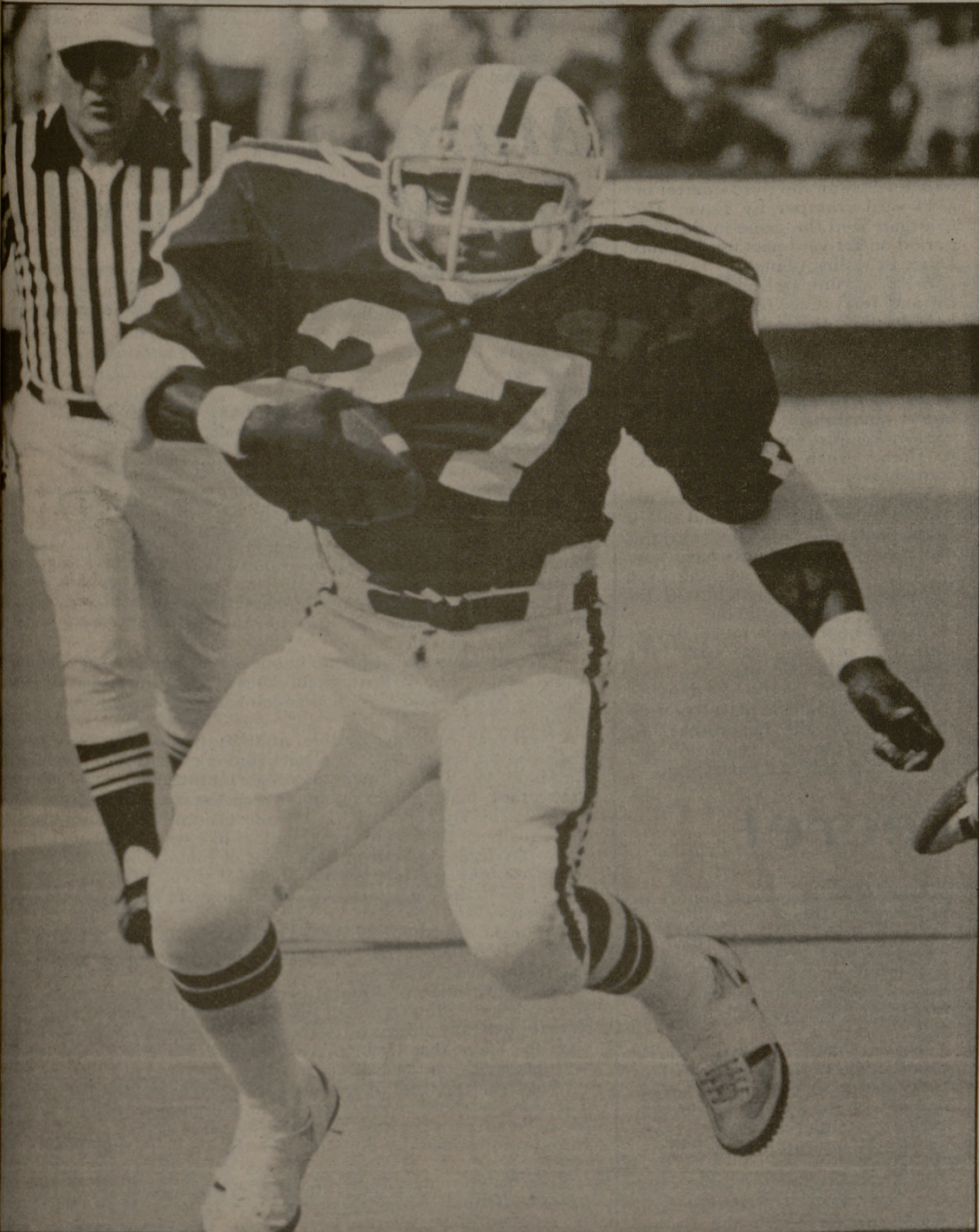


the sports



Battalion photo by Pat O'Malley

Hash mark hustle

Fullback Raymond Belcher dances down the field for Texas A&M Saturday as the Aggies defeated Rice 38-21. Belcher carried the ball

15 times for 82 yards and two touchdowns against the Owls. Belcher and the Aggies travel to Dallas this weekend to play SMU.

Eyes of SWC upon UT, UH

United Press International
The Arkansas Razorbacks were the original choice to win the Southwest Conference championship, but once they ran into teams that had some power the Hogs had a rude shock.

Texas A&M drew some support once the season began, but two embarrassing losses brought a coaching change and controversy.

The SMU Mustangs were an interloper for a while, but now it is clear that their aerial attack needs to go in for some repairs.

So that leaves only the Houston Cougars and the Texas Longhorns and one of them will almost certainly be the taking up temporary residence in Dallas over the New Year.

And for the first time this year the SWC comes up to a football weekend that will carry little advanced drama.

The drama is going to be reserved

Aggies, Mustangs will be televised

United Press International
DALLAS — Southern Methodist University officials announced Monday their game with Texas A&M next Saturday would be televised regionally and would have a 3:10 p.m. kickoff.

A spokesman for SMU also said that with good weather the game could draw the school's second straight 60,000-plus crowd.

"We're honored to be on television and we hope we are successful," said SMU coach Ron Meyer. "I just hope we don't stink up the joint."

"Two years ago they televised our game with A&M and I think we gained three yards in the first half. They were only leading us at the half, 3-0, but they beat us something like 33-0.

"The commentators were trying to think up nice things to say about us during the second half and we were getting mauled."

