

# The Battalion Sports

December 6, 1982 Page 13A

## Ponies, Horns, Hogs SWC winners in '82

### Season of promise over for the rest

by John Wagner  
Sports Editor

The 1981 Southwest Conference football season ended with four member schools in bowl games, a super-group of incoming freshmen recruits and a slew of talented returning starters who would be back again to make things exciting in '82.

Everyone was talking promise. The experts explained that SMU, the '81 champion, wasn't even eligible for post-season play because of an NCAA-imposed probation. The Mustangs would be out of trouble and ready to go in 1982, their entire all-SWC starting backfield intact, another year older and wiser.

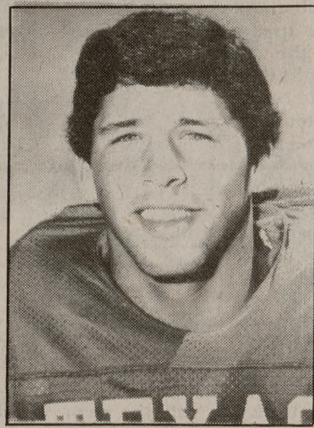
The fans hoped new coaches like the Mustangs' Bobby Collins and Texas A&M's Jackie Sherrill would bring about a new era in SWC football.

The networks drooled over the choice of match-ups the season would provide. Who to televise when? The possibilities were endless.

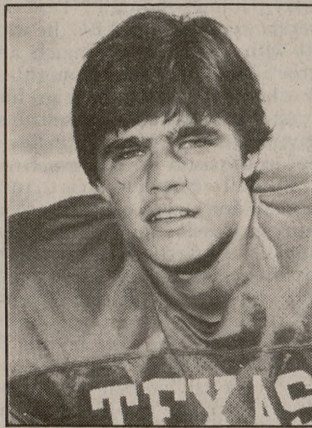
And so, the favorite word around SWC training camps and sports desks was "promise". Never before had the SWC contained so much potential, so much excitement, so many contenders.

That was in the summer. The Mustangs have fulfilled the prophecies of many and clinched their second straight SWC championship. The Arkansas Razorbacks and Texas Longhorns are headed for the Bluebonnet Bowl and Sun Bowl, respectively. And everybody else is headed back to the drawing boards.

The season that began with such fanfare ended quite predictably, and those that wanted a



Kiki DeAyala anchors tough Longhorn defense



Quarterback Robert Brewer leads 'Horns to Sun Bowl

nine-team race for the championship may have been disappointed. Still, there were more than enough highlights for some schools. Below is a team-by-team breakdown of the 1982 season.

**SMU Mustangs:** The Mustangs, 10-1 in 1981, had one goal this season. They wanted to make it to the Cotton Bowl. They did. The Ponies finished the regular season at 10-0-1, with their only blemish a 17-17 tie with Arkansas. SMU peaked as high as No. 2 in the national polls before the tie with the Razorbacks. And although the tie didn't hurt the Mustangs' SWC championship hopes, it all but ended their shot at the national championship.

Currently ranked No. 4 in the nation, SMU is scheduled to meet the Pitt Panthers in the Cotton Bowl on Jan. 1. And to the victors go the spoils. The Mustangs placed nine players on the UPI all-SWC first team, including quarterback Lance McIlhenny and running backs

Eric Dickerson and Craig James, the second straight year the trio was named first team all-SWC.

**Texas Longhorns:** Texas started this so-called "rebuilding" year with so many new faces even Coach Fred Akers had trouble recognizing them. After looking at a starting line-up that contained names like Mossy, Jitter, and Curry, Akers probably wondered if he had a football team or a vaudeville act. It didn't take him long to find out. Nor did it take Longhorn opponents long.

After losing two straight in the middle of their schedule, one to Oklahoma and one to SMU, Texas went on a tear. Since then they've won six straight, including a 50-0 defeat of Houston, a 53-16 defeat of Texas A&M and a 33-7 defeat of Arkansas. The Longhorns, led offensively by quarterback Robert Brewer and defensively by end Kiki DeAyala, are claiming now they're the best team in the SWC. Too bad. The closest the 'Horns are going to get to a

rematch with SMU is El Paso, where they play North Carolina in the Sun Bowl.

