

the sports

# Look, up in the air — it's a football

the heat and sounds of summer are here. It's that mellow, July sports time of year just after the baseball All-Star game and the Open golf tournament. It's the time of year when people start making predictions about which two teams will be in the Fall Classic in October.

Yes, each weekend around this time of year you can sit down and watch a baseball game or golf tournament on the tube. Or you might watch such sports as kick-boxing, gymnastics, surfing, water skiing in a little track and field thrown in athletes around the world begin to line up for the 1980 Olympics.

But that doesn't satisfy your sports-buds. You get an itch. It's something you can't explain. Something starts clicking in your brain. It's building and building and you find yourself dreaming of something that looks like a brown saucer with laces.

After a night or two your dreams get into focus and you realize you're dreaming about... football seamen's living in the water.

All this time you have been hearing of the pigskin we all know and love. But this is only July. You can't keep it to yourself any longer. You head for your favorite watering hole with your best drink buddies and there, in the contented conversation, the word slips out; football. "I didn't mean to say that," you whisper to yourself. "Heck, this July and football doesn't start

for a couple of months. I must be crazy."

You find you're not alone as someone else says, "Say, uh, you know, I was kinda thinkin' about the Southwest Conference football race this season and I heard that the Longhorns are supposed to take it."

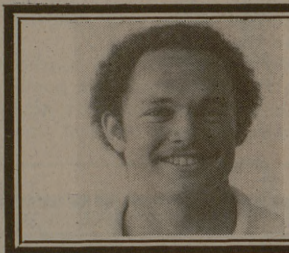
Then like an Aggie bonfire, the conversation erupts as everyone joins in and predictions, statistics, comments, lies, boasts, facts, rankings, Cotton Bowl teams, rumors and Kyle Field enter into the picture before all is said and done.

The next day you're walking by the magazine rack in the store and you see not one but at least THREE different football magazines just waiting to be scoured and devoured at your leisure. Trying to keep your excitement in, you pick up all three or four or 50 and head for the cash register where you buy your first football fix of the new season.

You mull over the facts and figures. You memorize it all so you will be the wisest football buller around. Who was No. 1? Who will be No. 1? Who's going to be great this year and who will once again, bite the big chili? Who will be the top high school players who will be chased by the big bucks of college football at the end of the season?

Naturally, you believe the magazine that picks your team the highest.

For instance, if you believe in Dave Campbell's *Texas Football* the Aggies will finish third in the con-



## viewpoint

By SEAN PETTY  
Battalion Sports Editor

ference behind Texas and Houston. And if you put your faith in *Football Roundup*, then the Aggies will finish fifth behind Texas, Arkansas, Houston and Texas Tech.

But if you're an Aggie fan, I think you'll like *Southwest Football* which is picking the Aggies second in the SWC behind Texas. Any way you look at it, all magazines say the Aggies will be sidestepping Bevo's chips and the Longhorns, if you know what I mean.

And, according to all those magazines, that may not be too bad considering that all three pick Texas to finish either first or second in the country.

But like I said, all that college ball starts in the fall and the players won't even start to bust heads until mid-August. What's a guy to do? What if I can't wait until fall? Oh well, more baseball to take my mind off football.

Hey wait a minute! My T.V. Guide must be wrong.

"Hey T.B.," I scream to my bearded friend, "what month did

this T.V. Guide come out?" "It says July doesn't it fool? Why?" he asks.

"No kidding," I say in disbelief. "It says here the Dallas Cowboys and Oakland Raiders play on television THIS Saturday. Can you believe it?"

The football god, otherwise known as NFL Commissioner Pete Rozelle, has looked favorably on us and we will watch the annual Hall of

Fame Game which will be played in Canton, Ohio Saturday. Oh joy.

Yes folks, football is here again, right in the middle of summer. Why it was only 184 days ago when Terry Bradshaw and the Pittsburgh Steelers defeated the Dallas Cowboys 35-31 in Super Bowl XIII.

We have been waiting since January 22 and now, our cold turkey days are over. From now until January 1980 we will be fed football by the T.V. tube and it might as well be intravenously.

Just think, the pro exhibition games start a few days after the Hall of Fame game. The Oilers play St. Louis Aug. 2 and the Cowboys will play again Aug. 4.

So after four exhibition and 16 regular season games, the playoffs will start. And after three playoff games in each division comes the granddaddy of them all, the Super

Bowl. So that comes down to about 24 more weeks of football starting Saturday. That's almost a glorious half year of football.

What a life. Starting September, it will be college football on Saturdays and pro football on Sundays and don't forget Monday nights with a Thursday night game or two thrown in to make sure we don't get

off the stuff. And we addicts know what it all leads up to; a mind-boggling, eye-popping, heart-stopping, food and beer-consuming, overdose of 1,000 hours of bowl action in December and January.

And after January, who knows, they may start playing games in May next year?

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## Prep star war in Fort Worth

United Press International  
FORT WORTH — The South have the bigger names, but coach Frank Bevers is counting on teamwork to spell victory in the 47th Texas High School Coaches Association football game this week.

The classic will highlight the 47th THSCA clinic underway at the Tarrant County Convention Center. It will be Saturday at 7:30 p.m. in the Amon Carter Stadium. It pits the best high school seniors in the last year against each other.

Bevers, the head coach at Dallas Highland Park High School, will lead the North against Bob Queen of Temple, who heads the South.

Although the South roster includes such names as nationally-ranked Eric Dickerson and Sealy and James of Houston Stratford, Bevers thinks his team has some fair talent, too.

"I've studied all the kids on film," Bevers said Tuesday. "That gave me the advantage when they checked Sunday. We've been busy teaching the quarterbacks the option I run in the short time we have

McQueen will choose his quarterback from a talented group including Scott Lancaster of Brownwood, Mark James of Gregory-Portland and Anthony Johnson of Union Hill.

"We've got some outstanding players, there's no way around that," McQueen said. "But the other team does too. It's going to come down to who gets the most out of what he's got."

The North leads the series, 25-15, and there have been four ties. The North won last year, 7-6.

While the game will be played Saturday, most of the action started Tuesday as almost 6,400 coaches

registered for the 47th annual Texas High School Coaches Association clinic.

The 6,388 was about 200 more than registered for the first day of last year's clinic held in Houston. A record 7,385 finally registered at the 1978 school, and officials expected final registration this year to near 8,000.

Discussion, instruction, lectures and display booths open Wednesday's events at 8 a.m. The annual basketball and football all-star games will highlight the activities on Friday and Saturday nights.

The first THSCA clinic was held in 1935 in Dallas, with a total registration that year of only 251.

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