

Lamar's Gift to Aggieland, Rapid Robert, Gains Fame

By FRANK SIMMEN, JR.

Grid fans called the big line cracker "Rapid Robert" in high school because he was so fast; today the former school boy star is just as fast and is gaining a reputation as one of the Southwest's most powerful backs.

The full back referred to is Robert Smith, Lamar's outstanding halfback of three years ago, who is currently pacing the conference runners with a record of 410 yards on 86 carries. Bob has averaged 4.8 yards per carry and has accounted for almost 58% of the Ag ground yardage.

Smith, who was offered scholarships to Tulane, LSU, Rice, Baylor, Texas, and SMU and had an appointment to West Point, says that the spirit at Aggieland attracted him.

The 192-pounder admits, though, that he was a victim of the well organized Aggie-Ex Club of Houston. The Exes consistently kept after him before and after he completed his high school eligibility with the two-time district champions of Houston, Lamar.

SMU Almost Nabbed Him
The young gridster also admits that he came pretty close to accepting a scholarship to SMU with his Lamar backfield mate John Champion.

When asked what he thought of Champion, Bob quickly said, "He's damn good—ought to burn the conference up next year when the Mustang seniors leave." The interview took place before the Rice-SMU game, so for the interest of the readers, Champion compiled an average of over 10 yards per try against the Mustangs' toughest opponent in three years.

Smith feels, along with roommate Jim Dobby, that the Cadets have the best coaching staff in the Southwest Conference.

Bob's folks are now farming just outside of Dallas, but when asked where he considers his home he remarked without hesitation—"I'm from Houston."

Teammates Meet to Rice

"Most of the boys I went to high school with are now at Rice," said Smith, "that's why I would especially like to beat them." The husky back had not played against any of his old high school teammates until last Saturday when he faced some of them in the Baylor game.

Coach Dick Todd says that he wants to use Bob on both the of-

fense and defense as soon as the Houstonite's shoulder gets well enough to do so.

Smith's shoulder injury consists of some ligaments pulled out of position near his neck, but he says he's all right now.

Smith, as you may remember, was out of practice for a week with the shoulder injury before the Villanova



BOB SMITH

game, and only took part in four plays in that tilt, carrying the ball once for six yards.

Smith Topped Runners
Despite this fact he still led the conference ball carriers the week before the TCU fray.

Another factor to take into consideration is the fact that when Bob made 214 yards in 31 carries in the Tech game, he had to carry the ball with his left hand clutched up against his left shoulder to avert further injury.

Houstonian Is Trackman
Not only is Harry Stiteler glad about Smith enrolling at A&M, but "Colonel Andy" Anderson, head track coach, is happy over the move.

Smith will compete in the shot put, javelin, and discus on the (See SMITH, Page 4)

Bob says that he didn't have much chance to do anything in high school but run, since Champion took care of all the passing, kicking and ball handling duties of the team.

The two all-district performers led their team to a district championship in '46 and advanced to the state semi-finals where they lost to Thomas Jefferson of San Antonio. Kyle Rote and Tuck Chapin were on the Alamo City squad that year and both played a part in the close, hard fought contest.

Redskin Led Scoring
"Rapid Robert" was high point man for the city in '46 with end Billy Wright of Milby second. Wright is now playing guard on Jess Neely's Rice aggregation.

Smith couldn't remember just how many points he made, but reported that he had plenty of chances to score because the Redskins were so potent that year.

Both Lamar lads, Champion and Smith, along with Billy Wright were placed on Houston's all-district team, with Champion making honorable mention all state.

Scholastically Ineligible Last year, Smith played on the "B" team. Says Bob, "I learned more playing ball against the varsity than I ever could with the freshman team." Apparently the year lay off resulted in rapid improvement for the big fullback. Coach Stiteler watched Smith closely while working with him last year, so the head mentor had first hand information on the former Lamar star.

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S Battalion S SPORTS

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Cedric Copeland (84), 176-pound end from Waco, is playing his second year on the varsity. As a sophomore last fall Copeland was named one of the outstanding sophs in the country and made honorable mention on the United Press all-conference team.

Baylor, Rice Hold Top Ten Ratings, Williamson Says

By FRANK SIMMEN, JR.

Again, Paul B. Williamson in his statistical ratings places two Southwest Conference teams among the top ten of the nation, but this time it's Baylor and Rice instead of the Bears and Longhorns.

Baylor, ranked in the number five spot behind Army, Notre Dame, Oklahoma, and California, is still leading the Southwest conference as far as Williamson is concerned. The Bears to date have racked up wins against South Carolina, Mississippi State, Arkansas, Texas Tech, and A&M.

