

The Battalion Sports

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Intensity a trademark of A&M-UT battles

Records, home field mean nothing when it's time for traditional game

by John Wagner

Battalion Staff
Throw out the record books, toss away the won-lost column, and forget the home field advantage, because Texas A&M is going to Austin to play the Texas Longhorns.

What began as an annual showdown between a military college and a sophisticated liberal arts university now is nothing more than two giant athletic programs going head to head. But the rivalry and intense feelings are just as strong as ever.

Thursday's continuation of the war between the state universities begins at 1 p.m. in UT's Memorial Stadium. The Longhorns enter the contest with a record of 7-2, (5-1 in Southwest Conference play), while the Aggies will take a 5-5 record to Austin. Texas A&M is 3-4 in the SWC.

For Jackie Sherrill's Aggies, a win over Texas assures them of a winning season. There's no bowl game in the Aggies' future, at least not this year. The Longhorns, who have accepted a bid to play North Carolina in the Sun Bowl, must still play Arkansas Dec. 4 before they close out their regular season.

Texas, currently second in the SWC behind SMU and ranked No. 13 in the nation by UPI, has made the most of this "supposed" rebuilding year by flexing its strength on defense.

Led by senior defensive end Kiki DeAyala, the Longhorns are ranked in the top three in the SWC in all defensive categories: total defense, rushing defense and passing defense.

DeAyala leads the Longhorns in tackles, quarterback sacks and attention from opponents. The 6-1, 238-pound senior from Houston Memorial is within two sacks (he has 18 this year, 39 in his career) of the Texas school record for career sacks.



Kiki DeAyala 'Horns leader on defense with 18 sacks

On offense, quarterback Robert Brewer and flanker Herkie "Mighty Mite" Walls have combined for seven of the nine touchdown passes the Longhorns have scored this year.

Operating behind an offensive line that averages 255 pounds, Brewer has thrown for 1,217 yards, including an 80-yard TD strike to Walls in Saturday's game against Baylor.

Although best remembered for his game-winning run that beat Alabama in last year's Cotton Bowl, Brewer is on the verge of breaking four UT school passing records — attempts in a season, completions in a season, passing yards in a season and TD passes in a season.

Walls, a 5-8, 153-pound senior from Garland, is averaging 23.9 yards every time he touches the ball. He can break Johnny "Lam" Jones' school record for TD catches in a single season with a touchdown Thursday.

The Aggies, led by senior quarterback Gary Kubiak, will be attempting to win their second straight game in Memorial Stadium and their fourth of the last six.

Kubiak, despite missing almost two full games, is 207 passing yards away from a 2,000-yard season. His leading receiver, senior Don Jones from Nacogdoches, has caught 30 passes for 440 yards and five touchdowns for a 14.6-yard average.

AGGIE FACTS: This is the 89th meeting between the Longhorns and the Aggies. Texas leads the series 61-22-5, with a 38-6-1 record in Memorial Stadium ... More on the Longhorn defense: Texas has sacked opponents' quarterbacks 37 times, including four against Baylor on Saturday. DeAyala had three of those sacks ...

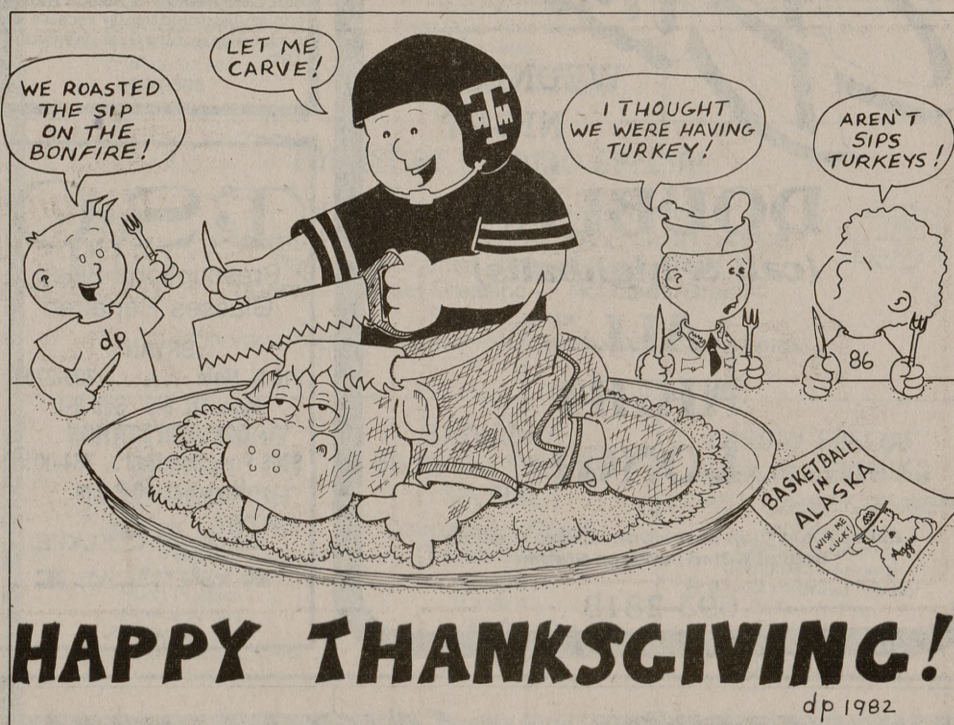
Freshman **George Smith** is the lone member of the Aggies' backfield who has played in all 10 games. Smith has rushed for 240 yards on 48 attempts ...

Johnny Hector is the Aggies' leading rusher going into the Texas game and should finish the year in that spot. He has 501 yards ... Ten different Aggies

have intercepted passes this season, with **Jeff Fuller** leading the team with four ... The Longhorns have outscored oppo-

nents 261 to 121 this year, including a 104-46 difference in the fourth quarter. In contrast, Texas A&M has outscored

opponents 270-261, but the Aggies have been outscored in the first and third quarters.



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