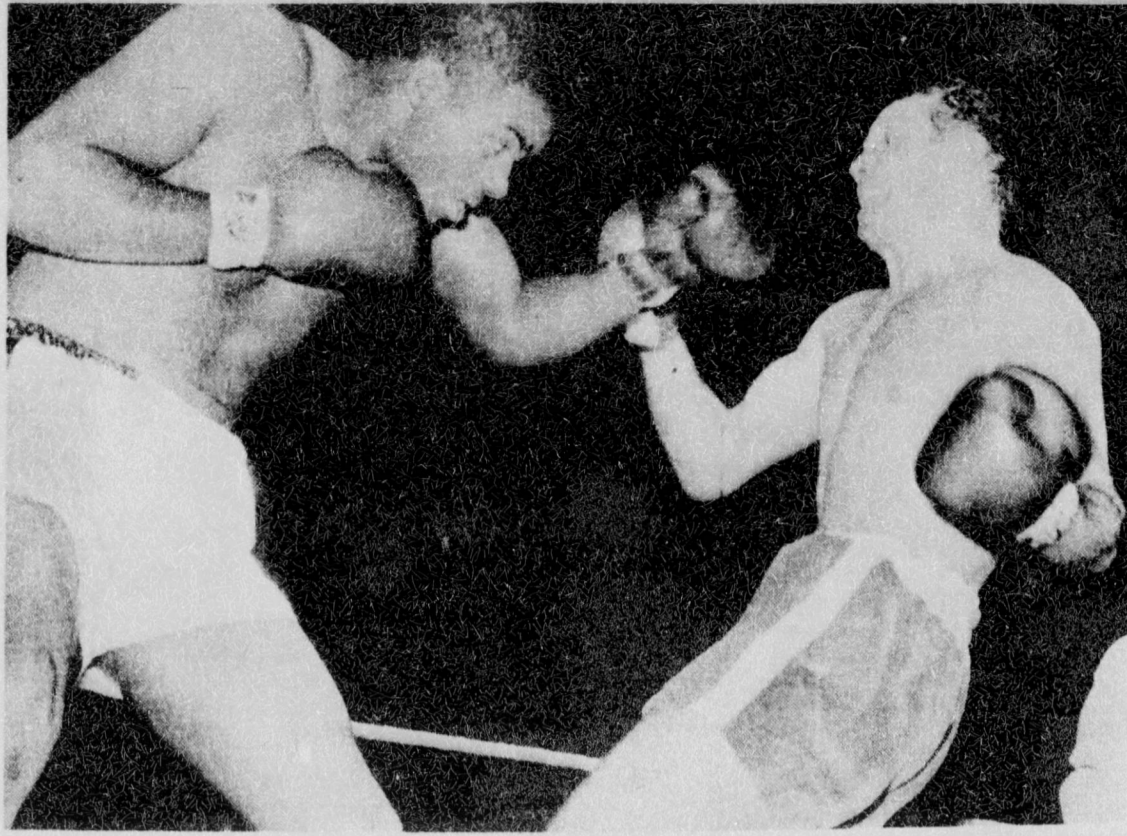


# Tennessee State U.'s Tigers Trample A&T's Aggies, 55 To 0



**LEFT HANDED DRIVER** - Former world heavyweight champion Floyd Patterson (left) drives British and Empire champ Henry Cooper back with a left in the first round of their scheduled ten-round bout here September 20. Patterson won on a knock-out in the fourth round. (UPI PHOTO).

## TSU Grid Team Trims Varsity Grid Squad To Fight Strength

NASHVILLE - Coach John A. Merritt has culled 55 varsity football players from a 77 man squad and buckled down sharpening Tennessee State University's Tigers' claws for their season's opener Sept. 24 against North Carolina A&T in Greensboro.

Coach Merritt had little problems designating the 22 players for his red-shirt squad because he was rebuilding his 1966 edition around the 47 veterans from his 1965 national championship team of the vets, led by all-everybody's quarterback, Eldridge Dickey. Twenty seven are lettermen, and 11 are seniors and 6 are prospective all-conference and all-Americans.