**Arkansas Razorbacks:** Many people thought 1982 would be Arkansas' coach Lou Holtz's year. It could have been, but the Razorbacks' failure to stop SMU in the fourth quarter and their inability to win in Austin dampened Hogs' hopes everywhere. Another problem surfaced in Waco, where the Bears upset Arkansas and saved an otherwise dismal season. No problem, though. The Razorbacks, led defensively by Lombardi Award finalist Billy Ray Smith, are headed to Houston to play the Florida Gators in the Bluebonnet Bowl. Smith and his defensive cohorts were holding SWC opponents to right around 10 points a game until they met the Longhorns in Memorial Stadium. Holtz, despite his fine record at Arkansas, has never beaten Texas in Austin. That's no easy task anyway, but the Razorbacks might never pick Cotton until they do.

**Houston Cougars:** The Cougars began the SWC season with a tie in Waco with Baylor. They ended the SWC season needing to beat winless Rice to finish fourth in the conference. They did, which wasn't hard to do, and leap-frogged over early foe Baylor into fourth. The Cougars finished the season 5-5-1, but were outscored 215-252 in 11 games.

**Baylor Bears:** Baylor's lone highlight may have been its defeat of Arkansas, and it couldn't have come at a better time. The Bears had many of the high school players they hope to sign visiting the campus and attending the game that day, and the show they provided might have turned the early recruiting tide

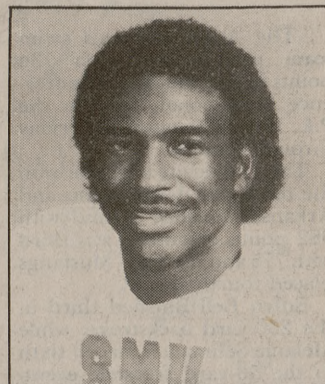
in their favor. *Might* is the key word in that sentence, however.

**Texas A&M:** The Aggies will remember 1982 as the year of Jackie, injuries, and more injuries. Texas A&M's entire starting backfield missed at least two games because of injuries throughout the course of the year, and tight end Mark Lewis missed the entire season after suffering a leg injury in the season-opening contest against Boston College.

For Aggie fans, however, the most vivid memory of 1982 might be the sight of quarterback Gary Kubiak sprawled out in pain on the turf in Irving's Texas Stadium, during the Aggies-Mustangs game in October. Kubiak, second team all-SWC this season, suffered ankle and hip injuries after being sacked early in the first quarter. He missed two games. Another bright spot for the Aggies was kicker David Hardy. He wasn't injured at all, and was named first team all-SWC, the only Aggie to be named on the first team.

**Texas Tech Red Raiders:** Texas Tech was the surprise team in the SWC this season, finishing tied for sixth in the conference with Texas A&M. The Red Raiders, led by defensive end Gabe Rivera, defeated the Aggies, Rice and TCU to end the year 3-5 in SWC play. In October, the Red Raiders traveled to Seattle to play the then-No.1 ranked Washington Huskies. Texas Tech took the lead, then held on to the Huskies until late in the fourth quarter, when Washington scored 10 points to win the game, 10-3.

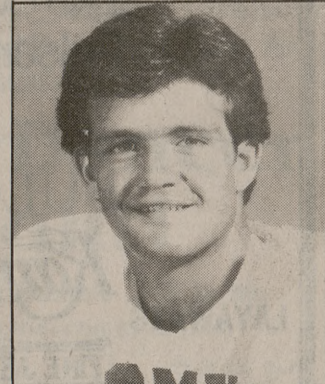
Still, Washington coach Don Nelson said Rivera played the best game he'd ever seen any de-



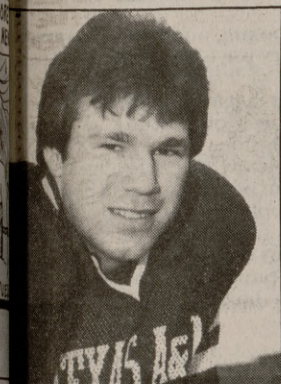
Eric Dickerson named all-SWC running back



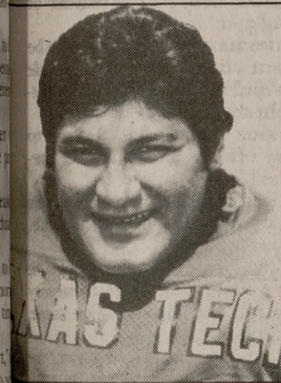
"Pony Express" tailback Craig James all-SWC also



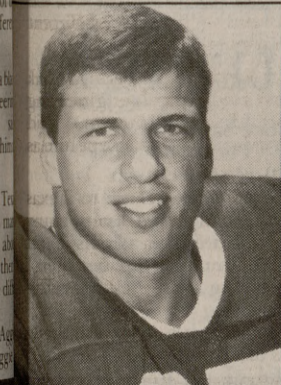
Lance McIlhenny takes Ponies to Cotton Bowl



