

Texas A&M

The Battalion Sports

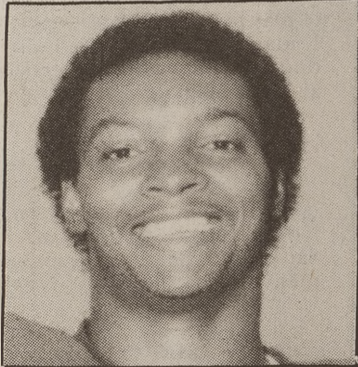
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Murray named as Saturday's starter

Freshman quarterback Kevin Murray will start for Texas A&M Saturday in the home Southwest Conference opener against Houston, coach Jackie Sherrill has announced.

Murray will replace former starter John Mazur, who completed 20 of 33 passes for 243 yards and two touchdowns in the Aggies' opener against California. In the last two games, however, the Aggies have scored only one touchdown.

Murray has completed eight of 22 passes for 142 yards and two touchdowns this year. His longest completion was a 38-yard touchdown pass to sophomore Jeff Nel-



son against Oklahoma State. "Kevin makes things happen," Sherrill said Monday night in announcing his decision. "He came into the Texas Tech game and gave us some spark, just like he did for us against Oklahoma State."

Huskers' stats say it all

United Press International
NEW YORK — It appears that the only thing the Nebraska football team has to fear is itself. Nebraska's statistics are so overwhelming after five games that they make one wonder if some professional teams could pile them up against college competition.

More to the point, they apparently make the 42 coaches on the UPI ratings Board wonder, too, because for the second straight week they are unanimous in voting the Cornhuskers the No. 1 team in the country. Nebraska thus piled up a maximum 630 points in outdistancing second-place Texas, followed by Alabama, North Carolina and West Virginia. Rounding out the top 10 are Florida, Oklahoma, Georgia,

Ohio State and Auburn. Now for the reasons why the coaches think no college team in the country could handle Nebraska:
●Following Nebraska's 63-7 triumph over Syracuse last Saturday, the Cornhuskers are averaging 56 points per game.
●They are averaging 437

yards rushing per game.
●They are averaging 618 total yards per game.
With a little more than half the season left, college football experts are wondering if Nebraska will be the first unanimous national champion in the UPI ratings since Southern California in 1972.
Nebraska goes for No. 6 next

Saturday in its Big Eight opener against Oklahoma State with the odds-makers listing the Cornhuskers as 24-point favorites.
Coach Tom Osborne says Saturday's game with the Cowboys could be a tough contest for the Huskers. The teams are the only Big Eight squads still unbeaten. Oklahoma State, 4-0, is off to its best start since 1975.

The pros

Cowboys rolling, but Landry says Dallas not yet 'Super'

United Press International
DALLAS — The Dallas Cowboys haven't lost a game all year and look up to find that their next opponent just gave up the most points ever scored in the first two quarters of a National Football League game.

"I hate games like this," Cowboys' coach Tom Landry said Tuesday. "This is a very unusual football game."
Tampa Bay, which has never beaten the Cowboys and which is trying to battle back from an embarrassing performance against Green Bay last Sunday, will come to Texas Stadium next weekend.

Landry faces the task of convincing his players that the Bucs are capable of playing the kind of defense they usually do — not the kind that brought about a 55-14 loss to the Packers.
"Why Tampa Bay ended up playing the way they did, I don't really know," the Cowboys coach said. "You have to write those games off."
"Their defense is the strong part of their football team. They had some injuries in the secondary and the kind of changes they had to make can hurt when you play a team like Green Bay. But football players can have their pride hurt. And if you

underestimate them you will make a big mistake."
Just how will his players react? "Obviously the ones that have not been around long enough will react poorly," he said. "They won't see how a team can give up that many points. But we've seen it happen so many times."
"You never saw a team play as bad as Green Bay did against New York (in a Monday night loss to the Giants the week before the Tampa Bay game). But they seemed to put 49 points on the board (in the first half) against a top defensive team. You never know what's going to happen in the league."
Landry said his club's 37-24 win over Minnesota last week

was, "the best team game we've had this year."
Nevertheless, Dallas had to rally from a 14-point deficit. The Cowboys have trailed in all five of their games this year and have had to come from at least 10 points behind three times.
"We just haven't made the plays at the beginning of the game that we should," Landry said. "Maybe that is a characteristic of this team." Landry said. "I know you cannot be continually consistent. We've been fortunate to come from behind."
Landry said he was not optimistic that wide receiver Tony Hill would return this week since Hill is still bothered by a sprained foot.