Dazzling Dickey, a junior, should make every "all-team" again this year and is tabbed to repeat as the "Player of

the Year". Senior setbacks Bill Tucker and Gene Bowen, last season's number one and number two ground gainers, should get picked for grid honors; along with, tackles Claude Humphrey, Tommie Davis, and middle guard, co-captain Ken Erady.

"I'm glad we don't have to play tomorrow afternoon," Merritt beamed. "We are a little thin and kinda banged up with a few key injuries that would hurt us right now."

Sophomore Joe Cooper, 6-1, 181 pound flanker, who was slated as a replacement for Willie Walker, has been sidelined with a badly sprained right ankle.

"The loss of Cooper at this stage is a major blow to our passing attack," Merritt explained. "We are trying Nolan Smith, our record-setting punt

returning specialist, in Cooper's spot, and we are concentrating more on our running game," he continued.

In spite of Cooper's injury, speedster Smith 95-8, 160 lbs. was destined to see a lot more action this year according to offensive Coach Alvin Coleman.

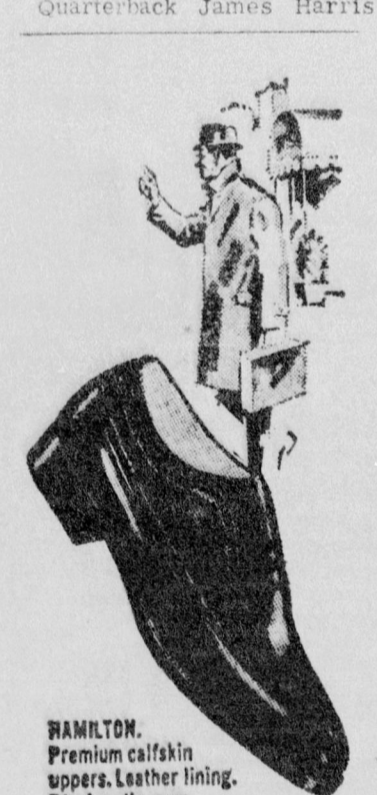
Last season mighty mite Smith set a new school punt return record with 26 returns for 513 yards and two TD's in a single season.

## Grambling Edges Alcorn 14 To 13

BY COLLIE NICHOLSON  
GRAMBLING, La. - (NPI) - Grambling College mounted a swift 96 - yard drive with 2:06 showing on the scoreboard clock last Saturday night for a scintillating 14-13 victory over Alcorn A & M.

The mercury footed effort ended a vast and uncomfortable silence on the Grambling bench, turning what looked like certain defeat into a stunning victory.

Quarterback James Harris



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## Greensboro Opener Bad For A&T Aggies

GREENSBORO - The N. C. A&T College Aggies made a dismal 1966 debut Saturday, as they were trampled 55-0 by a hard running, fiercely charging team of Tennessee State Tigers, before 6,200 fans at War Memorial Stadium.

With the first stringers sitting out most of the second half, A&T fell apart in the final quarter. The Aggies' reported passing attack failed miserably, and the ground attack was nil.

With junior quarterback Eldridge Dickey directing traffic, Tennessee State rolled to a 27-0 lead early in the third quarter, then sat the rest of the game out. Dickey ran for one touchdown and passed for another. Late in the game he booted an extra point.

Tennessee State started fast in the first quarter, but A&T stopped that effort on the A&T

3. On the next time around, however, the Tigers rolled 49 yards for a touchdown. Dickey sneaked over from the 1. Roy Meneese converted for a 7-0 lead.

The game remained close, as the Aggies held their own in the second period. Then the visitors moved 90 yards in eight plays. Gene Bowen, a powerful 5-10, 206 pound halfback, rambled 36 yards for the touchdown. He powered through the porous Aggie line for 151 yards in 18 carries.

A pass interception by Leon Moore set the stage for a third Tennessee State TD 1:33 before halftime. He grabbed a Willie Gray aerial. The Aggies stopped the visitors and blocked a field goal attempt by Tennessee.

A&T was forced to punt, however, and Tucker blasted over from the one to put Tennessee State ahead 20-0. A 30 yard pass from Dickey to Nolan Smith set up the touchdown.

