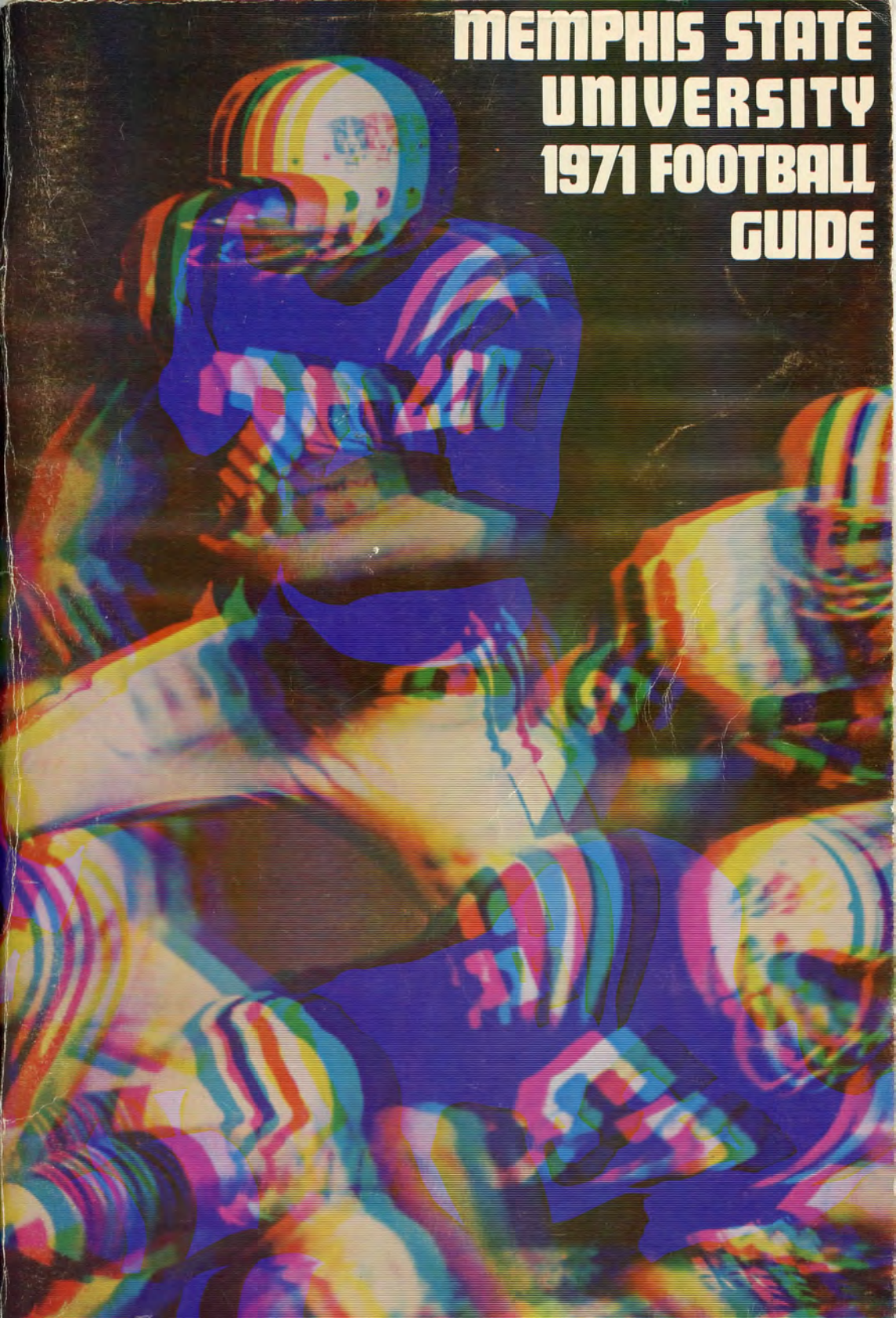
MEMPHIS STATE UNIVERSITY 1971 FOOTBALL GUIDE



1971 SCHEDULE

Sep. 11—West Texas State*	**7:30 p.m.**	**Memphis**
Sep. 18—Mississippi	**7:30 p.m.**	**Memphis**
Oct. 2—South Carolina	**7:30 p.m.**	**Memphis**
Oct. 9—Louisville*	**7:30 p.m.**	**Memphis**
Oct. 16—Utah State	**1:30 p.m.**	**Logan**
Oct. 23—Southern Mississippi*	**7:30 p.m.**	**Memphis**
Oct. 30—Cincinnati*	**1:30 p.m.**	**Cincinnati**
Nov. 6—Houston	**7:30 p.m.**	**Memphis**
Nov. 13—North Texas State*	**1:30 p.m.**	**Memphis**
Nov. 20—Kansas State	**1:30 p.m.**	**Memphis**

**Conference games*
(Southern Mississippi & Cincinnati are designated conference games.)

Band Day—Louisville

Homecoming—Houston

1970 RESULTS (6-4)

Mississippi	13-47	Memphis	51,546
Virginia Tech	21-20	Blacksburg	20,000
Tulsa	12-27	Tulsa	17,500
Florida State	16-12	Memphis	29,047
North Texas State	28- 7	Denton	10,000
Southern Mississippi	33- 0	Memphis	24,468
Louisville	27-40	Louisville	22,657
Wichita State	51- 6	Memphis	13,846
Utah State	12-15	Memphis	13,136
Cincinnati	14-10	Memphis	10,144

HOME ATTENDANCE (6 games) 166,902

ROAD ATTENDANCE (4 games) 85,625

TOTAL ATTENDANCE (10 games) 252,527

MEMPHIS STATE UNIVERSITY 1971 FOOTBALL GUIDE

Compiled and Edited by the Memphis State University Sports Information Office

Dean R. M. "Bill" Robinson

This guide is dedicated to **Dean R. M. "Bill" Robison,** who retired this past summer with 46 years of dedication, devotion and "humble" service to Memphis State. A personable gentleman who began his tenure at MSU as a teacher, has given of himself one-hundred percent in such positions as Principal of the training school, Bursor, Registrar, Dean of Students, Executive Dean of Students, and Assistant to the President.