Chisox' experience may beat the odds

United Press International
BALTIMORE — If in hand-capping the American League playoffs you are tempted to concede experience to Baltimore, remember that some of Chicago's horses know all about the winners' circle.

Now an MVP candidate after a .281 season that included 26 home runs, Fisk becomes even more important as a handler of a playoff untested rotation of Hoyt, Floyd Bannister and Richard Dotson.

Despite a 24-year absence from post-season competition, the White Sox offer Carlton Fisk, Greg Luzinski, Tom Paciorek, Jerry Koosman, Aurelio Rodriguez and Dick Tidrow World Series veterans.
Their experience could help offset the savvy of a Baltimore squad that begins its record seventh playoff series Wednesday with left-hander Scott McGregor, 18-7, opposing Chicago's righty LaMarr Hoyt, 24-10, in a matchup of two of the A.L.'s most relentless throwers of strikes.

Like Fisk, Koosman was part of a storybook moment in World Series competition. It was Koosman who pitched the fifth and final game of the 1969 World Series, defeating the Orioles and handing the World Series title to the Miracle New York Mets.
Luzinski was a member of the only Philadelphia Phillies' team to win a world championship, in 1980. By then, however, the slugger was competing for playing time with Lonnie Smith, a circumstance that eventually made him available to the White Sox.

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Jets' Gastineau, O'Brien face NY assault charges

United Press International
NEW YORK — All-Pro defensive end Mark Gastineau and rookie quarterback Ken O'Brien of the New York Jets Tuesday were charged with third degree assault, a misdemeanor, ordered to appear at a hearing on Nov. 1 at Criminal Court in Manhattan.

Gastineau and O'Brien were charged with assaulting a patron during a brawl at the Studio 54 disco in Manhattan last week. Both players denied the charges and said they actually had attempted to break up a fight.
Gastineau and O'Brien, fresh from a 34-10 rout of the Buffalo Bills Monday night, slipped into a back door of a Manhattan police station to be booked on the assault charges.
They arrived at the Midtown North Precinct about 10:45 a.m. and drove past reporters and fans and into an alleyway to a rear building where they entered the stationhouse through a rear door.
Less than an hour later, they emerged and made a brief appearance with Gastineau's attorney, Peter Morrison. Gas-

tineau refused to discuss the case.
If the charges were bothering Gastineau, it was not reflected in his performance Monday night.

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The National Weather Service is predicting considerable cloudiness with a 40 percent chance of rain and temperatures in the 80s over a virtually sold-out Memorial Stadium.
"Experience is a benefit. I would never underestimate it," said Chicago Manager Tony LaRussa. "But we have guys with experience. We hadn't been in a pennant race in a long time and that didn't seem to bother us. We had never clinched early and that didn't seem to bother us. I think we'll be ready to play and maybe in six years it will be the White Sox with all the playoff experience."
Most baseball fans can still recall Fisk dancing down the first base line in Game Six of the 1975 World Series, using body english to steer his 12th-inning, game-winning home run.

Even with such individuals, however, the White Sox may still face a challenge in handling a team with many holdovers from the 1979 squad that lost the World Series to Pittsburgh in seven games.
Catcher Rick Dempsey, who must help contain a White Sox squad that stole nearly three times as many bases as the Orioles, remembers '79 and commented on the value of post-season experience.
"In a short series experience is overrated unless you play a lot of low scoring games and you have to show mental toughness," said Dempsey. "But when you've been there you know how to look at it."

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