

Texas A&M

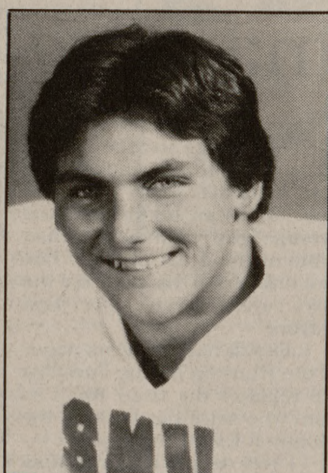
The Battalion Sports

November 3, 1982 Page 13

SMU's 'other half'

Unselfish James near end of rewarding college career

by John Wagner



Craig James says Mustangs have shot at national title

State, is the longest in Southwest Conference history.

Another catch, a fourth-quarter 46-yarder against Texas, clinched a 30-17 victory for the Mustangs when the Longhorns were threatening.

And most important, James is the leading punter in the SWC with a 45.8 yard average. Against Texas A&M on Saturday, James punted six times for a 48.6 yard average.

Still, the question is inevitable. Is James jealous of Dickerson's success?

He laughs the suggestion off. After SMU defeated the Aggies in Texas Stadium Saturday, James jokingly referred to his luck as the "Craig James syndrome" — he wears the defense down, and Dickerson breaks a long run. "Sometimes it feels like I'm so close to breaking a big one that it gets frustrating," he says. But other than that, James has nothing but praise for his Pony Express partner.

And that's one of the reasons the Mustangs have been so successful. They play as a team.

"It was one of our team goals before the season to go undefeated," James said. "We've been lucky at times, we've had a lot of breaks go our way, and we've been free of injuries."

"Every team has the talent, but it takes a lot of luck to go undefeated. And we know that if we let down, we're going to lose."

James is no stranger to undefeated seasons, though. During his senior season in the fall of 1978, James' Stratford team went 15-0 and captured the state AAAA championship. James was all-everything that season, including Texas High School Player of the Year. It is an experience

he says was one of the most rewarding of his career.

It also helped prepare him for the glamour and glitter of college football. James is regarded as a polite and interesting interview — a reputation he thinks is important. He describes talking to the press "like a friend talking to a friend."

James said: "I think it's important to communicate well with the press. When I talk to a reporter, I feel relaxed and I try to relay on to him what is in my thoughts."

"I'm not trying to impress anybody; I'm just trying to be as sincere as I can."

James may not be trying to impress anybody off the field, but he certainly does impress people on the field. A good example is his kicking game.

Pressed into service when Mustang punter Eric Kaifes was injured midway through last season, James punted 33 times for a 41.0 yard average. And he promised himself he would do better.

"Last year, I just kicked," James said. "I didn't have time to work on it. But this year, I decided I was going to be the punter. During the summer, I worked on kicking, changing my steps, and rearranging my punting style. I wanted to be more consistent."

James won the starting punting job.

It is a skill that could go a long way towards helping James make it in professional football. Versatility can never hurt, and James is aware of that fact.

"Playing pro ball hadn't been a goal of mine until recently," James admitted. "I hadn't really thought that much about it, but See JAMES page 14



staff photo by David Fisher

Mustang tailback Craig James (32), not always in the spotlight like teammate Eric Dickerson, has enjoyed a profitable career at SMU. James, a senior, had

65 rushing yards against the Aggies in Saturday's 47-9 Mustang victory. Here, Texas A&M's Paul Pender (left) and Bobby Strogon bring James down.

