

# 'Good Ag' has had it

## No more Flashbacks from Stanfield

**Tim Stanfield**  
Guest Column

For the past three football seasons, I have had the distinct honor to write stories about games and the players in them during the 34 seasons that I have been a Texas A&M fan (not counting this one).  
Though I didn't see my first A&M game in person until 1961 (A&M 23, Baylor 0 at Kyle Field), I can honestly say that I have loved the Ags and this program as much as — or more than — any other person on earth since Spring 1954.  
I mean, a person only has one life to live and a very few things to make special, and Texas A&M has always been very special to me.  
There has been no better college football player than John David Crow, who won the 1957 Heisman Trophy and went on to a sterling career in the National Football League.  
I listened on the radio and watched on television while Crow was an All-America for Texas A&M and an All-Pro for the St. Louis Cardinals, never once wondering what it would be like to meet him.  
Well, I have gotten to meet him and have been fortunate to do a story or two on him along the way,

including one in my *Flashback* series on the Rice-A&M game in 1957 (which A&M lost 7-6).  
That was — and shall always be — special to me, even though that game cost A&M a Southwest Conference title and possible national championship.  
While my contributions to *The Battalion* in 1986 consisted of facts about previous A&M games, the past two seasons have been filled with nothing but stories I have written about players and games that I wanted to recall.  
Sometimes I cannot believe it and have to go get a copy of my story on Ed Simonini or Lester Hayes or Robert Jackson or Lloyd Taylor to again convince myself that guys who played for my football team had actually let me write stories about them.  
If I seem like I a "starry-eyed little boy" concerning these guys, well, there is a lot of little boy in me. And I don't care what anyone else thinks about it either!

They were important to me and, since A&M didn't have a speech department until I was 35 years old (that was the A&M degree I wanted to get, only I ended up with one from Sam Houston State University), that was the only direct link I had with A&M itself.  
In fact, the only reason I came back to A&M to get a journalism degree was that I could also have a speech minor (and without taking any speech courses here).  
So I took it personally when Texas upset them 21-6 in 1955, giving TCU an undeserved SWC title, as well as when Tennessee shut them out 3-0 in the 1957 Gator Bowl, Crow's last game.  
My second game to see in person was in 1965, also here and against Texas (A&M lost 21-17 after leading 17-0). Four more in 1967, when the Aggies overcame a 0-4 start to finish 7-4 and win the SWC title and beat Alabama in the Cotton Bowl.  
I've been fortunate to do stories

# Let's face the truth, Aggies: Arkansas deserves the hype



**Jerry Bolz**  
Sports writer

A few weeks ago Texas A&M was defeated by themselves while the University of Arkansas team looked on. There's no doubt about that.  
The rationalization was just more proof in Aggie fan's minds that Arkansas is not worthy of their top-10 ranking or a Cotton Bowl berth. I've thought along with the best of the Aggie fans the whole way that the Hogs were all squeal and no waller.  
For me, however, it has come time to deal with Arkansas' lack of recognition compared to the rest of the Southwest Conference.  
The Razorbacks compiled a 10-1 record this year — and the loss said as much for them as the wins.  
Facing Miami in the Orange Bowl (stadium) is not a piece of fruit by any means. But Arkansas could, or should, have won the game that they lost 18-16.  
Arkansas is the classic example of the team who plays at the level of their opponent. Only twice during the season did the Razorbacks wipe out a foe — against Pacific and Texas Christian. The rest of the year, besides the Miami game, Arkansas got the job done, plain and simple.  
They barely beat Tulsa, which Houston rolled over 82-28. The Hogs narrowly beat those same Cougars. They slipped by Rice. And, of course, they just edged the Aggies.  
All this has added up to marks against Arkansas this year. Statements like "They don't deserve to be ranked in the Top 20" and "They'll get blown away by anyone good, like Miami" have been heard all season. The problem is, they aren't true. Arkansas has played steadily good football all year with very few mistakes.

