

Ags relive quarterback quandary

By TRAVIS TINGLE
Assistant Sports Editor

It's amazing how history repeats itself when it comes to Texas A&M quarterbacks.

In the fourth game of 1983 against Texas Tech, Kevin Murray replaced Southern Cal transfer John Mator as the Aggie quarterback in the third quarter to try to spark a sagging A&M offense.

The Aggies lost 3-0, but Head Coach Jackie Sherrill saw something he liked in the freshman from North Dallas High School.

Sherrill chose to start Murray in the Aggies' next game against Houston.

No one was sorry about the decision.

Murray promptly etched his name on the list for All-Southwest Conference honors, directing A&M to an impressive 30-7 victory.

When the Aggies face the Red Raiders in College Station this Saturday, another quarterback will again be pushed into the maroon spotlight — Craig Stump.

Stump took one thing into the Aggie locker room against Tech that Murray did not have enough to have had: game experience.

After coming off a broken ankle in the third quarter of last Saturday's A&M vs. State game, Stump came in and threw the winning touchdown pass to split end Jimmy Teal to salvage a 22-21 A&M win.

Two Southwestern Stump, a red-shirt freshman from Fort Arthur, Texas, completed eight of 14 passes for 103 yards and two touchdowns in the second half of the Aggies' triumph over Iowa State. A&M scored 17-10 before Stump was pushed out of the way through the third quarter.



Photo by PETER ROCHA

Aggie quarterback Craig Stump, concentrates on his receivers' patterns during the Arkansas State game. Stump will

make his first Southwest Conference start when the Ags take on the Texas Tech Red Raiders Saturday at 11:30 a.m.

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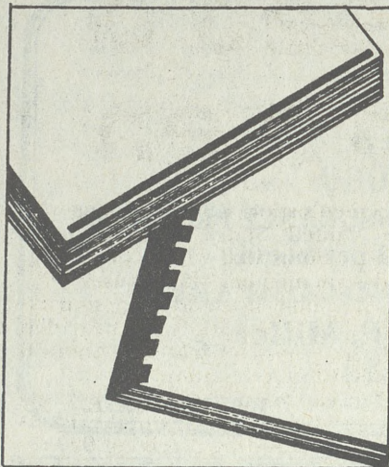
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THE RICHARD SMITH STORY

Last Spring, Bill Presnal, our former State Representative resigned from office in order to go to work for Texas A&M. This allowed Gov. Mark White (Dem.) to call a Special Election to fill the vacancy. Would you believe he set the election during A&M's Spring Break? He did. Why? To keep the Aggies from voting. He knew we could make a difference. There are only 45,000 registered voters in Brazos County (which alone makes up this State Representative District.) There are 37,000 students at A&M, so obviously if we register to vote and vote we can make a difference. As it turned out, many Aggies did register to vote and voted absentee for Aggie Richard Smith '89. He is the only experienced, conservative, independent candidate who can go to Austin and get the job done. To Richard Smith A&M isn't just a part of the district, A&M is a commitment and a concern that all Aggies share. It ended up that over 13,000 people voted last March. Our candidate, Richard Smith, lost by 29 votes (to force a runoff). By two tenths of one percent of all the votes cast last March our candidate lost. The conservative Republican lost to Mark White's chosen Democrat, Neeley Lewis. That was the Special Election. The Battalion Editorial Board called the scheduling of the Special Election by the Democrats "an attack on Texas A&M students, staff and faculty members." The Student Senate passed a resolution in opposition to the setting of the election date when Aggies could not vote. Governor White (Dem.) refused to even see the student government leaders concerning the issue. The Bryan-College Station Eagle Editorial Board said, "Let's face it, this whole thing smacks of partisan politics at its most petty level." "...Democrat Party officials had described March 10 as a 'convenient day' for the election." Convenient to keep the Aggies from voting. Convenient for the Democrats to unfairly help Neeley Lewis. On Nov. 6, we have a chance to prove that we won't be pushed around again. Richard Smith and Neeley Lewis are on the ballot again - this time in a fair fight. We will determine the winner, if we register to vote (the deadline is Oct. 6) and then vote on Nov. 6. Mark White and the Democrats can't set this election when the Aggies can't vote. It's up to us!

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