MSC NOVEMBER-DECEMBER PROGRAMS

CULTURAL

EDUCATIONAL

SUNDAY MONDAY TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

	NOVEMBER 1 GREAT ISSUES — "Stuart Taylor" 8:00, Theater	2 BLACK AWARENESS — "John Fernandez" 8:00, Theater Silver Taps	3 AGGIE CINEMA — "Oliver" 7:30, Theater COLLEGE BOWL — Competition 6:00, 206 MSC	4 CEPHEID VARIABLE — "Allegro Non Troppo" 7:30, 9:45, Theater TOWN HALL — "Cheap Trick" 8:00, G. ROLLIE	5 AGGIE CINEMA — "Sharky's Machine" — 8:00, Theater "Richard Pryor: Live on the Sunset Strip" Midnight, Theater HOSPITALITY — Pageant Application Deadline	6 ORC — Canoe Trip "Victor/Victoria" — 8:00, Theater "Arthur" — Midnight, Theater OPAS — Anna Russell 8:00, Auditorium CAMERA — Fall Photo '82 MBA/LAWDAY — A&ABldg.
7 ORC — Canoe Trip AGGIE CINEMA — and CEPHEID VARIABLE — "Wicker Man" 7:30, Theater	8 MSC COUNCIL 7:30, 216 T MSC	9	10 ORC — Roll Session 6:00, Cain Hall Pool COLLEGE BOWL — Finals, 6:00, 206 MSC GREAT ISSUES — Stephen Bardwell 8:00, Forum	11 CEPHEID VARIABLE "Fail Safe" 7:30, 9:45, 801 Rudder ARTS — NTSU Jazz Band 8:00, Auditorium Yell Practice	12 AGGIE CINEMA — "Victor/Victoria" — 8:00, Theater "Arthur" — Midnight, Theater MSC CULTURAL TRIP — Dallas	13 ORC — Backpacking "Victor/Victoria" — 8:00, Theater "Arthur" — Midnight, Theater TRAVEL — San Antonio Trip at ARKANSAS
14 ORC — Backpacking	15	16 ORC — "99 Days to Survival" 7:00, 501 Rudder	17 POLITICAL FORUM — "Kent Caperton" 8:00, Theater	18 BASEMENT — "Omar and the Howlers" CEPHEID VARIABLE — "Abdominable Mr. Phibes" 7:30, 9:45, 601 Rudder	19 8:00 Rumours AGGIE CINEMA — "Taps" 8:00, Auditorium Yell Practice	20 AGGIE CINEMA — "Taps" 8:00, Midnight Auditorium TCU
21 AGGIE CINEMA — "Scaucus 7" 7:30, Theater TOWNHALL — "Deathtrap" 8:00, Auditorium	22 MSC COUNCIL 7:30, 216 T MSC	23 TOWNHALL — BONFIRE!	24	25 at TEXAS	26 ORC — Backpacking Rafting Trip THANKSGIVING HOLIDAYS	27
28 ORC — Backpacking Rafting Trip	29	30	DECEMBER 1 AGGIE CINEMA — "Singing in the Rain" 7:30, Theater	2 CEPHEID VARIABLE — "The Birds" 7:30, 9:45, 601 Rudder HOSPITALITY — "Aggie Christmas Fair"	3 AGGIE CINEMA — "Rocky III" 7:30, 9:45, Theater "Shark Treatment" Midnight, Theater ORC — Rockclimbing MADRIGAL DINNERS — 6:15, MSC Ballroom	4
5 AGGIE CINEMA — "I Love You" 7:30, Theater ORC — Rockclimbing MADRIGAL DINNERS	6 TOWNHALL — "Annie" 8:00, Auditorium MSC COUNCIL 7:30, 216 T MSC CHRISTMAS PROGRAM — Symphonic Band 12:00, MSC Lounge Tree Lighting 8:15, MSC Lounge	7 TOWNHALL — "Annie" 8:00, Auditorium CHRISTMAS PROGRAM — Revellers 12:00, MSC Lounge Silver Taps	8 AGGIE CINEMA — "Cinderella" 7:30, Theater CHRISTMAS PROGRAM — Women's Chorus 12:00, MSC Lounge TOWNHALL — "Annie," 8:00 HOSPITALITY — "Children's X-mas Party" 206 MSC	9 CEPHEID VARIABLE — "Santa Claus Conquers the Martians" 7:30, 9:45, 601 Rudder	10 AGGIE CINEMA and CEPHEID VARIABLE — "Creature from the Black Lagoon" 8:00, Theater MADRIGAL DINNERS	11

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PLEASE KEEP THIS CALENDAR FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

ENTERTAINMENT

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