Gary Kubiak's injuries kept him out of two games



Gabe Rivera led Texas Tech near upset of Washington



Billy Ray Smith and Hogs Bluebonnet Bowl-bound

## DECEMBER

# ARCHIE'S TACO BELL

3901 S. Texas Ave. Bryan  
310 N. Harvey Rd. College Station

| SUNDAY  | MONDAY  | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| <p><b>Watch for Archie's Bell Ringer Christmas!</b><br/>Archie plans to bring a white Christmas to some lucky Taco Bell friend. Registration and details at both Archie's Taco Bells.</p> |   |   | <p><b>1</b> Late Night T-Shirt night every Wednesday at Archie's Taco Bell in Bryan. Wear your Taco Bell T-Shirt into the Bryan store between 11 p.m. and closing and receive \$1.00 off your purchase. (Not good with any other offer.)</p>  | <p><b>2</b> Register now for Archie's Bell Ringer Christmas! (Look what's coming December 20th and 22nd!)</p> | <p><b>3</b> Illinois became the 21st state, 1818.</p>                         | <p><b>4</b> Texas A&amp;M Men's Basketball at Marquette University</p>   |
| <p><b>5</b> Prohibition Repeal Amendment ratified, 1933.</p>  | <p><b>6</b> MSC Christmas Program, call 845-1515.</p>                                 | <p><b>7</b> T-Shirt Day is every Tuesday at both Archie's Taco Bells.</p>   | <p><b>8</b> Texas A&amp;M Men's Basketball at LSU</p>   | <p><b>9</b> Tanzania's Independence (1961) and Republic (1962) Day</p>  | <p><b>10</b> Texas A&amp;M Commencement</p>                                   | <p><b>11</b> Texas A&amp;M Commencement</p>  |
| <p><b>12</b> National Ding-a-Ling Day (Really!)</p>   | <p><b>13</b> Aggie finals start December 13 - 17.</p>                                 | <p><b>14</b> Wear your Taco Bell T-Shirt into either store and get \$1.00 off your purchase! (Not good with any other offer.)</p> | <p><b>FREE BURRITO SUPREME</b><br/>WITH PURCHASE OF ONE AT REGULAR PRICE<br/>Soft flour tortilla, Fresh ground beef, Pinto beans, Sour cream, Lettuce and tomatoes, Onions, Real cheddar cheese. Mild red or spicy green sauce.<br/>LIMITS ONE COUPON PER PERSON PER VISIT Offer good Dec. 15 - 31 11 a.m. - 11 p.m.<br/>Not good with any other offer.</p> |   | <p><b>17</b> Texas A&amp;M Men's Basketball: Montana Classic, Dec. 17, 18</p> | <p><b>18</b> 7 days 'til Christmas! Give burritos and tacos!</p>   |
| <p><b>19</b> First Christmas Greetings from space, 1958 (via satellite Atlas).</p>  | <p><b>20</b> Drawing for Archie's Bell Ringer Christmas, in Bryan store at 1 p.m.</p> | <p><b>21</b> First day of winter. It could get down to 25° or up to 80°. Only in Texas!</p>                                       | <p><b>22</b> Snow falls on Archie's Taco Bell in Bryan at 2 p.m.! Snowman Contest for first 50 children. Santa visits, too!</p>   | <p><b>23</b> Feast of Radishes in Oaxaca, Mexico.</p>   | <p><b>24</b> Christmas Eve, Santa comes tonight!</p>                          | <p><b>25</b> Merry Christmas! Closed all day.</p>  |
| <p><b>26</b> Tired of Turkey? Come get Tacos!</p>   | <p><b>27</b> "Father of Modern Astronomy", Johannes Kepler, born 1571.</p>            | <p><b>28</b> Texas A&amp;M Men's Basketball: Connecticut Classic, Dec. 28, 29</p>   | <p><b>29</b> Texas became the 28th state, 1845.</p>   | <p><b>30</b> Total eclipse of the moon.</p>   | <p><b>31</b> New Year's Eve</p>   | <p><b>Happy New Year</b></p>   |
| <p><b>31</b> New Year's Eve<br/>OPEN VERY, VERY LATE</p>  |   |   |   |   |   | <p>To list a public service announcement on Archie's Calendar of Events for January, please call Ellen at 846-7753 by Dec. 15.</p> |