

sports

Ags sign No. 1 running back

By MARK PATTERSON
Battalion Sports Staff

Texas A&M took advantage of the first day for signing high school football players to conference letters of intent by inking 21 players.

Included in those 21 is a running back considered the top ball carrier in the state. Milton Collins, out of Blooming Grove High School, narrowed his choices down to Texas and A&M before signing with the Aggies.

"The Texas recruiters told me I'd be the next Earl Campbell if I came to Texas," said Collins. "But I don't want to be him. He spent his four years there and he's gone. I don't want to be living up to a legend."

"Besides, I know I'm not the only one they tell that to," added Collins. Another blue-chipper corralled by the Aggies is Kevin Kennedy, a

lineman out of Conroe. At 6-3, 250, Kennedy was considered one of the top linemen coming out of high school this year.

Seeking defensive backfield strength the Aggies signed two top high school defensive backs to conference letters of intent.

Darrell Adams, 6-0, 180, out of Houston Kashmere and Stuart Clark from San Antonio MacArthur High School will be strengthening the Aggie defensive backfield next season.

The complete list of the A&M signees: Gerald Carter, receiver, 6-1, 170, transfer from Tyler JC; Mike Whitwell, receiver, 6-3, 180, walk-on last season who earned a scholarship; Milton Collins, back, 6-2, 220, Blooming Grove; Anthony Currette, back 6-0, 195, Crosby; Roger Wiley, back, 5-10, 198, Humble; Tom Carmody, tight end,

6-4, 225, Clear Lake; Darrell Adams, defensive back, 6-0, 180, Houston Kashmere; Stuart Clark, defensive back, 6-0, 180, San Antonio MacArthur; Flint Risien, lineman, 6-3, 235, Houston Cy-Fair; Mike Robbins, lineman, 6-8, 260, Richardson Pearce; David Bandy, lineman, 6-3, 233, Austin Anderson; Kevin Kennedy, lineman, 6-3, 250, Conroe; Robert Stoss, lineman, 6-3, 230, Austin McCallum; Jon van Sant, lineman, 6-3, 224, Houston Westchester; Brian Dausin, lineman, 6-5, 227, San Antonio Roosevelt; Randy

Land, lineman, 6-5, 235, Farmerville; Keith Baldwin, lineman, 6-4, 225, Houston Smiley; Ed Patterson, lineman, 6-4, 225, Portland Gregory-Portland; Paul Pender, lineman, 6-4, 215, San Mateo, Calif.; David Hardy, kicker, 5-9, 175, Huntsville; Temple Aday, running back and defensive back, 6-0, 190, Arlington High School.

Out of the 21 signees, two (Collins and Kennedy) are Dallas Times Herald blue-chip football prospects. And out of Texas Football's 90 top high school prospects, A&M signed 11 to conference letters of intent.

Longhorns sign top prospect in state

United Press International

University of Texas coach Fred Akers, turned down last year by the most highly recruited high school player in the state, Wednesday signed this year's No. 1 prospect — quarterback Donnie Little of Dickinson.

Although at least a dozen teams, including several from the Pacific Ten Conference, will try to lure Little away during the final week of national recruiting, Little said he was simply going to tell those schools that he was going to Texas.

Akers, who guided the Longhorns to an undefeated regular season last year, said he knew Little would keep his word.

The decision by Little highlighted southwest Conference "signing day," the first day on which a league school could hand out scholarships to high school prospects. A scholarship agreement signed Wednesday, however, was binding only in the SWC.

A player is not officially committed to a school until he signs a national letter of intent and the first day he can do that is Feb. 15.

Akers refused to release Texas' list of signings, but among those the Longhorns were known to have picked up were running back Brad Perryton, quarterback Charles "Booger" Brooks of An-

draws, running back Adrian Price of Galveston Ball and center Mike Babb of Eules Trinity — all among the state's top players.

Elsewhere Texas A&M came up with a surprise top prospect in running back Milton Collins of Blooming Grove, although the Aggies still must battle North Texas State for his services, and came up with about 10 percent of the state's top players.

TCU signed 13 junior college players — several from Arizona and California — as well as Phillip Epps, a 9.4 sprinter from Atlanta, Texas, who scored five times on specialty teams last year.

Texas Tech, under first year coach Rex Dockery, signed Willie Wright of El Paso away from Texas, and Arkansas, as usual, swept its state.

The Houston Cougars and SMU Mustangs also declined to announce their recruits until after the national signing date.