Over and above these and the countless other jobs to which Dean Robison has added his "personal" touch, the Dean served on the Athletic Committee for 28 years, 25 of which were as chairman. Throughout these years of service in the university's athletic program, he has been more than just chairman of the committee. He has been a friend, a counselor, and a whole-hearted promoter of MSU athletics. But that's been his way in each aspect of his life.

The results of his service to the athletic program, and more so to the University are too many to list, but are indeed worthy of every honor, the least of which is the dedication of this guide.

ON THE COVER

Front—Paul "Skeeter" Gowen (20), Memphis State's All-Star candidate, steps out to begin a 69-yard sprint against Southern Mississippi.

Back—A pictorial feature of four outstanding seniors at the four major positions: *Offensive Back, Offensive Lineman, Defensive Lineman, Defensive Back.*
(From top, left to right): Skeeter Gowen (20), *TB*, out front; Mike "Mule" Stark (76), *OT*, receiving his All-MVC award; Dave Pawlik (62), *NG*, doing his thing defensively against Southern Mississippi; Charlie Babb (45), *S*, starting on a TD-scoring, pass interception return in the Blue-Gray game; Pawlik receiving his All-Conference plaque; Gowen on top of a pile up against Utah State; Stark in his own formidable style; and Babb intercepting one against Ole Miss.

Layout and Design by Gail Brown, Tri-State Printing & Binding Co. and Bill Grogan, SID.

FOR A COMPLETE INDEX, SEE PAGE 128

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN '71

Memphis State's football package for 1971 will have something for everyone:

*The best schedule in the school's history with eight home games.

*An explosive running attack with a host of gifted runners.

*An aggressive "head-hunting" defensive unit highlighted by an all-senior "cracker-jack" defensive backfield.

In addition, head coach Billy Murphy, now ranked the fifteenth winningest active coach in the nation with an 86-38-1 record, has indicated that he'll have the Tigers going "all out" every minute. Murphy, who has guided the Tigers to 11 winning seasons in his 13 at MSU, only one of which was a losing season, appeared satisfied with the development of the Tigers this past spring with one exception—quarterback.

QUARTERBACK—QUESTION MARK

Since the end of the 1970 season, this one question has been the main topic of discussion around the Tiger camp, "Who will quarterback in 1971?" And therein lies the answer to how successful 1971 will be. As Coach Murphy said earlier in the summer at a kickoff meeting of a Tiger support group, "no matter how many runners you have, or how aggressive your defensive unit, you've got to get the ball in the end zone—that's the name of the game. To do that, you've got to have a take-charge-type of quarterback."

The Tigers open the 1971 season with four candidates for the all-important position. Leading the parade apparently are juniors Rick Strawbridge, a tremendous passer and a clutch performer, and Steve Leech, a good runner and a good triple-option man. Strawbridge, although seeing only limited action in 1970, was one of the Tigers' brighter spots, coming off the bench in several games to help spark the Tigers to victories. When spring practice began, Strawbridge was the leading candidate for the starting position. However, an early sping leg-injury kept him from seeing much action, and kept the coaches from comparing him with the other candidates. Without a doubt, Strawbridge is a "crowd pleaser" at quarterback and will see plenty of action in 1971.

Strawbridge . . .

A former high school All-America at quarterback, Leech began the 1970 season at quarterback but was shifted to split receiver in mid-season. When Strawbridge was injured last spring, Leech, after impressive and spirited workouts at quarterback, was moved back to the quarterback spot. Although he didn't live up to expectations in 1970, it must be pointed out that Leech was coming off a red-shirt year, had the pressure of starting his first college game against Ole Miss, and being paired against Archie Manning. With a year of experience under his belt, many expect Leech to regain the poise and posture which made him an all-star quarterback.

. . . or Leech?

If there's a darkhorse in the quarterback battle, it would have to be sophomore Mike Napier, who came on like gangbusters in the spring. An all-star quarterback in high school, last year Napier played wingback for the freshman and looked impressive both running and catching the football. His outstanding showing in the

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spring elevated him into serious contention for the number-one spot. After spending this past summer studying Memphis State's offensive plays and patterns. Napier is expected to keep his name very prominent in the quarterbacking question.

The other sophomore quarterback, John Robison, according to many observers could develop into one of the Tigers' finest. Robison was last year's frosh signal-caller and looked as good as any Tiger freshman quarterback has ever looked. The 6-0, 185-pounder was impressive in several categories, completing 42 of 72 passes for 540 yards including three TD passes. In addition, Robison scored three times himself and ran the ball 128 yards, giving him a three-game total-offense of 628 yards in 117 plays, an average of more than five yards per play. Robison came to MSU with impressive credentials from an all-American performance at Butler High School in Pennsylvania, where he broke many of the passing records held by former Notre Dame star, Terry Hanratty.

As Coach Murphy has repeatedly reported: "any of the four are capable—quite capable—to lead the team . . . Each of the four are, of course, better than another in one particular phase. What we need is one of the four to step forward, and take charge . . . one who'll say, 'I'll lead the offense'."

THE BRIGHTEST SPOT

Gowen (20) A big man!

When one looks at Memphis State's strong points for 1971, he is immediately attracted to the loaded tailback position, which features all-star candidate Paul "Skeeter" Gowen. A 5-7, 175-pounder who many said was "too little" to play college football, Gowen has rushed himself into second place behind all-time leading rusher Dave Casinelli. An All-America (honorable mention) and a unanimous All-Missouri Valley Conference selection two years in a row, "Skeeter" has averaged six yards per carry during his career. Currently, the number-two rusher has carried the ball 262 times for 1,583 yards, only 906 yards behind Casinelli. Gowen, who has had several 150-yard rushing games in his career, was nominated for several pre-season All-America honors. Coach Murphy says simply of Skeeter, "if all players had as much drive, dedication and desire as the 'Skeet', we'd be in great shape . . . he's the best little man in football . . . and the fastest runner I've ever seen from the set position to the line of scrimmage."