There's a lot to be said for consistency in a football program. Ken Hatfield has built a rock of consistency this season as Arkansas' head man. Nobody knows how he's done it because we don't keep up with the Razorbacks in Texas — until they're playing one of "our" teams.  
So Arkansas remains the scorn of Texas.  
But not only to Texas teams. The rest of the country associates the Razorbacks with the SWC, which gives Arkansas a poor reputation.  
True, the SWC has had some rough recent years. Probation has hit it hard and consequently the most talented Texas players are choosing more prestigious conferences.  
But in the midst of the NCAA probation show, not only has Arkansas kept clean, they have put good teams on the field. This year's is the fifth  
See Hogs/Page 10.

### Texas A&M vs. Alabama

- Time: Thursday, 7:38 p.m.
- Where: Kyle Field
- Tickets: Some tickets available.
- Aggies: A&M defeated Texas 28-24 on Thanksgiving.
- Alabama: The Crimson Tide lost to Auburn 10-15.
- Records: The Aggies are 7-4. Alabama is 7-3.
- Media: ESPN will televise the game nationally with Tim Brando on play-by-play and Lee Corso on commentary. The 80-station Aggie Radio Network will broadcast with Dave South on play-by-play and Jay Howard on commentary.

# Sanders, OSU take on Tech

TOKYO (AP) — Oklahoma State running back Barry Sanders already has rewritten the record book this year, and with one more regular-season game to go — to be played Sunday here in Japan — promises to grab a few more entries.  
But both Sanders and Coach Pat Jones say their main concern is beating Texas Tech.  
"The object of the game is not to break records," Sanders said after arriving in Tokyo Wednesday night with the two weary-looking teams.  
"It (setting records) was one of the things that happened this year. But basically we just try to win games," he said.  
With one game to go, Sanders already has set more than a dozen NCAA records this year, including

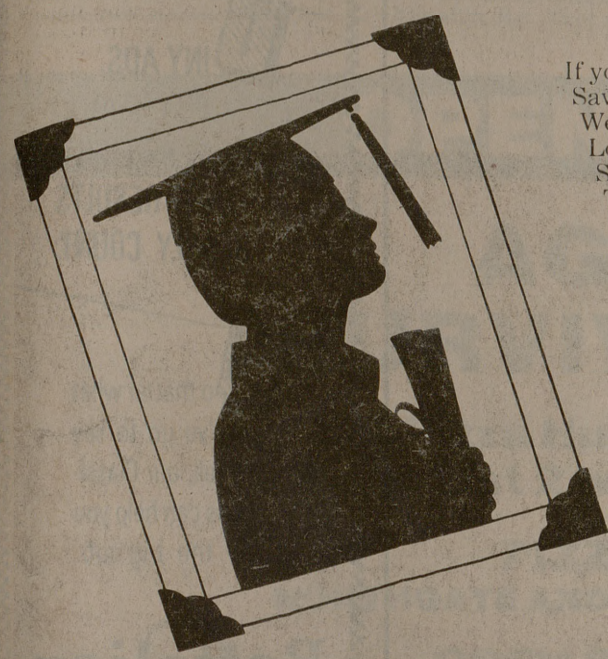
most single-season touchdowns (35), most all-purpose yards (2,897) and most 300-plus rushing games in a career (three, all this season).  
Many believe he also has the inside track to this year's Heisman Trophy — which will be announced just a few hours before Sunday's game.  
"I think he's got it won right now — I think it's over with," Coach Jones said.  
CBS television, which plans to carry the Heisman Award ceremony live from New York Saturday, has made arrangements to interview Sanders in Tokyo early Sunday morning, Japan time, should he win. The announcement is expected to be made at 5:50 p.m. EST.  
Among records likely to fall on

Sunday is Marcus Allen's season-rushing total of 2,342 yards, a mere 47 yards more than Sanders' current mark.  
"We're coming over here obviously to win a football game," Jones said. "But I think it's safe to assume that he'll get yards. He has on everybody else."  
Oklahoma State quarterback Mike Gundy ranks No. 2 in the nation in passing efficiency, and a first-place finish after Sunday's game could give the team both top-rushing and top-passing honors.  
"We're not going out there to try to do things statistically, but if that happens, it happens," Jones said.  
Oklahoma State ranks 13th in the Associated Press poll with an 8-2 record.

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