Last week the Bears were in the number eight position, after Texas U. who held down seventh place. Now the Horns by virtue of their loss to the Owls are down the list at thirteenth.

Rice jumped from the 24th position to within the top ten. The Owls, continuing their winning ways are now in the eighth spot in the national ratings.

Mustangs Jump Up
SMU, who, although without the services of their All-American halfback Doak Walker, outpointed a highly favored Kentucky eleven in Dallas, jumped into the eleventh spot, a rise of 16 over last week, after suffering their worst conference defeat in over ten years.

Right behind the Mustangs, in 19th place is Arkansas. The Porkers, underdogs against Vanderbilt, came through with a win.

Next, among SWC contenders is TCU who at present is in the 38th place, after skimming by Mississippi in a free for all scoring affair.

The Aggies, who were ranged in 62nd spot last week, are now lodged in number 68.

This week Texas meets SMU in Dallas. Williamson picks the Mustangs to take this one by a slim margin. He also chooses Arkansas over the Aggies along with Rice over Texas Tech and Baylor over TCU in the expected close game of the week.

Army Leads Nation
Getting back to the top ten we find Army is now lodged in the number one spot with Notre Dame second. Powerful Army, who ran wild over Harvard took over the leadership from the idle Fighting Irish. The last, so Williamson says

is partly due to a readjustment of Tulane's squeak by 14-6 over Auburn.

Oklahoma takes over fourth place, one jump higher than last week. The Sooners, who ran up a score in the forties over Nebraska took over Minnesota's position while the Boiler-makers slipped down to the ninth position.

California, ranked last week in number sixth place, at present in fourth position followed by Baylor in fifth, Pennsylvania, sixth, Michigan, who meets underdog Illinois in Champaign this week, is ranked in the seventh position.

Rice holds down the eighth with Minnesota and Southern California rounding out the top ten.

In no other week during the 19 years of the Williamson system did a relatively greater number of "hopeless" teams rise up to thump down their prospective grid opponents.

There were quite a lot of picks by the system that could be called exceptional, among those included were Arkansas over Vanderbilt, Fordham over Syracuse, TCU over Mississippi, and Wyoming over Utah.

Illinois' Fighting Illini", again went against the word of the experts in rolling over Purdue. Illinois, ranked in the second division of the Big Ten, meets powerful Michigan this week. (RTB)

The results of three of the leading games also confounded the experts. Michigan 14, Minnesota 7; SMU 20, Kentucky 7; and LSU 13, North Carolina 7.

Major games involved teams rated at 75.0 or above.

The top ten teams of the nation in order include:

1. Army
2. Notre Dame
3. Oklahoma
4. California
5. Baylor
6. Pennsylvania
7. Michigan U.
8. Rice
9. Minnesota
10. Southern California.

Shaw New Addition To Ag. Education Dept.
Professor B. B. Shaw, former vocational agriculture teacher at Belton, Texas, is the newest addition to the staff of the Agricultural Education Department.

Shaw received his B. S. degree from Mississippi State in 1935. In the summer of 1942, he received his master of education degree from A&M.

Houston Chronicle Sports Editor To Address QB Club

Baylor Among Nine Unbeaten College Teams

New York, Oct. 24 (AP)—Nine teams held the thinning line of major unbeaten—untied college football forces today, but the casualty rate is getting terrific.

The season may be lucky to squeeze through with as many perfect elevens as last year when Michigan, California and Clemson alone closed out with spotless escutcheons. California fell later in a bowl game.

Notre Dame and Army, the country's two top-ranking powers, appear good bets to survive the last six weeks and fourth-place Oklahoma may extend its string.

But the other untarnished teams—California, Cornell, Baylor, Pennsylvania, Boston U. and Virginia—have rough seas ahead.

Baylor has yet to meet the Southwest Titans—Texas, Southern Methodist and Rice.

Four teams with nothing but big fat victories took a tumble Saturday in the most violent reversal of form this season.

North Carolina, Minnesota, Kentucky and Pittsburgh went down with a thump.

LSU Strikes N C
North Carolina was stunned by Louisiana State in a night game at Baton Rouge, 13-7.

Minnesota's Gophers, already eyeing the Rose Bowl, were trimmed by Michigan's defending national champions who bounced back from two straight, 14-7.

Bear Bryant's Kentucky, riding a five-game winning streak, lost to Southern Methodist, 20-7, and Pittsburgh slipped up against a fired-up Indiana team, 48-14.

These upsets promised an upheaval in the Nation's first ten, which will be determined by an Associated Press vote today.

Minnesota Drops
Minnesota had ranked third in the last weekly standings with North Carolina sixth and Kentucky seventh.

