

# The Battalion Sports

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## Vikes set to renew feud with arch-enemy Conroe

His star quarterback is out for the season, this team is suffering from numerous bumps, bangs and bruises and the opponent is an old-time rival sure to bring back bitter memories. But Merrill Green seems relaxed.

For Green and his Bryan Vikings, the pressure is off. With the No. 1 ranking belonging to someone else and traditional arch-enemy Temple staying at home, the Vikes are free to play their game — which is speed and power and quickness.

They'll need those tools Saturday. The second round playoff game against the Conroe Tigers is an important one for the Vikes — but then they all are at this point. One loss and 1982 becomes history.

This has been a memorable season for Bryan fans. The Vikes began the year as the top-ranked team in the state, but lost a close game to Eules Trinity when they failed on a two-point conversion attempt late in the game.

With the loss went the top ranking, but Bryan came back the next week to blast Temple 40-0 and end a decade-long Wildcat dominance. In the last three years alone, the Vikings had finished 9-1 each time, yet finished second to Temple teams.

So 1982 has been a successful one, but it's not over yet. Bryan and Conroe will be renewing a rivalry that began in the mid-1970s when the two teams met each other several



john wagner

times in the playoffs. The rivalry grew stronger when the teams were aligned in the same district for the 1976 and 1977 seasons.

This year, the Tigers, District 16-5A champions, are undefeated at 10-0-1. They are led by a ferocious defense which finished the regular season giving up an average 143 yards a game and helped lead them to a No. 9 state ranking and a No. 3 spot in the Greater Houston area.

The last time the two teams met, in 1977, Conroe came away with a 35-7 victory, whereas Bryan won 22-20 the year before.

For the Vikings, the loss of quarterback James Flowers is definitely a blow. Green says the Vikings' biggest concern will be moving the ball against the Tigers, and with Flowers on the sidelines, that might be tough.

"We're going to have to move the ball consistently in order to win," Green said. "Conroe has an exceptional defense — they're big, strong and fast."

Even so, Green says the main key to the game is going to be the kicking games.

"When it's over with, the team that wins will be the team that makes the fewest mistakes and has the most consistent kicking game," he said.

"When you get this far, everybody has talent and size."

And size is the Vikings' biggest advantage. They're big right down the line on offense and defense and they're fast. Green says this isn't a typical Bryan team.

"A lot of people have as much size as us, but our kids have a little more height and agility than usual," he said.

So the Vikings are taking their height and agility to Tully Stadium in Houston to meet the rough 'em up defense of Conroe. The Vikings, even without Flowers, are favored to win. It should be quite a matchup, as the Vikings try to live up to their early-season promise and the Tigers try to remain undefeated.

If it's a pressure situation, Green certainly didn't show it Wednesday. Calm, friendly and talkative, he appeared as unharmed as Luckenbach on a Sunday afternoon.

But then, all Green can do now is relax. From here on out, it's not how good you are, but how much you want it.



photo by C. Michel Chang

### Basketball season already?

Yes, it's time to gear up for basketball season on college campuses across the nation. Texas A&M guard Gary Lewis, being watched here by former Houston guard Rob Williams during last year's

Southwest Conference tournament, returns to action this season. The Aggies open 1982-83 play by hosting the Athletes in Action at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in A&M's G. Rollie White Coliseum.

## Doctors declare boxer dead

United Press International LAS VEGAS, Nev. — Duk-oo Kim, the South Korean boxer who traveled halfway around the world for \$20,000 and a chance at becoming a world champion, has been declared dead from a devastating punch that destroyed his brain. Nevada District Judge Paul Goldman made the decision Wednesday night after meeting with the 23-year-old fighter's mother and doctors.

The judge ordered the life-support machinery that had kept Kim's heart pumping and his lungs breathing left on until a team of surgeons could remove his kidneys and other healthy organs for possible use in transplant operations. Kim suffered massive brain damage in Saturday's World Boxing Association lightweight title fight against Ray Mancini.

"My son has passed away,"

said the fighter's weeping mother, Yang Sun-Nyo, 66. "I made up my mind to transplant his organs to other people. The American doctors and nurses

have done their best to rejuvenate my son. In spite of all our efforts we cannot rejuvenate him. If I continue to let the doctors and staff supply medical treatment it is a burden to them.

"My son has shown his brav-

ery in fighting Mr. Mancini. My true reason for the transplants is that my son can live forever and have everlasting life in this world. Through the transplants, his fighting spirit can be given to others."

The judge's ruling came shortly after four Korean acupuncturists, summoned at the request of the boxer's mother, withdrew from the case after determining the comatose fighter was in a "death situation."

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