

SPORTS

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THE BATTALION

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R.I.P. - Oilers' run and shoot offense is shot

This year the Houston Oilers are finally finding out what the Kansas City Chiefs discovered last year: A one-dimensional offense in the National Football League just isn't going to put rings on fingers.



DAVID WINDER Sportswriter

An all-passing offense or an all-running offense might get a team into the playoffs, but it will also assure a quick exit out of them.

When Marty Schottenheimer took over as head coach for the Chiefs, he implemented an offense where the quarterbacks were only allowed to throw on third and 35.

In three consecutive seasons, running backs Christian Okoye and Barry Word gained over 1700 yards between them and the Chiefs made the playoffs four straight years. But they had only one playoff win in that time.

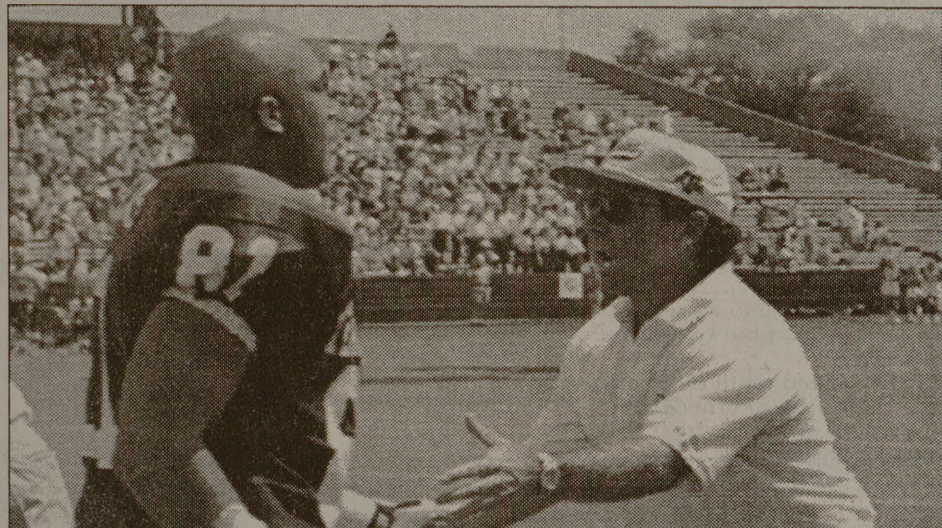
So now, Schottenheimer has changed.

The Oilers should follow his lead. Using the run and shoot, the Oilers have gone 1-3 in the playoffs and have only won their division once. Warren Moon may get tons of passing yardage, but the fact remains that he will never get to showcase his arm in a Super Bowl throwing over 40 times a game.

First of all, the run and shoot does not use up much of the clock forcing the defense to stay on the field too long. An example of this was seen in

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Toledo, Davie coordinate A&M strategy, style



Kyle Burnett/THE BATTALION

Offensive coordinator **Bob Toledo** congratulates wide receiver **Ryan Mathews** for a job well done after Texas A&M's 73-0 win over Missouri Saturday at Kyle Field.

Toledo's balanced offense finally passes

By William Harrison

The Battalion

Texas A&M's 73-0 blowout of the University of Missouri gave A&M offensive coordinator Bob Toledo the three things he said he has been looking for all season - consistency, balance and a quarterback.

Against Louisiana State, A&M could

live without a passing attack in a 24-0 victory, but after Oklahoma ganged up against the A&M's running game, A&M died 44-14 struggling under a five-interception performance from Aggie quarterback Corey Pullig.

Toledo said his team's mistakes were to blame for the loss to Oklahoma, and he would not question his players' drive.

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Kyle Burnett/THE BATTALION

Bob Davie, A&M's defensive coordinator, instructs linebackers **Steve Solari** and **Jason Atkinson** while they rest on the sidelines during the game against Missouri.

Versatility, patience drive Davie, defense

By Michael Plumer

The Battalion

Pacing across the sidelines like a nervous father, Bob Davie watches his baby perform on the field. He stares intently, he claps his hands, he shouts encouragement to his defensive players.

When the defense comes off the field, Texas A&M's defensive coordina-

tor and assistant head coach begins making the necessary adjustments to stop the opposing offense.

Senior defensive end Eric England said that correcting the little things is what sets Davie apart from other coaches.

"Anything an offense does, he counters it," England said. "He is versatile

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Texas A&M to appeal player suspensions to NCAA on Thursday

By William Harrison

The Battalion

Texas A&M Athletic Director Wally Groff said an appeal filed by A&M on Monday will end the eligibility debate of five football players suspended by the NCAA because they received paychecks for work not performed.

A&M and NCAA officials will present their arguments to the NCAA Eligibility Committee via a conference call at 2 p.m. Thursday.

A&M Vice President for Finance and Administration Robert Smith drafted the appeal and said he would withhold comment until a decision is announced at 5

p.m. Thursday.

A&M will appeal running back Greg Hill's four-game suspension and linebacker Jessie Cox's dismissal for the entire season.

Groff said A&M's lawyers convinced him that A&M has a legitimate case against the NCAA's original rulings.

"We're asking that (the NCAA) reconsider the sanctions that we had originally recommended," Groff said. "I think they were making some misjudgments on the facts."

The eligibility committee members includes Irwin A. Cohen of Northeastern, Susan A. Collins of George Ma-

son, Milt Shroeder of Arizona State and Max W. Williams of Mississippi. The committee will be chaired by Bob Sweazy of Texas Tech.

If the appeal is upheld, Hill would be eligible to play in the Texas Tech game in Lubbock on October 2.

A&M head football coach R.C. Slocum said the appeal is out of his hands and he did not talk to his team about it.

"I have not mentioned it to the team," Slocum said. "We had an excellent workout today, and as far as I know it has not been a factor. I think this is a process that you just let happen, and it wouldn't make a whole lot of sense for me to get all apprehensive about it."

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