SMU, after an early season rush that helped bring in the largest crowd in 13 years for the Mustangs' game with Houston, Meyer's club has lost two in a row.

Meyer also said films of SMU's 22-3 loss to Texas showed that quar-

terback Mike Ford scored in the second half when the Longhorns made a critical goal-line stand.

"We scored on first down and we scored on second down," Meyer said. "But what we have to do is take the decision factor away. We just have to get deeper into the end zone."

for the following weekend, when the Cougars and Longhorns, both 6-1 for the season and 4-0 in the league, meet in the game that will almost certainly decide the Cotton Bowl representative.

"I have never had a team play five games in a row as well as this team has played in our last five games," said Houston coach Bill Yeoman last Saturday following his team's comeback 20-9 win over Arkansas.

And that's saying something. The 10th-ranked Cougars, dominating play on the running of Emmett King and Randy Love and the option artistry of quarterback Danny Davis, have to be the current pick to win their second conference title in three years.

But the Texas Longhorns, despite their offensive woes, have found a way to come up with back-to-back big wins over Arkansas and SMU.

A 100-yard kickoff return by

Johnny "Lam" Jones and a goal-line stand by the Longhorns to protect what at the time was a 3-0 lead were the key items in Texas' 22-3 decision over the Mustangs Saturday.

Texas, which is still trying to decide whether Randy McEachern or Donnie Little will emerge as quarterback, has this week off to get healthy and prepare for what has become the biggest Southwest Conference game of the year.

Houston, meanwhile, will host the lowly TCU Horned Frogs, who battled hard last week before losing to the Baylor Bears, 28-21.

Baylor, winners of two straight

after losing five in a row, will visit Texas Tech, which took last week off.

SMU, meanwhile, will host Texas A&M, a 38-21 winner over Rice Saturday in Tom Wilson's first game as head coach for the Aggies.

And Rice will make the trip to Fayetteville for a meeting with the Arkansas Razorbacks.

The Owls should ask somebody to check the schedule maker this year and see who has something in for them. First Rice had to play A&M the week after the Aggies coaching change and now they have to meet Arkansas after the Razorbacks have lost two straight.

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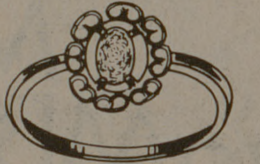
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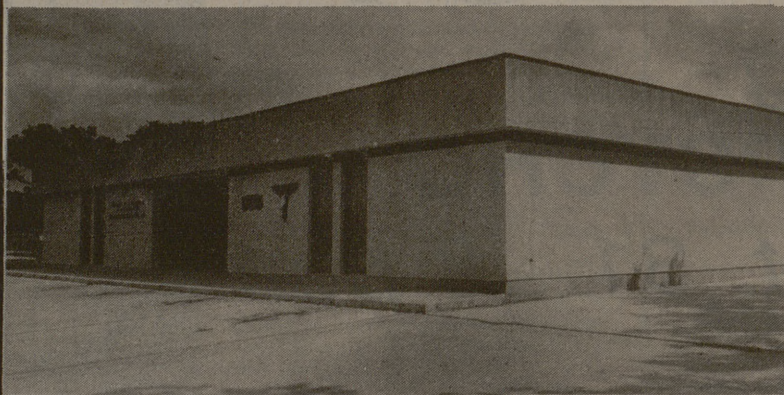
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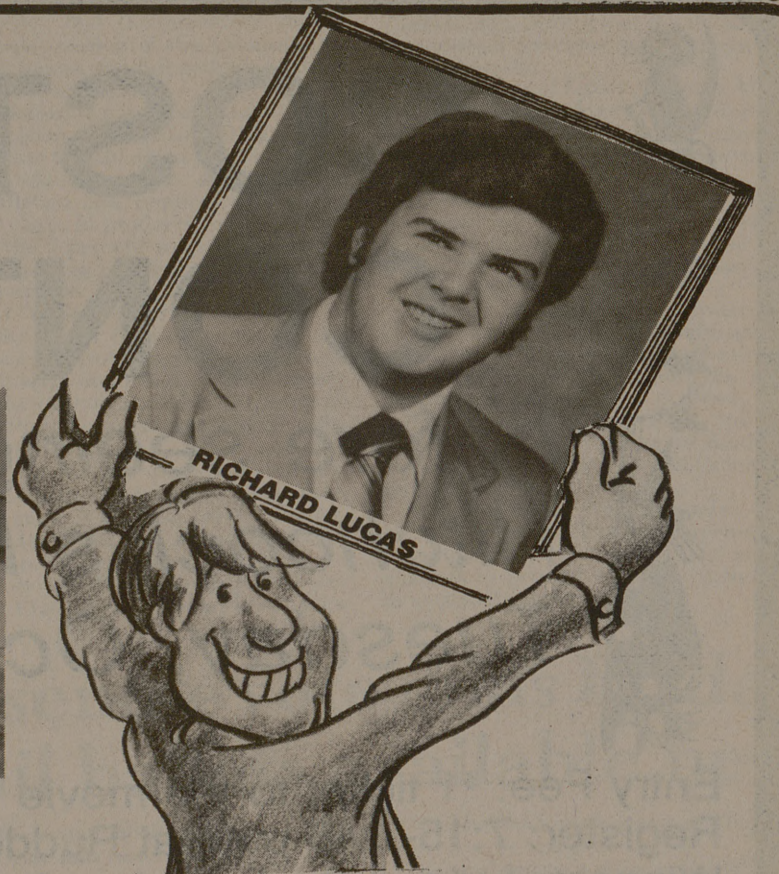
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