 season.

Some see it as an anticlimactic contest between two teams that have not met the expectations of pre-season prognosticators. Cer-

tainly the ABC television network did not plan to televise a game between the third and fourth place SWC teams when the game was moved from October to December.

But SWC football has been consistently unpredictable over the past few years. No one mentioned a national championship Longhorn team prior to the start of this season. And few, if any, are talking of a return of the Texas dynasty. A&M and Houston are equally unpredictable. The

Aggies let a possible national championship slip through their heavily taped fingers in 1975, and in their first year in the SWC, the Cougars walked away with a share of the 1976 conference crown.

While ABC may not be overjoyed with the importance of this game in relation to SWC standings, they can take consolation in the fact that the Aggies and the Cougars will produce 60 minutes of high intensity football.

In all probability, the Aggies will become only the eighth team in NCAA history to sport a pair of 1,000-yard season rushers. George Woodard and Curtis Dickey have run in the shadow of Earl Campbell all season, and their turn for glory comes tomorrow. Woodard has already completed his end of the bargain with 1,050 yards so far this season. Aggie fans must now wait for Dickey to gain 81 yards against Houston before they can applaud

the backfield duo on a job well done and look forward to a repeat performance next year. Dickey averages almost 92 yards per game.

"There aren't any better athletes running around than George Woodard and Curtis Dickey," Houston coach Bill Yeoman said.

Woodard and Dickey have combined to put the Aggies at the top of the conference rushing list, ahead of Texas, Arkansas and Houston, who all rely heavily on one running back to gain most of their rushing yards.

Houston depends on Alois Blackwell to gain ground. Blackwell is the conference's fourth-leading rusher, sandwiched in between Woodard, third, and Dickey, fifth. Blackwell has 1,009 yards with a 5.5-yard average per carry. He has scored 11 touchdowns.

When Blackwell isn't running the ball for the Cougars, it is most often Dyral Thomas who is. Thomas has added 485 yards and two touchdowns to the Cougars' efforts this year.

Houston quarterback Delrick Brown has completed slightly better than 50 percent of his passes this season. He has thrown 113 times, completing 57 passes for 873 yards, 12 touchdowns and two interceptions.

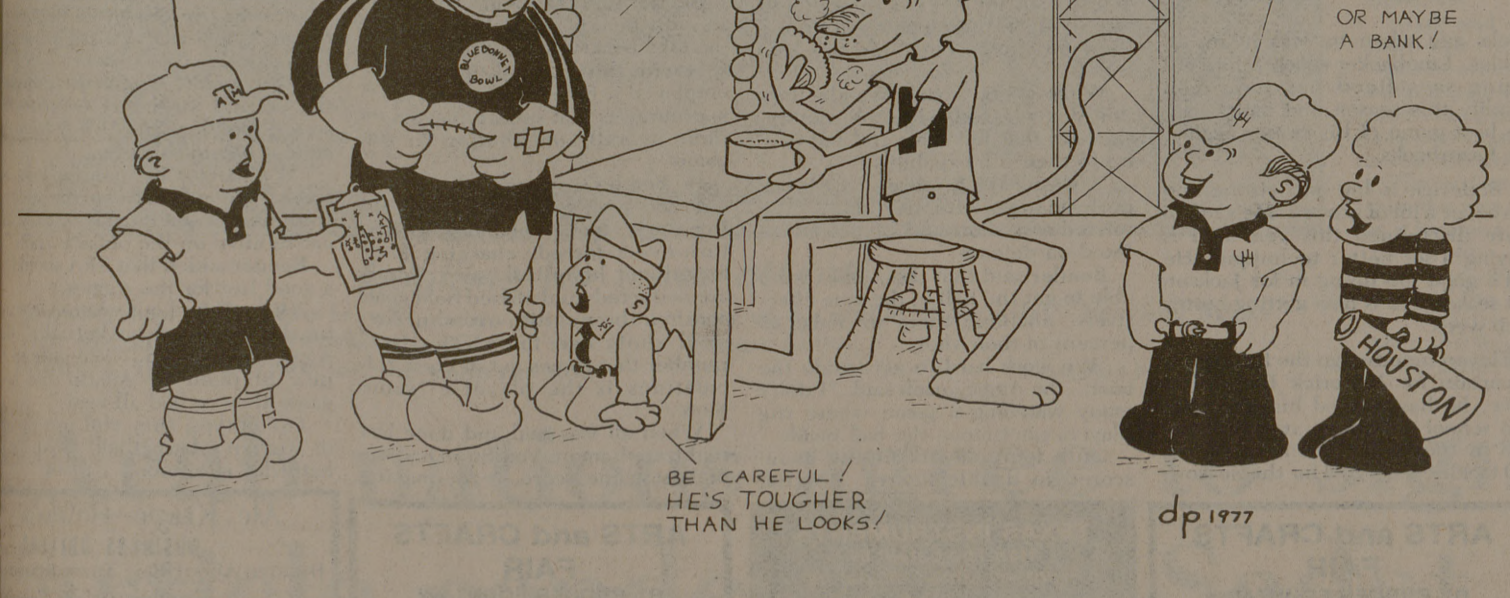
Defensively, the Cougars are led by linebackers Steve Bradham and Willis Williams with 58 and 57 tackles, respectively. There is a sizable margin, however, between them and Aggie defensive leaders Carl Grulich, with 89 tackles, and Roderick Reed, with 75 tackles.

It is safe to predict that an overflow crowd at Kyle Field and a television audience of millions will see a good, hard-fought football game tomorrow. Kickoff is at 3:05 p.m.

Christmas 1967... ...Ten Years After



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Bowl tickets on sale Monday

Bluebonnet Bowl tickets, all of which are \$10.00 each, go on sale Monday to Texas A&M students who have season coupon books.

The student purchasing schedule:

- 8 a.m. Monday — Graduates and seniors.
- 8 a.m. Tuesday — Juniors.
- 1 p.m. Tuesday — Sophomores.
- 8 a.m. Wednesday — Freshmen.

All season ticket holders have been mailed Bluebonnet Bowl ticket applications either through the Aggie Club or the Athletic Dept.

The general public can order tickets by mailing a check (\$10 for each ticket plus \$1.00 per order for handling) and these will be filled on an availability basis.

The Aggies play Southern Cal in

the Bluebonnet Bowl. The kickoff is at 7 p.m., December 31, in the Astrodome in Houston.

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INTRAMURAL BASKETBALL



ENTRIES CLOSE:
Tuesday, December 6, 1977
5:00 P.M. DeWare Fieldhouse

PLAY BEGINS:
January 17, 1978

Corps, Fish, Men's and Women's Dorms and Independent, and Co-Rec.

Round Robin League Play in Classes AB and BC, with all teams qualifying for single elimination playoffs in Classes A, B, and C.

OTHER ENTRIES

SPORT	ENTRIES CLOSE	TIME
Free Throw	Tuesday, January 24	5:00 pm
Flickerball	Tuesday, January 24	5:00 pm
Handball Doubles	Tuesday, January 31	5:00 pm
Fencing	Tuesday, January 31	5:00 pm