Joining Gowen at tailback, and predicted by many to be a super Tiger star before he's through, is sophomore speedster Dornell Harris. The leading rusher in the spring's Blue-Gray intersquad game with 83 yards in 15 carries (eight for the Gray and seven for the Blue), Harris is a threat to go all the way anytime he gets his hand on the ball. Last year for the frosh, Harris got his hands on the ball 48 times (including rushing, receiving, punt and kickoff returns) and accounted for 427 yards.

Harris—Super to be!

Still another gifted runner at tailback is John Quintal, who had a most-impressive spring including an outstanding spring game. In the Blue-Gray game, Quintal was the Blue's leading rusher with 60 yards in five carries. The 5-10, 200-pounder was also the game's leading scorer with two TDs. The talent and ability at tailback is so deep that any of the three could possibly start for many other teams. For Memphis State, it only means a balanced threat that hopefully will catch opposing defenses rattled.

Wilson (34)

FULLBACK LOADED TOO

Another potent position which opposing defenses must take into consideration is at fullback which along with tailback gives the Tigers one of the best one-two punches in the South. The big story here this past spring was the showing of last year's punter, Paul "Earthquake" Wilson, who begins the year as the number-one fullback. An exceptionally quick runner, especially for his size (6-0, 215), Wilson runs so hard he has earned the nickname "Earthquake." In addition, Wilson is doubly impressive in the blocking department, a necessity in the MSU system.

What makes the fullback position so loaded is that in addition to Wilson, the Tigers can counter with senior Ray Jamieson, an all-conference returnee. Jamieson, who will probably play fullback as much as any Tiger in 1971, was a unanimous selection to the All-MVC team during his sophomore season. The 6-1, 225-pound Rhode Islander has had an injury-ladened career since coming to MSU. If he's healthy, though, there aren't many runners who can match his running and blocking abilities.

And if the Wilson-Jamieson duo weren't enough, MSU's fullback spot boasts still another — sophomore Clifton Taylor, a 6-0, 190-pound super-to-be. Taylor, without doubt, has everything it takes to become a bonafide All-America before he's through. He can run the 100 yd. dash in 9.7, he's big and strong, and he's a very intelligent runner. In the spring game, Taylor ran one kickoff back 106 yards for six points, and two others for an additional 63 yards. Taylor, a sophomore, didn't play freshman football because of a knee injury which required surgery early last season. With the knee fully recovered now, Clifton Taylor will be heard from soon.

AND OUT ON THE WING . . .

One big reason why Memphis State will have an explosive attack in 1971 can, likewise, be found at wingback with the return of Stan Davis, who Murphy says "does everything for us." Davis, who missed the 1970 season with a back injury, had an outstanding year two seasons ago as the 9.4 speedster amazed fans, coaches and players with a brilliant exhibition of pass catching and break-away running. The back injury which required surgery in June, 1970, and kept Davis from competing last year, is reportedly healed. In a pre-season interview, Murphy called Davis "an explosive football player, who wins football games . . ." If Davis can go full speed, there's not much doubt that he'll become one of the most exciting players in MSU history. Also at wingback, will be last year's leading freshman receiver, Gary Byrd, who many predict will also make Tiger stardom. Byrd, a slender but rugged individual, caught 19 passes last year (in the three-game freshman season) for 210 yards, and one touchdown. Ruddy Dixon who played some wingback last season will also return, adding good pass catching ability to the position. Of course, if Strawbridge and/or Napier and Robison come through big guns at quarterback, Leech could be moved back to wingback. Although he played the position only for a relatively short duration last season, he was impressive.

Welcome back Stan Davis!

At the other wide-receiver position—Split End—Memphis State has three of the finest. Tim Boren, one of last year's sophomore sensations, will apparently start. Boren, who shared playing-time with several receivers last year, caught five passes, accounted for 105 yards, and scored two touchdowns, indicating that he knows what to do with the ball when he catches it. His 21-yard average per catch was the team's best. Behind Boren, the Tigers will feature two other juniors, Al Harvey and Tom Talbot. Harvey, a former freshman quarterback at the University of Alabama before transfering to Memphis State, was last year's defensive safety. Because of his pass catching ability and his offensive experience, the 6-2, 185-pounder has been switched to split-end, where he is expected to see quite a bit of action. Talbot, who missed much of the action last year due to a knee injury, is expected to make some noise at split end in 1971. Although Talbot hasn't played much for MSU—mainly due to major and minor injuries—Tiger coaches are impressed with his credentials and attitude.

AT THE OTHER END OF THE LINE . . .

At tight end, MSU will feature three of the "surest hands" in recent years. Senior John Kirshner, who was red shirted last season partly due to a knee injury but mostly because of an overflow at the position and because the coaches wanted to have him available for the 1971 season, is back, fully recovered. The 6-6, 225-pound native of Lake Worth, Florida is considered to have equal ability to last year's starters David Vaughn and Billy Wright, both of whom signed professional contracts. In addition to being an impressive pass catcher and runner, Kirschner is an excellent blocker, a very important function for Memphis State's tight ends.

Guy Carter, who saw only limited action last season and missed spring practice because of a knee injury which required surgery, will return this fall, probably seeing as much action as Kirschner.

Rounding out the tight end position is Steve DeLong, a 6-4, 225-pound redshirt sophomore, who was one of the leading receivers for the 1969 freshman squad. One of the bright spots this last spring at that position, DeLong had an impressive spring game, leading the number-one Blue team in pass receptions. He also scored on a 20-yard pass from Leech.

