

SPORT SLANTS

By JIM CARRELL

Only three games remain on the A&M schedule. They are the most important three games of the season . . . because they are the ones left to play.

Will the Aggies win them? Or, a better way to put that question, will the Aggies win them playing the calibre of ball of the last few weeks?

Then the enraged answering questions come, "What's been wrong with the way the Aggies have been playing? They've been winning haven't they? And isn't that all that counts?"

Here's an Aggie team rated number one in the nation on almost everyone's poll. Did their game performances put them there or did the depressing play of Oklahoma and the nation's sports writers' willingness to see somebody other than the Sooners on top have more to do with it?

A moot question. First, call it the quality of the opposition. It is conceded that Oklahoma plays a weak schedule. But, what has been so tough about the teams we have played?

Almost everyone has had their turn at slapping Maryland around. We held our breaths for a 21-13 win. Follow that with a tremendous 21-0 victory over "mighty" Texas Tech.

Another concession: A&M took Missouri handily, 28-0.

Then comes the Aggies only all-out performance of the year, a very fine 28-6 victory over the University of Houston. There was a revenge motive in that the Cougars applied the sole blemish to the Aggies 1956 record. There was second-effort and the Aggies looked as if they wanted to win.

However, Oklahoma State tied the Cougars, 6-6, and Auburn crushed them 48-7.

It was a brutal 7-0 win over TCU and who could ask for more.

A 14-0 win over Baylor should be sufficient but A&M didn't play at its peak. The margin should have been wider, not just to run the score up, but because Baylor

is not a very good team. You want evidence: Baylor proves it every Saturday.

Now let's analyze last week's narrow escape in the Ozarks. An extra-point victory over Arkansas, 7 to 6.

Consider that on certainly no less than six occasions the Aggies found themselves needing fourth and three or less and having to punt. That doesn't happen to great teams.

Coverage on punts was extremely poor. Consider the instance when an A&M punt was fumbled by an Arkansas halfback. Two Aggies were down on the play. Only John Gilbert had a chance at the ball and he blasted a covering Razor back loose from the fumbled ball. He had no help.

Charlie Milstead, through no fault of his own had a punt partially blocked. Surely Aggie forwards could have at least slowed up Arkansas rushers.

The assets that made last year's ball club a terrific competitor were absent. The defense was strong and permitted only one Arkansas touchdown.

Here is a team with potentials that outweigh last year's club.

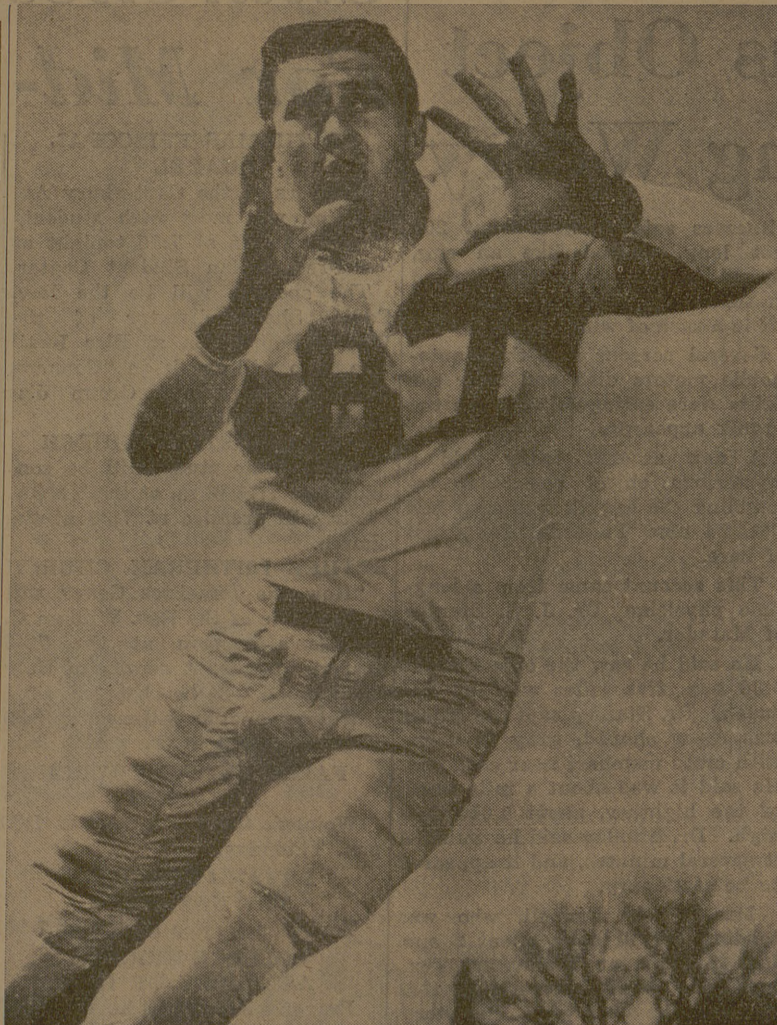
But, this team is not as quick, they don't pursue, they don't gang tackle, they are not as aggressive, and there is little all-out, second effort. Remember that most of this year's starting lineup was playing a year ago, and then ask why aren't they as good or better than they were last year?