Little, who accounted for 3,194 total yards at quarterback last season, said his visit with Texas players convinced him he should go to school in Austin.

"They are winners and they will go to a bowl every year," said Little. "They have the winning tradition. I talked to Heisman Trophy winner Earl Campbell and he just said he would like to see me come to Texas."

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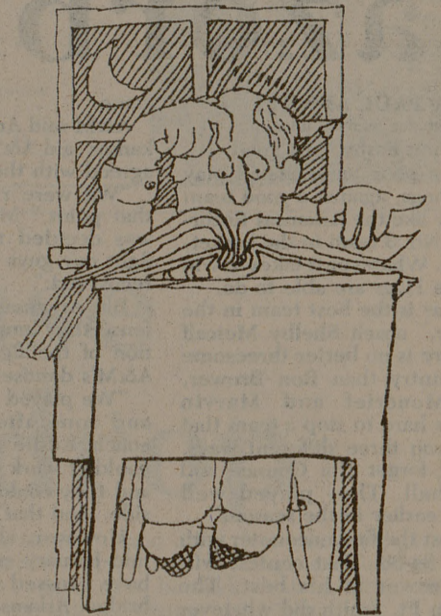
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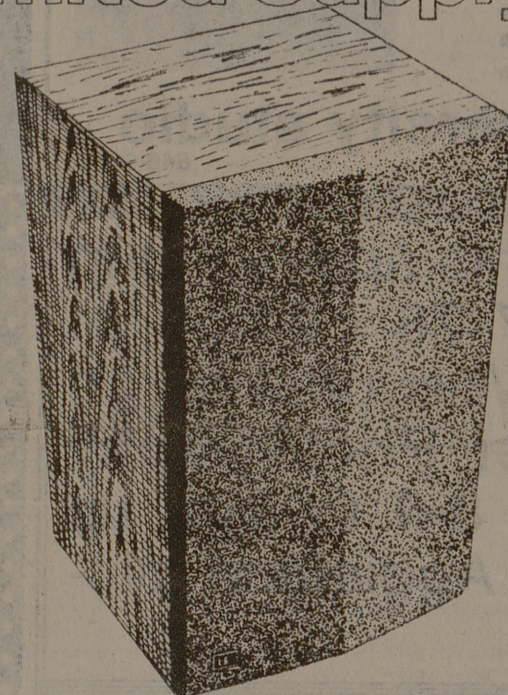
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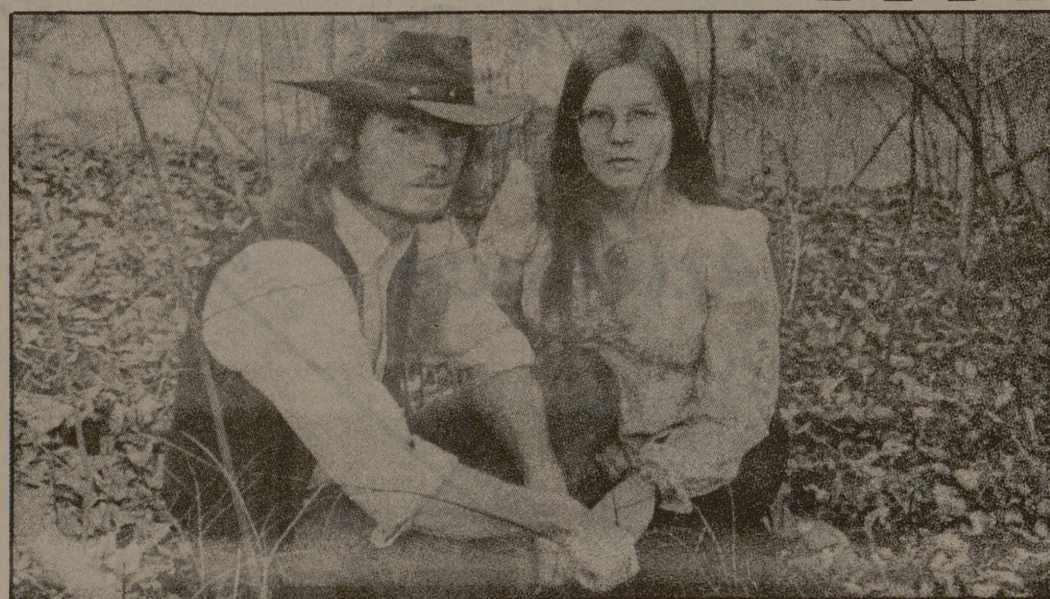
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