MSU — SOLID UP FRONT

Up there in the offensive line—"where the action is"—Memphis State finds the 1971 starters as solid and as talented as ever, although not as deep as Coach Murphy would like. Leading the offensive line will be senior Mike "Mule" Stark, at left tackle. Stark, who was a unanimous All-MVC selection and an All-America (honorable mention) pick last season, is the strongest of the Tigers as his 6-2, 255-pound frame will contest. Already picked to *Kickoff Magazine's* 1971 pre-season All-America team (the first MSU player ever to make a major pre-season All-America squad), Stark is expected to receive additional All-America honors this year. Stark has spent the summer lifting more weights, and working out, as if he needed to. Last fall in a weight lifting exhibition. Stark bench-pressed 450 pounds. This past summer he benched-pressed 507 pounds. Backing Stark up is 6-1, 220-pound sophomore William Solomon, who moves up from an outstanding year in the freshman line. Many expect Solomon to develop into a super tackle with experience.

Stark (76)—All Star

Across the line at the right tackle position, senior Carl Maurer, who tips the scale at 230, who is one of the team's outstanding athletes, will battle it out with 6-7, 250-pound sophomore Jay Douglas for the starting berth.

The guard position, which will feature four underclassmen in the first four depth slots is a question mark, although the four have better-than-average speed, and are great blockers. Replacing the graduated Larry McGhee won't be easy. Starting probably will be juniors Tom Fant, 6-2, 235, and Tom Parker, 6-1, 230. Not far behind them, will be two exceptionally quick prospects in Doug Corder, up from the freshman team and junior Jimmy Qualter, who many say will start before the season's over.

At center, Memphis State will have to replace John Bomer. Present plans call for senior Palmer Smith, a converted guard, to move into the pivotal position. Although the 6-2, 239-pounder hasn't had any college experience at center, he did play the position in high school and looked good in the spring. Also in the center position picture are two sophomores and a junior college transfer, who hopefully could move up to the starting guard position. The J. C. addition to the squad is 6-4, 250-pound Don Bell, who was the starting center at Trinidad J. C. in Colorado for the past two seasons. A Vietnam veteran, Bell has all the credentials to move to the top as an MSU center.

Pearce takes his turn with Laughead, famous sports photographer from Texas

Another Vietnam veteran and an outstanding prospect is sophomore Bob Pearce, a 6-5, 250 pounder from Earleville, Maryland. Pearce, who was an outstanding linemen for the frosh last year, is one of the most interesting individuals on the squad as his player profile shows. A former Marine, Pearce played on the Quantico team of 1965 which beat Memphis State 20-14. Also at center is another sophomore, Hal McGeorge, who has as much talent as any of the center prospects. McGeorge, a native Memphian, was one of the top high school centers in the city.

DEFENSE COULD BE SUPER!

If there is one thing for which Memphis State became known, especially during the 1960's when the Tigers compiled the 11th best record in the nation, it has to be the aggressive hard-nose type of defensive team.

The 1971 defense appears to be that kind of defense. Coach Murphy says simply, "we're going to have a good defensive unit this year. They're as aggressive, as talented, and as eager to hit as any team we've every had." Specifically, Murphy is extremely satisfied about the personnel—both the improvement of the old and the promise of the new.

Only two starters, linebacker John Allen and end Larry Frankenbach, both All-MVC selections last year, were lost to graduation. Al Harvey, last year's safety, was moved to offense, adding a great deal of talent and depth to split end. Except for those three, and two other defensive players lost because of academic reasons, the defense returns intact with, however, one important difference—the addition of some extremely talented, super defenders coming up from the frosh.

IMPROVEMENT CITED

Coaches will tell you that it's your defensive play which decides whether you win or lose . . . whether you're a successful team or not. Thus explains why most of the attention was given to its restructure immediately following the 1970 season and throughout the spring. Special attention was given, molding the defense into a cohesive weapon system.

Defensive pursuit and teamwork—personified.

Apparently the hard

work paid off as the consensus of present opinions are that the 1971 defense is going to be one of MSU's best in several years. And from the looks of the 1971 schedule, which includes such powers as Ole Miss, South Carolina, Houston, and Kansas State, the defense will have their hands full.

SPOTLIGHT IS ON THE DEFENSIVE BACKFIELD

When a team which has led the nation in pass interceptions for the past 11 years features an all-senior backfield, who are as aggressive and as "ball hawking" as the group MSU will put on the field this season, the defensive spotlight assuredly must fall their way.

The Tigers, long noted for their defensive backfield play, this year features an all-senior 'crackerjack' group, already nicknamed 'Cannibal and the Head Hunters.'

In this case, Cannibal is senior Charlie Babb, a two year letterman at halfback, who was moved in the spring to safety, his third position as a Tiger. Prior to this season, Babb played and excelled at monsterman, and defensive halfback. At safety the 6-0, 190-pounder is expected to do the same. In fact, Coach Murphy believes that Babb might be one of the best safeties in MSU history. "He has exactly what it takes," says Spook. Already pro scouts have taken an interest in Babb, especially after they saw his performance in the spring's Blue-Gray game. All Babb did was to intercept two passes, run one of the interceptions back 46 yards for a score, and break up at least seven more passes. Babb, expected to receive all-star honors this fall and rated a top prospect to play pro ball, has already been selected to *Kickoff Magazine's* "All-Midlands" (Sectional) team.

AND THE HEAD HUNTERS . . .

Monsterman Ricky Kale, one of the hardest hitting Tigers on the team, who pound-for-pound is as tough as any defensive player in the nation, is another big reason why the spotlight falls on the defensive backfield. Voted MSU's Outstanding Defensive Back in 1970, Kale is the returning statistical leader off last years' defensive team with 60 tackles and 41 assists (only second behind graduated linebacker John Allen.) In addition to three fumble recoveries which tied him for the team lead, Kale also led the team in pass interceptions with five.

Kale (23) intercepts in the end zone.

At halfback are two of the South's finest—Walter Daggett and Jeff Bruner, both two-year lettermen and both Florida speedsters who are not afraid to "dish it out."

Daggett, an All-MVC selection in 1970, and one of the most consistent defensive performers last season, was credited with 45 tackles in 1970, the third highest number on the team. In addition, he broke up an average of more than five passes per game. The 6-0, 185-pound picked off four interceptions, returning them an average of 13 yards per interception. On more than one occasion, Daggett made TD-saving tackles as did Kale and Babb.

