

Varsity-alumni game turns clock forward, backward

Kyle Field deserves more credit than it's given. No longer is it dormant in the spring. Now it does more than set the stage for a single game or season of Texas A&M football.

Fans present at the second varsity-alumni game Saturday were shown what was, is and will be Texas A&M football. Coach Jackie Sherrill peered into the fall of '83, while former all-SWC quarterback Kyle Hargett relived his successful years as an Aggie.

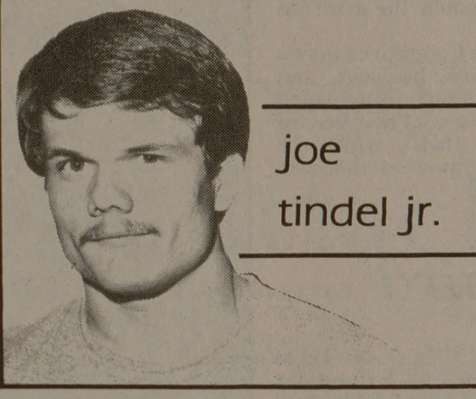
Welcome to Kyle Field, the Aggie football time machine.

After former yell leaders guided a modest crowd through the "Spirit of Aggieland" and former band members played the dust out of their instruments, Hargett once again shouted the signals, leaping back and threw a touchdown pass.

It had happened before — in the late 1960s.

"We were close in all of them except one," Hargett said of his 1967 SWC championship season with the Aggies. "They could have gone either way. We beat the last play of the game against LSU. Purdue had a great team that year, and they just beat us by four points. Florida State beat us in a rainstorm."

Off to a 0-4 start, something happened to the Aggies that turned the entire season around. While in the locker room of Kyle Field, Hargett recalled the big day



Joe Tindel Jr.

against Texas Tech.

"We made a couple of personnel changes, but I don't know that those were that big a deal," Hargett said. "We just made two or three or four big plays and won the ball game. We scored the last play of the game. Bob Long made a great pass catch to set that up. There were about six of them (defenders) around, and he was standing right in the middle of them and somehow he came down with it."

"We were just happy and proud to get there (to the 1968 Cotton Bowl). I think they've had some better teams here since

we were here, but they just never were fortunate enough to win the game that they had to. We were. We won the game that we had to. We didn't have that good a record, but we were able to win the conference that year."

Kyle Field — in a manner of speaking — brought back Hargett's past in the same way it provided an opening through which the '83 Aggies could get a glimpse of what might be.

But no time machine would be complete without the ability to show things as they are today. Where are the alumni now, for instance?

George Woodard, the Aggies' bulky star running back from the late 70s, is still searching for a career in pro football.

"I'm still looking for that football dream to come true," Woodard said after Thursday's alumni practice. "I've been working out and just trying to keep my head together. When you do decide to come back, it's hard, because you've got to go through the process of working out all over again."

Woodard's dream of playing pro ball almost came true this spring. He checked in with the USFL's Denver Gold and made the team, he said. But a bad knee kept him from passing the physical.

Kyle Field will be a time machine once each spring, when the Aggies of the past come to test the Aggies of the future and tell a bit about themselves in the present.

Baseball

(Continued from page 14)

single and Kevin Smith's smash down the third-base line. They put together three walks and a wild pitch for five runs and take a 6-0 lead in the third inning. Third baseman Tony Metoyer hit a two-run home run over the 30-foot sign in right field.

In the fourth, Texas A&M scored two more runs when Metoyer committed three errors. Buddy Haney stroked an RBI single to right field. The Bears came back for three runs in the fifth, but Texas

A&M increased its lead to 10-3 in the bottom of the inning on two hits and a fielder's choice grounder by Edwards.

The Aggies picked up one more run in the sixth on a sacrifice fly by Metoyer to score Clint Heard, who had walked.

Baylor starter Steve Smith pitched a complete game, allowing four unearned runs as a result of the five Bear errors.

In the second game, Aggie starter Rick Luecken faced 13 batters in only two innings, giving up five runs on six hits as the Bears took a quick 5-1 lead. Cal Wood's two-run homer, the first

of his four hits in the game, gave Baylor a 2-0 lead in the first inning.

Texas A&M took up where the Bears left off in the errors department, committing two in the second inning as Baylor scored three runs on three hits to move ahead 5-1.

From that point on, the Bears did all the damage, as Baylor's Alan Koonce retired 14 straight batters between Heard's two-out walk in the second inning and Smith's one-out triple in the seventh.

Texas A&M used four pitch-

ers, but none could stop the Bears' offense. Baylor, which had 12 hits in the game, scored a run in the fifth, another in the seventh on Wood's second home run and five runs in the ninth to nail the 12th conference loss on the Aggies' won-lost ledger.

Texas A&M, which has a 22-16 overall record, plays the Lamar Cardinals on Tuesday night at 7:30 in Olsen Field. The Aggies play the Rice Owls in Houston this weekend, with a 3 p.m. single game set for Saturday and a 1 p.m. double-header scheduled for Sunday.

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