Injuries have handicapped the Aggies and poor weather has hampered conditioning and workouts by forcing the team inside.

But it's more than those two factors.

Perhaps it's a matter of desire. Or, as Coach Paul Bryant might say, "they lack pride in the little things."

Philadelphia Phillie rookie pitcher Dick Farrell had a 12-6 record with the Miami, Fla., Marlins of the International League in 1956.



Fish Harriers Win

A&M's Freshman Cross Country team won first place in the Texas University Invitational Cross Country Run Saturday in Austin.

A&M took the number one spot with 30 points, followed by Texas with 48 points and the University of Houston with 50 points.

Members of the Fish squad are: Jim King, Eusebia Garcia, Howard Dugger, Billy Ray Morgan, Charles Rollins, Hardy Francis, Daniel Alfaro, and James Wallace.

The University of Houston took top honors in the varsity race.

Aggies, Cardinals Still Undefeated

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Only Texas A&M and Lamar Tech answer the roll call of the undefeated as the Texas College football campaign enters its final month. Texas A&M is undefeated and untied but Lamar Tech has a tie on its record.

Texas Western fell from the select circle last week when the Miners were upset by Hardin-Simmons 33-20.

Both A&M and Tech will be favored to maintain their status this week. The Aggies play Southern Methodist at College Station Saturday while Tech takes on Texas A&I at Kingsville.

SWC STATISTICS

TEAM OFFENSE				LEADING PASSERS			
Team	G.	F.D.	P.	Yds.	Int.	T.D.	Pct.
Rice	6	013	1,318	841	2,239	276.5	
Arkansas	7	99	1,459	516	1,985	280.7	
A&M	7	100	1,506	384	1,949	272.1	
TCU	7	104	1,723	204	1,580	275.1	
Texas	7	97	1,361	550	1,911	273.0	
Baylor	7	113	1,279	559	1,568	256.9	
SMU	5	60	890	322	1,212	242.4	

TEAM DEFENSE				LEADING BALL CARRIERS			
Team	G.	F.D.	R.	P.	Yds.	T.D.	Avg.
TCU	7	89	958	424	1,382	197.4	
A&M	7	94	1,178	388	1,566	223.7	
Arkansas	7	98	1,400	462	1,862	266.9	
Texas	7	95	1,429	453	1,873	267.6	
SMU	5	74	1,057	301	1,358	271.6	
Baylor	7	103	1,542	366	1,908	272.6	
Rice	6	87	1,340	344	1,684	280.1	

TOTAL OFFENSE LEADERS				LEADING PUNTERS			
Player	School	Pts.	Yds.	Pts.	Yds.	Avg.	
Hill	Rice	58	33	3	652	3	569
Traylor	Baylor	64	30	7	294	3	469
Walker	Arkansas	31	17	2	292	2	548
Fondren	Texas	35	22	4	263	4	611
Humphrey	Baylor	53	22	5	249	1	415
Christian	Ark.	29	13	2	223	1	630
Ryan	Rice	25	14	2	189	2	560
Meredith	SMU	15	10	2	148	2	567
Milstead	A&M	24	11	1	130	1	458
Lackey	Texas	29	10	4	162	0	345
Dunn	SMU	21	10	0	95	1	476

LEADING BALL CARRIERS				LEADING PUNTERS			
Player	School	T.C.	G.	L.	Yds.	Avg.	
Shofner	TCU	98	541	12	529	5.3	
Hickman	Baylor	100	469	12	457	4.6	
Nesbitt	Arkansas	103	444	2	442	4.3	
Dowdle	Texas	82	355	2	353	4.3	
Crow	A&M	73	356	10	346	4.7	
Chilton	Rice	74	334	6	331	4.5	
Lasater	TCU	77	339	9	330	4.3	
Osborne	A&M	72	360	33	327	4.5	
Dike	TCU	77	276	3	273	3.5	
Spikes	TCU	52	263	20	243	4.7	