Bruner, whose play was limited last season because of lack of experience, is cast in the same mold as his three backfield mates, and is expected to make many an opponent a "believer" before the 1971 season is completed.

The defensive backfield's back-up team has experience, speed and talent too, not to mention the desire to hit hard. At safety is two-year letterman Glenn Rogers, an extremely hard hitting tackler. Additional help will be supplied by a very promising sophomore, Tommy Thompson.

In fact, that particular phrase might very well sum up the entire back-up unit.

Each of the remaining spots, except one, are manned by sophomores. The lone junior is returning letterman Tom Hipp, who is the back-up monsterman. Although Kale will play most of the time, as he did in 1970, when called on, Hipp will do a better-than-adequate job.

PAWLIK RATED AS ONE OF MSU'S BEST

Pawlik

Leading the charge of the defensive line and plugging up the middle will be Dave Pawlik, an All-America (honorable mention) and an All-MVC selection last season. Coach Murphy will quickly tell you that "Pawlik is one of the best, most aggressive nose guards we have ever had." A two-year letterman, Pawlik was voted the Outstanding Defensive Lineman of 1970 and received the award at the spring game. A steady improver each season, he started off 1971 by leading the number-one defensive unit in the spring game in tackles. Last year the star nose-guard recovered three fumbles and was credited with 52 tackles and 44 assists, the best effort by all the linemen.

This past spring, coaches again praised Pawlik for his hard work and his personal desire to improve even more. Without doubt, the 6-1, 230-pound senior is one Tiger who should receive additional honors in 1971.

Backing up Pawlik from Walpole, Mass., is sophomore Glenn Wittemore, one of the more impressive defensive players on last year's freshman team. Whittemore also had a fine spring and led the number-two defensive team in tackles and assists in the Blue-Gray game.

TACKLES AND ENDS — STRONG!

If there was a "most improved" defensive element during the spring, then it would have to be the marked changes at tackle and especially, at end.

An improved Bobby Russell (74) returns

Therefore, it was rather fitting that Bobby Russell, a starting tackle last year who along with several others was guilty of those sophomore mistakes, come on strong in spring practice to win the Most Improved Player award. The annual award, which is voted on by both coaches and players, was presented to Russell at the Blue-Gray game.

What bolsters the tackle position is the appearance on the scene of one Brad Newman, a 6-2, 230-pound sophomore who according to Murphy, "is a super, super player." Newman, listed as one of the top newcomers in the Tiger lineup, and of the top sophomores in the nation, earned the starting tackle position this spring. He's quick, intelligent, and very aggressive, not to mention the possessor of a wealth of talent.

The tackle position will also feature two other great prospects in sophomores Carl Taylor (6-3, 230) and Charlie Baugh (6-2, 225). Both will see plenty of action as will Ken Valentine, a 6-2, 210-pound junior, who had an impressive spring game

sharing the defensive statistical leadership for the number-two Gray unit with Whittemore. Both had six tackles and three assists. Taylor will probably see action as a swing man, playing both left and right tackles.

The end-play, so vital in the making of a good defensive team, and according to Coach Murphy, "absolutely necessary if you're going to survive and excel in football," will feature a pair of the best sophomores ever to play at MSU. "Never before," says Murphy, "have there been a more impressive pair of defensive ends than in Danny Hosea and Darrell Higdon."

Hosea (pronounced Hozee), a 6-0, 190-pounder who was the leading defensive player on last year's freshman team, has an uncanny knack of being at the right place, doing the right thing, at the right time.

Higdon, who along with Hosea, started the spring game, is also an extremely intelligent, and aggressive football player. In the spring game, although he shared the position with several others, the 6-1, 190-pounder was in on eight tackles.

Both Higdon and Hosea are extremely hard hitters—an attribute which Tiger defensive ends had back in the glory days of the early 1960's.

As many a team has found out, though, your defensive end position is no better than the back-up men. Because of the quickness and freshness required in today's football, the reserve ends see almost as much action as the starters. Herein lies another highlight of Memphis State's 1971 defensive ends—the strength of the reserves.

Ruben Melton, a starter last year and a hard worker, has vowed he'll return in the fall ready to win back the starting position. Melton, one of the stronger, more aggressive players on the defense, is expected to play a great deal in 1971. Two other juniors and a sophomore round out the vastly strengthened position. Ken Roach, a letterman who saw a lot of action at end last year, is back and is currently listed behind Higdon at LE. Junior Bob McGoldrick and sophomore J. B. Easterlin, although both inexperienced, possess the same skills and abilities of the others at the position.

LINEBACKERS — TALENTED

Chenault (46) does his thing . . .

Although depth is lacking at linebacker, the two junior lettermen who will start are as talented as any two MSU linebackers have been in recent years. Now with a year of experience under their belt, Butch Smith and Bruce Chenault, have the size, strength, and speed to do everything linebackers must do.

Chenault, who missed a great deal of the season last year with a knee injury was, nevertheless, the sixth leading tackler for the Tiger defense last year with 41 tackles and 27 assists.

Butch Smith played back up last year at nose guard and to the graduated John Allen, and thereby didn't see that much action. In spite of that, Smith did gain valuable experience, especially late in the season, coming on exceptionally strong. Smith is one of the strongest linebackers MSU has had in several years.

Also a prominent figure in the linebacking position is red-shirt Junior Pete Lawson, who had a strong spring, winning a starting berth in the Blue-Gray game. Lawson spent the 1970 season recovering from a knee injury, which required surgery. If he can stay healthy and continue to improve in the fall as he did in the spring, it'll be a battle at linebacker.

Still another junior linebacker, who had a tremendous spring game is Carey Mulwee who intercepted two passes. Terry Jones, a 6-3, 200-pound sophomore, and one of the leading defenders for last year's frosh, will play some at both linebacker positions.