A&T showed its best form in the third quarter. Carmie Elmore recovered a Dickey fumble on the Tennessee State 31, but A&T lost the ball on a pass interception after making a first down on the 15. Craig Gilliam stole a Gray pass. That was A&T's only serious threat of the game.

The Aggies' only other threat came in the first quarter after Tennessee State's first TD. Starting from their own 33, the Aggies moved inside the 15 yard line. Key plays were a Gray to Darryl Cherry for 22 yards and a Gray to Eugene Harrison for 11 yards. The latter play put the ball on the enemy to the 11. A pass interception snuffed out this rally on the Tennessee State one.

Tennessee State's regulars finished up their chores with 6:31 remaining in the third quarter on a 26 yard Dickey to Leo Johnson pass. Meneese converted for a 27-0 lead.

Tennessee State reserves scored 28 points in the fourth quarter, as A&T's defenses fell apart. With senior quarterback Elijah Bossie calling plays, Tennessee State rolled 73 yards for a touchdown. This came after A&T failed to take advantage of a blocked kick. Warren Frye blocked a Dickey punt on the Tennessee 36, but A&T failed to make the first down.

Another quarterback, Bob Shannon, led the Tigers 69 yards for another TD.

and Charlie Joiner teamed to perpetrate the grand theft. Harris arched a 60 yard toss which Joiner snatched out of the grasp of two Alcorn defenders to set up the winning touchdown.

Leroy Carter thundered in to score three plays later from the two yard line. Wesley Bean booted the second of two punts.

An impromptu 13-yard run from a fake punt by Bean started the Alcorn downfall, but it was Joiner's catch that ruined the Braves.

Alcorn led 13-7 and the visiting stands roared with joy at high hope for victory. Then came the long pass in a seven play 96 yard push.

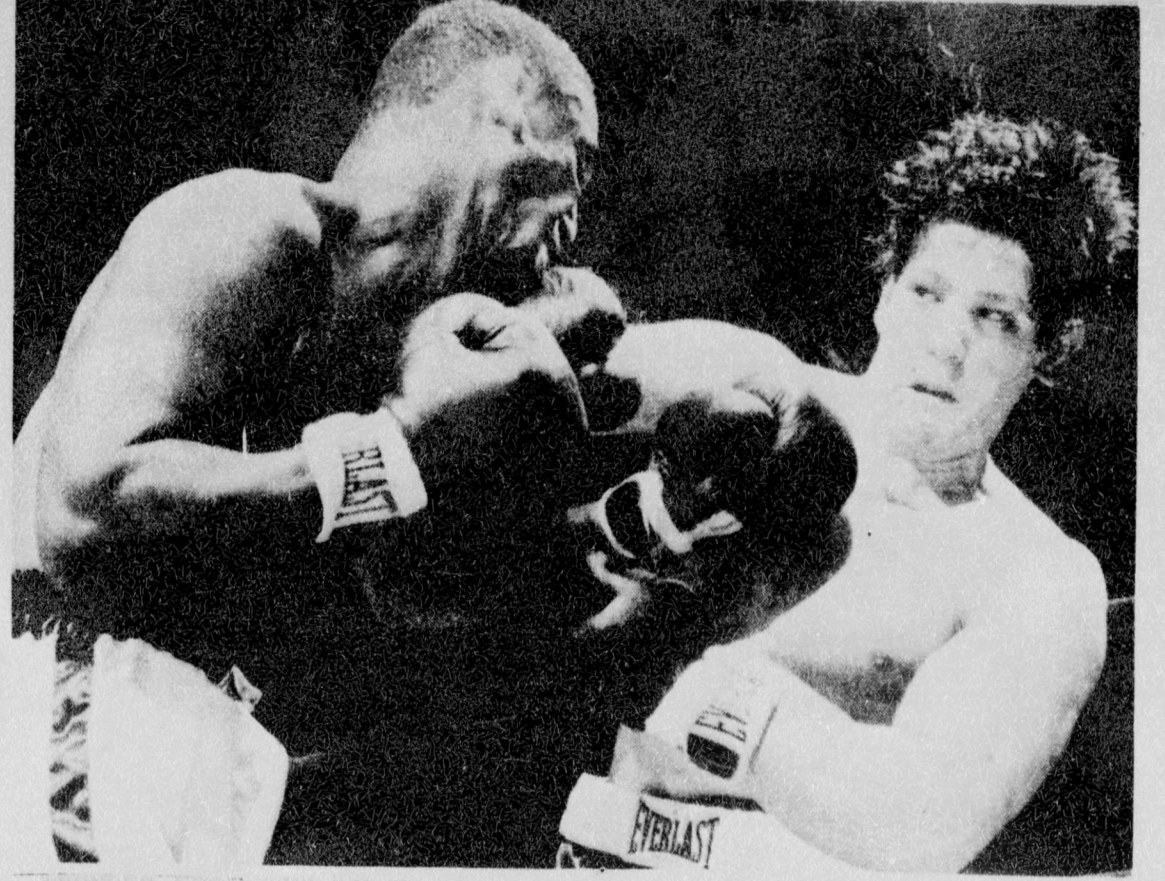
Grambling scored the opening touchdown in a see-saw first half won by the Tigers, 7-0, on a dazzling 36 yard scamper by Essex Johnson.