Notre Dame was idle last week. Army, which overwhelmed Columbia 63-6, should enjoy another touchdown parade against Virginia Military Institute. Unbeaten Penn entertains Pittsburgh.

Michigan will meet Illinois at Champaign in a game that should help unravel the confused western conference race.

The best games in the south send Mississippi State against Tulane, Tennessee against North Carolina and Duke against Georgia Tech. Texas vs. Southern Methodist is the Southwest headliner.

Oklahoma has Iowa State next on the agenda.

A&M Ex Completes Masters in Colorado

B. C. Doggett, instructor in the Engineering Drawing Department, spent the summer at Fort Collins, Colo., finishing work on his Master's degree.

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Dick Freeman, sports editor of the Houston Chronicle, is the official speaker on the program of the sixth meeting of the Quarterback Club, as it meets again Thursday night in the Assembly Hall at 7:30.

Matty Denies 'Win for Doak'

BY HAROLD V. RATLIFF

Dallas, Oct. 24 (AP)—It would have been a swell story to say today that Southern Methodist "won one for the Doaker."

All the ingredients were there for cooking up one of those dramatic tales whereby a football game was dedicated to its greatest star who couldn't play.

And that would have been the story if Coach Matty Bell hadn't stepped in.

All-America Doak Walker was going to miss the first game of his college career because of illness.

There was a meeting of the SMU squad last Wednesday—the day Walker went to a hospital. It was a secret meeting and no one knew what went on, not even Bell.

The assumption was that the boys were pleading they'd win this game—the victory that was sorely needed to build up flagging spirits—as a tribute to Walker. The opponent was mighty Kentucky.

Friday—the day before the Kentucky game—Bell blasted at the press for carrying such a story.

He snapped: "It isn't true that the boys dedicated the game to Walker. Captain Dick McKissack told me they didn't. The meeting was one like the squad holds every week—a pep talk. McKissack told them they hadn't been playing the football they were capable of. I resent the press making capital of these boys' private affairs."

Saturday SMU plays arch-rival Texas.

Indications were today that Walker won't be in the line-up for that one either. He's having fever again, his throat's so sore he can't eat like he wants to.

Ladder Truck Burns, Cuemen Pick Flowers, Gorman and Girouard

Providence, R. I., (AP)—Ladder Company 10 will be a long time living this one, down:

On a practice run to Wayland Square to stage a demonstration in connection with Fire Prevention Week, a battery cable short circuit set the truck on fire.

The Quarterback club, in its second and greatest year, has done itself well in attaining sportswriters so well known as Freeman.

The honored guest has achieved great success and deserving recognition in the 15 years that he has been associated with the Chronicle. Freeman is ranged along with Jinx Tacker, of the Waco News Tribune, and Bill Rives of the Dallas Morning News, one of the top writers on activities of the sports world.

Winners of last week's "guess the winner contest" are asked to be present Thursday night to receive their prizes. If for any reason, a winner is absent, the prizes will be awarded to the person who turned in the next best answers.

The guessing contest will continue again this week with 11 sponsors again offering prizes for the best guessers on the outcome of games in which Southwest Conference teams play next Saturday.

The benevolent sponsors who are contributing prizes each week are: Travis B. Bryan of the First National Bank, J. C. Hotard of Hotard's Cafeteria, C. E. Griesser of Griesser Electric Co., J. J. Peters Music Co., Joe Faulk of Lack's Auto Supply, Charlie Ferreri of Triangle Drive-Inn, Parker-Astlin Hardware Co., W. S. D. Clothiers, Alexander-Beal Insurance Co., Charlie Cade of the Bryan Motor Co., and The Battalion.

To enter persons should clip the entry blank from the Quarterback Club page in Thursday's edition of the Battalion or obtain a blank from one of the sponsors.

All entries should be turned in to The Battalion sports desk by 5 p. m. Friday. Entries mailed should be postmarked by that time.

Guesses are on games in which SWC teams play this week-end and should be placed on the entry blanks in this order:

- A&M vs. ARKANSAS
- RICE vs. TEXAS TECH
- TEXAS vs. SMU
- TCU vs. BAYLOR

Baylor - A&M Statistics

BAYLOR	TEXAS A&M
16 First Downs	135
153 Yards Gained Rushing	9
127 Net Yards Gained Rush	128
188 Yards Gained Passing	40
22 Passes Attempted	6
13 Passes Completed	2
2 Passes Intercepted	2
86 Yds. Interceptions Returned	2
83.2 Punt Average	39.4
8 No. of Punts	10
40 Penalties (Yds.)	20
1 Opp. Fumbles Recvd By	0
0 Fumbles	3

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