TOE-POWER TOO!

Probably the spring's biggest surprise was the appearance of a "feller" fresh from Argentina named Neil Purdie. Tall and slender, Purdie who has some soccer-playing experience in his background, walked on the playing field last spring and annouced he was a kicker and wanted to go out for the team. Some laughed—but not for long.

A side-kicker, Purdie impressed the coaches so much that they're predicting he'll be the greatest place kicker to come MSU's way in a long time. It would be an undrstatement to say that Purdie has a strong leg. Consistently throughout the spring, the 6-0, 175 pounder booted kickoffs through the end zone and kicked field goal after field goal. In fact, Purdie is believed to have kicked a 70-yarder in one scrimmage. Because there are no line markers on the Tiger's practice field, it was impossible to tell how long the three-pointer was, but those who witnessed the feat will vouch that it was much longer than 50 yards.

It was this kind of performance which convinced the Tiger coaches that they might have something special for 1971. In the spring game, Purdie lived up to expectations, kicking a 34-yard field goal, four extra points and kicking seven of the nine kickoffs into the end-zone. Before 1971 is over, Tiger fans might look back at the day when a tall, slender sidekicker came on Memphis State's practice field.

Handling the punting this year will be sophomore John Kidwell, who broke all the freshman kicking records last season with an average of 48 yards per punt. A strong-legged punter, as much is expected of Kidwell as is of Purdie. Last year's punter, Paul Wilson, now the number one fullback, who averaged just under 40 yards a kick, will be available if needed.

NATION'S FINEST PUNT RETURN DEFENSE TO CONTINUE

And to go along with the punting, coaches are promising an even better punt return coverage, which won't be that easy, considering Memphis State has led the nation in punt return defense for the past five years, giving up an average of 5.8 yards per punt return.

PUNT RETURN DEFENSE
(National Leaders From 1966 to 1970)

	Team	G	Ret.	Yds.	Ave.		Team	G	Ret.	Yds.	Ave.
1.	**MEMPHIS STATE**	**48**	**82**	**472**	**5.8**	4.	Toledo	51	71	443	6.2
2.	Missouri	51	115	667	5.9	5.	Virginia Tech	51	137	893	6.5
3.	Texas Tech	51	98	587	6.0	6.	Oklahoma State	51	104	721	6.9

EVERYTHING STILL RIDES ON THE QB

Nevertheless, the prospectus of Memphis State's 1971 football team still rests with the quarterback question. A vital portion of the team's leadership, morale, desire, and ultimate success is either directly or indirectly hitched to whoever takes the snap. But just as the coaching staff have four possible answers to the question, without a doubt, those who come to watch the Tigers perform will find that there's truly **"SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE IN '71."**

THE CITY OF MEMPHIS

Memphis on the Mississippi is named for the Egyptian city of the same name on the Nile. The name means "Place of good abode."

Andrew "Old Hickory" Jackson, one of the founders and later the seventh President of the United States, is generally credited with naming Memphis when it was established in 1819.

Known as the "Cotton Capital of the World," Memphis, now the 17th largest city in the U.S., has a rich heritage having lived under five flags: Spain, 1541; France, 1682; Great Britain, 1763; United States 1784, and the Confederacy, 1861-62.

Today's Memphis presents a full spectrum of sports, visual and performing arts, and special events for its 620,873 citizens.

An all-new sports complex at the Mid-South Fairgrounds includes the home of Memphis State's football team, the 50,164-seat Memphis Memorial Stadium, also the site of one of the top post-season football classics in America, the Liberty Bowl. The complex is also the site of the $4.7-million Mid-South Coliseum, an 11,200-seat arena which is the home of MSU's "nationally known" basketball team.

Memphis has become a national mecca for golfers, with nine public and 11 private courses throughout the city. The annual Danny Thomas Memphis Open Invitational Golf Tournament is held here in late May or early June. Fishing enthusiasts can catch bass, crappie, and pan fish at one of the many lakes in the surrounding area. Boating facilities are also available.

Memphis is also the cultural and entertainment center of the seven-state Mid-South. Each season promoters bring a wide selection of symphony, ballet, repertory theater, the Metropolitan Opera, touring Broadway plays and current musicians and singers to the city. Besides the imported entertainment, local contributions to the cultural life are the Memphis Symphony Orchestra, Civic Ballet, and the Memphis Little Theater.

The Memphis Museum, popularly known as the "Pink Palace," includes fine collections of natural history and art objects, trophies from African safaris, and a plantetarium. Overton Park Zoo is one of the finest in the country. Brooks Memorial Art Gallery, also in Overton Park, contains old masters, 18th-Century porcelains, Italian and American paintings, and has several traveling art shows during the year.

Among the special annual events are the week-long Cotton Carnival in May, the Mid-South Fair, held annually at the Fairgrounds for nine days in September, and a gigantic Navy Festival sponsored by Navy Memphis at Millington.

Memphis, where W. C. Handy gave birth to the Blues, is also the home of Elvis Presley and the Memphis Sound. The recording industry in this city has won acclaim from top-selling singers throughout the country.

The University

Above—*From the spacious new College of Busines Administration Building in the foreground to the ultra-modern Physical Education complex to the south, Memphis State University dominates the East Memphis skyline.*

At Right—*Students in the College of Business Administration relax between classes in one of the attractive and comfortable lounges in the recently completed $2.7 million facility.*

Opposite page upper—*One of the most popular places on the Memphis State campus is the Physical Education Complex which was opened during the summer. In addition to this Olympic-size outdoor pool, the facility features an indoor pool of the same dimensions, two diving pools, nine handball courts, two gymnasiums, sauna and steam rooms and dressing areas for male and female students.*

Lower—*The Herff College of Engineering on the northeast corner of MSU's main campus provides classroom and laboratory facilities for students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees in this highly specialized field.*

During its six decades of service to the Mid-South area, Memphis State University has grown from a rural teachers college to a nationally respected institution offering 27 separate degrees in 136 different areas of study.