Alcorn came back strong after intermission, kept the Tigers off balance with a hard charging defense and roared to touchdowns in the third and fourth quarters.

The Braves drove 51 yards for the first TD with Prince Borden slamming across from the 11, and scored the second marker on Marvin Harrington's 45 yard punt return.

Grambling's raging defense limited Alcorn to 125 yards rushing and the Indians picked up 25 more yards passing.

Glum Eddie Robinson's Tigers lost 123 yards in penalties, but still managed to show their superiority by racking up 319 yards in total offense.



**THUNDER FROM THE RIGHT** - Oscar Bonavena lands an electrifying (for him) right to the jaw of Joe Frazier during their 10 round bout here September 21st. Frazier, reeling on the brink of his first pro defeat when he was knocked out the canvas twice in the second round, scored an unpopular split decision over Bonavena. (UPI PHOTO).

## Southern U. Bows To Texas In Opener For The SWAC

BY BENNIE THOMAS  
HOUSTON - (NPI) - Southern University's gridders bowed to Texas Southern 20-14 in a Southwestern Athletic conference opener for both teams last Saturday night.

Texas Southern scored via a 41-yard off tackle scamper by halfback Willie Ellison, with James Walker adding the conversion for a 7-0 first quarter lead.

However, the Jaguars bolted back with a 10 yard tackle eligible pass - quarterback Joe Williams to 240 pound Nathaniel Lowe - with Mark Samples converting to up the Jaguars into a 7-7 deadlock with the Tigers.

Midway the second quarter, Texas Southern struck again

when halfback Roy Hopkins scored from one yard out, following a 33 yard punt return by Texas Southern's Marion Bates. Walker's PAT was good again to give the Tigers a 14-7 lead.

With 12 seconds remaining in the second quarter, Texas Southern's John Douglas passed to Ken Burroughs in a 43-yard play to lift the Tigers' lead to 20-7, and a try for two points - Douglas to Ellis - fell incomplete.

Southern's offense sputtered throughout the third period as the Jaguars never came closer than the 35 yard line towards the Texas Southern goal.

Southern's best drive of the evening came in the fourth period when from their own 12

yard line, Williams engineered a drive which ended with a 32 yard pass to end Elmo Maples to cut Texas Southern's lead to 20-13.

Still in the fourth quarter, tackle Joseph came up with the big play which gave the Jaguars the ball and a touchdown four plays later, which catapulted the Southern squad back into the thick of the fight.

Zenon knifed in and plucked a fumble by Texas Southern's Ellison out of midair on the 22 yard line, and was finally brought down on the Tiger five.

Samples notched the extra point, and the Jaguars trailed by 20-14 at the gun.



**ANTHONY AND CLEOPATRA** - Basso Justino Diaz, who plays Anthony, has a kiss for soprano Leontyne Price, his Cleopatra, after the world premiere of Samuel Barber's "Anthony and Cleopatra" at the brand new Metropolitan Opera at Lincoln Center Sept. 16. (UPI PHOTO).

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