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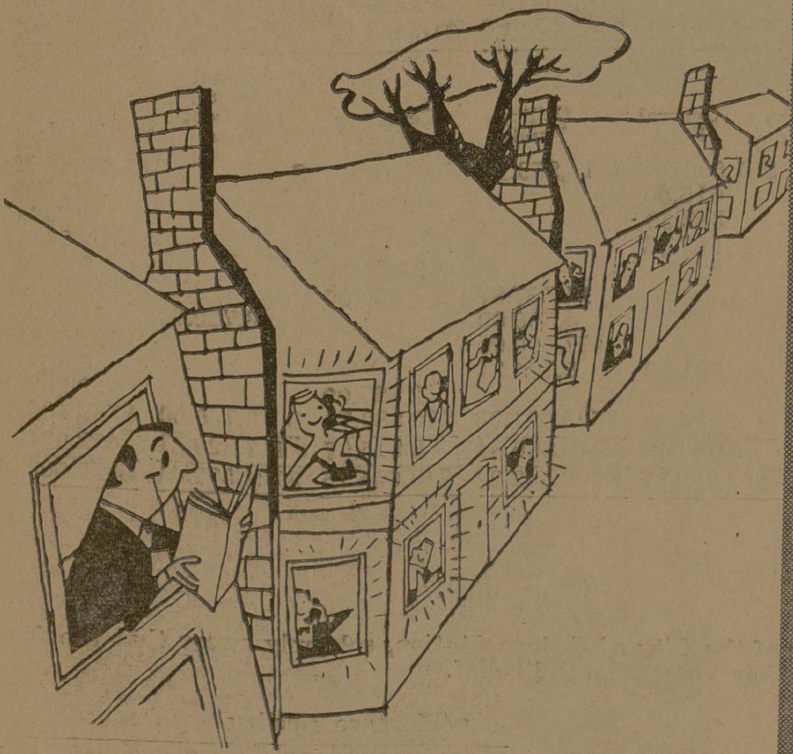
Willard Dewveall, 212, 6-4 senior end from Weatherford was on the receiving end of the longest completed pass in the entire Conference when he took a toss from Charlie Arnold that was good for 69 yards and a touchdown against Rice. He was instrumental in the defeat of the Longhorns last Saturday.

TATUM GETS 'EM

CHAPEL HILL, N. C. (AP)—It appears that the University of North Carolina is building its football fortunes for the future under Coach Jim Tatum. Among 69 Tar Heel freshman candidates, many not on scholarships, 22 were selected to various all-state teams during the 1956 campaign, reports North Carolina.

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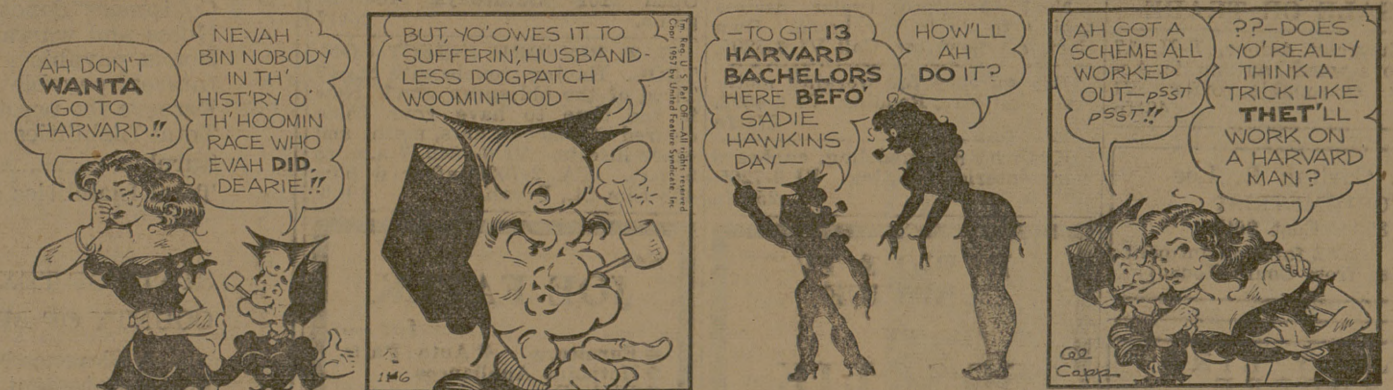
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