The 20,000 students enrolled for courses on our highly developed campus represent almost every state in the United States as well as more than 40 foreign countries. Degrees ranging from the associate of arts in nursing to the doctor of philosophy are available.

Memphis State University is comprised of a College of Arts and Sciences, a College of Business Administration, a College of Education, the Herff College of Engineering, the School of Law, the Graduate School and the Division of Continuing Studies.

With a total land area of 1,100 acres, the University extends to four separate locations. A 640-acre forest farm houses biology field stations and a retreat area for conferences to the northwest, while Chucalissa Indian Village, a local tourist attraction and archaeological field site, is located in southwest Shelby County. The University also operates the Memphis Speech and Hearing Center in the mid-town medical center. The main campus, now in the heart of the city, comprises 150 acres.

Memphis State was founded in 1909 as West Tennessee State Normal School. It became West Tennessee State Teachers College in 1925 and Memphis State College in 1941. University status was granted by the legislature in 1957.

The rapid growth of Memphis State University into its present role of education, research and service for this area has come under the leadership of its president since 1960, Dr. Cecil C. Humphreys.

The President

Before becoming president of Memphis State University in 1960, Dr. Cecil C. Humphreys already had a full career in academic and administrative offices.

His first association with Memphis State was in 1937 as a history teacher. Since that beginning he has served as coordinator of public relations, athletic director, director of the graduate school and assistant to the president.

Originally from Paris, Tenn., Dr. Humphreys played football at the University of Tennessee, where he received his bachelor's and master's degrees, and was honored for that play when selected to the Sports Illustrated Silver Anniversary All-America team in 1960. He earned the doctoral degree at New York University.

Dr. Humphreys served as a special agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation from1941-1944 prior to going on active duty with the Navy. He returned to Memphis State in 1947.

A community-minded individual, Dr. Humphreys has been often recognized for his service. He was selected as "Educator of the Year" in 1962 by Greater Memphis State, Inc., and the Tennessee Optometric Association named him "Vision's Man of the Year" that same year. He received the third annual Community Salesman's Award of the Memphis Sales Executive Club in 1964, the Liberty Bell Award by the Memphis-Shelby County Bar Association in 1965 and the Americanism Award by the National Football Foundation and Hall of Fame in 1966. Southwestern at Memphis also conferred an honorary Doctor of Laws degree on him in 1966. An Outstanding Citizen's Award was made by the Al Chymia Shrine Temple in 1968, the Sons of the American Revolution presented him a gold Good Citizenship Medal in 1969 and in 1970 he received the Human Relations Award of the Memphis Roundtable of the National Conference of Christians and Jews. The Americanism Award of the American Legion was bestowed on him in 1970. This past summer he was selected to receive the Significant Sig award of Sigma Chi Fraternity.

A special survey by *The Commercial Appeal* last year listed Dr. Humphreys as one of the ten most influential citizens of the City of Memphis. In that study he ranked second as having the most respected opinion by other leaders and as having the greatest amount of personal influence.

Dr. Humphreys is married to the former Miss Florence Van Natta of Memphis. They have two sons, Robert Hunter Humphreys, 19, and Cecil C. Humphreys Jr., 16.

MEMPHIS STATE DIRECTORY

President ..... Dr. Cecil C. Humphreys (Tennessee, 1936)
Chairman, Athletic Committee ..... Dr. A. Ford Haynes (Tennessee, 1941)
Athletic Director ..... Billy Murphy (Mississippi State, 1947)
Asst. to the Athletic Director ..... Ruffner Murray (VPI, 1937)
Business Manager ..... Gabe Hawkins (Mississippi State, 1940)
Ticket Manager ..... J. W. Patrick (Mississippi State, 1942)
Sports Information Director ..... Bill Grogan (Memphis State, 1967)
Trainer ..... Gene Smith (Sterling College, 1949)
Team Physician ..... Dr. Clifton Wooley (Tennessee, 1939)

COACHING STAFF

Football Coach ..... Billy Murphy (Mississippi State, 1947)
Assistant ..... Murray Armstrong (Tennessee, 1961)
Assistant ..... Jack Carter (Memphis State, 1962)
Assistant ..... John Cobb (Memphis State, 1951)
Assistant ..... Jim Hoggatt (Memphis State, 1953)
Assistant ..... Bill Jasper (Tennessee, 1952)
Assistant ..... Ollie Keller (Memphis State, 1953)
Assistant ..... Fred Mangum (Memphis State, 1961)
Assistant ..... Pete Mitchell (Southern Univ., 1956)
Assistant ..... John Townsend (Wyoming, 1951)
Assistant ..... Richard Trail (Arkansas, 1967)
Basketball Coach ..... Gene Bartow (N.E. Mo. St., 1953)
Assistant ..... Wayne Yates (Memphis State, 1961)
Assistant ..... LeRoy Hunt (Cent. Mo. St., 1957)
Baseball Coach ..... Bobby Kilpatrick (Ole Miss, 1960)
Track Coach ..... Glenn Hays (Southwestern, 1962)
Tennis Coach ..... Tom Buford (Southwestern, 1957)
Golf Coach ..... *(To Be Named)*
Gymnastics Coach ..... Len Bryson (Indiana, 1962)

OFFICE STAFF

Football ..... Mrs. Joyce Wiuff and Miss Diane Osborne
Ticket Office ..... Mrs. Jean Branch, Miss Cathy Dixon, Miss Cindy Cole
Business Office ..... Mrs. Arlene Glass, Mrs. Christina Beale
Sports Information Office ..... Norman McCoy, Roy Meadors, David Mitchell
Basketball and Spring Sports ..... Mrs. Lillian Raffety, Miss Debbie Overstreet

BILLY J. MURPHY—Head Football Coach and Athletic Director

"As aggressive, as disciplined, as dedicated as they come . . ."

QUITE A COACH . . .

By Bill Grogan
MSU Sports Information Director

What do you say about a coach—about an individual—as unique as Memphis State's Billy J. Murphy, head football coach and athletic director?

Whatever you say about him, one thing is sure, you can't say enough. As a player, as a coach—as an individual—Billy "Spook" Murphy has been a consistent performer with aggressiveness, discipline, and dedication as his bywords.

From sandlot games in grammar school where, according to his sister, "Billy was as tough as any of 'em," to high school games in Siloam Springs, Arkansas, where he grew up, Murphy travelled to Mississippi State in 1939 to "try out" for the Bulldogs, then coached by Allyn McKeen.

COACH McKEEN AND MURPHY

Coach McKeen recalls Murphy's days at Mississippi State. "Some fellow from Van Buren, Ark., recommended Spook so we gave him a try. You could do that back then," said McKeen. "Well, we started Spook out with the ends . . . when we couldn't find anyone to throw, we asked for volunteers. Murphy said he could throw a 'little.' We found out he could throw pretty well, pretty quick. And he could really kick the ball too."

McKeen, who had coached at Memphis State prior to his tenure at Mississippi State and had taken the Tigers to an undefeated season in 1938, remembers Murphy as an "intense sort of a kid who studied football . . ."

WARMATH NICKNAMES MURPHY

One of McKeen's assistants, and later to become Coach Murphy's boss at Mississippi State and at Minnesota, was Murray Warmath, for some time now, one of the game's big names in coaching. Warmath remembers how "Murphy camped out on McKeen's doorstep at Mississippi State that first year awaiting word whether or not he had made the team."

Well Murphy made the team! and "he didn't stop there," says Warmath.

According to Bob Hartley, Sports Information Director at Mississippi State for 25 years and a long-time close friend of Murphy's, it was Warmath who gave Murphy the nickname Spook. "Actually," says Hartley, who was a student worker in the athletic publicity office at the time, "Warmath called Murphy 'Speed Spook' at first, and 'Spook' stuck!"

Warmath has since reported that the reason he called Murphy, Spook, was because "he wasn't very fast but he was hard to hold on to . . ."

. . . QUITE AN INDIVIDUAL!

1941-42 AND SOME HEADLINES

1941 came and the "Speed Spook", who had spent 1940 as a red shirt perfecting his passing even more, had quite a year. Such a year that he was a unanimous selection to the Associated Press All-S.E.C. Sophomore Team.

During that season and the one which followed, Murphy played tailback, Murphy starred, and Murphy made the headlines more than once. Football headlines from the 1941 and 1942 newspapers from around the Southeastern conference read: "Murphy Leads Maroons to Victory," "MURPHY'S Pass . . . Brings Victory Over Auburn;" and "Sophomore Murphy Stars For McKeen!" Of course, Murphy didn't dominate the headlines, Nor did he even come close. But he did show that with "aggressiveness, discipline, and dedication," a 168-pounder could excel.

MORE NICKNAMES

When he wasn't in the headlines or wasn't sharing them with teammates like Blondy Black, an All-S.E.C. All-Star, some newspaperman was casting a new nickname on the Spooker. Names like "The Siloam Springs Socker," "Fireball Billy," and "The Arkansas Traveler" appeared, but "Spook" stuck!

Because of his spirit and style of play, he was named Captain-elect of the 1943 club. Shorty before the season, though, he joined the Marine Corps reserve and was transferred to Duke University for V-12 training. He played and starred at Duke that season and under the special program "retained" one year of college eligibility, which he was to use three seasons later at Mississippi State.

SPOOK AT DUKE

At Duke, Murphy continued to play as he had at State. In his first two games he accounted for some 220 yards even though he shared the playing time.

Headline-hunters again found Murphy's name . . . "Billy Murphy, Former Mississippi State Back Tosses for Winning Touchdown," was one. "Duke's Murphy Is a Passer, Punter, and Runner!" was still another. This time they were East Coast papers though.

A LUCKY LIEUTENANT

After Duke came his tour in the South Pacific. As a Marine 2nd Lt., Billy J. Murphy earned another nickname—"The Lucky Looey," after narrowly escaping with his life on four separate occasions. Fellow officers of the 1005mm Howitzer batallion regarded him with a certain awe.

The "Lucky Looey" went on to be decorated three times in the South Pacific, receiving the Bronze Star, the Presidential Citation, and the Navy Citation.

Before leaving the South Pacific area, Murphy was selected to play in that Naval District's Navy Day football game in commemoration of the first Navy Day following the victory of WWII. Thus Murphy was a member of what a West Coast paper called "one of the greatest football all-star teams ever assembled."

MURPHY RETURNS TO STATE

After that, Lt. Murphy returned to Mississippi State and became "Spook" again—Captain of the 1946 Bulldog team. And when the last game was over that season, Murphy had led his team with "aggressiveness, discipline, and dedication."

During his three years at Mississippi State, the Bulldogs were 24-5-1, scored 665 points while giving up only 203. His name is still listed in the S.E.C. record books with three interceptions in a game and a 78-yard punt against Auburn, and his manner of play will remain an important part of the S.E.C. nostalgia.

Murphy's playing days had ended, but what he had learned, he would soon put to work in his chosen profession—coaching.

MURPHY—THE COACH

His first coaching job came at Memphis State where, in 1947, he joined Ralph Hatley whom he later succeeded. He stayed at Memphis State for five years as an assistant, and then returned to Mississippi State to become the backfield coach under Murray Warmath, his nicknamer.

When Warmath left Starkville for Minnesota, Spook followed as backfield coach. After four years with the Golden Gophers, and on his 37th birthday, Billy Jack "Spook" Murphy became Memphis State's football coach.

A FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Beckoned by Dr. Cecil C. Humphreys, then athletic director, now university president, to establish a "major football program," Spook came to MSU with a long-range promise and a five-year plan. And he produced.

Five seasons later, the Tigers racked up their best record in history, winning nine, losing none, and holding super-power Ole Miss to a 0-0 tie. 1963 also saw Spook Murphy named Coach of the Year by a national publication and three of his players make All-America Teams.