



FROM THE  
*Sidelines*

By Larry R. Jerden

A giant is stirring in the muddy Brazos River Bottoms. His strength first showed partly in the Baton Rouge night a week ago, and was seen full-force Saturday in Atlanta. The message is getting around fast: The Aggies Are Back.

The fever is somewhat slowly gripping the wide campus. No longer are the students existing through football season, casting a wishful eye at the basketball team. For the Aggies, football is respectable again. You can see it at yell practice, where, in addition to corps underclassmen, are found seniors in boots, civilians, and girls mixed with the khaki-clad lads.

You can sense it on the campus and hear it as week-end plans suddenly change and a caravan starts forming for Lubbock. It just may not be such a long football season, after all.

The vanguard of Aggie support for the season was well in evidence in Atlanta. In addition to the 30 or so Corps Seniors, there were civilians and underclassmen, mothers, sweethearts and exes. There was quite a yell sounded when the Aggies scored, followed by the traditional silence with each point!

Some traveled from College Station, one ex came from New York, and servicemen came from nearby bases to support the Aggies.

All were impressed by the friendliness of the hosts, the pleasant city of Atlanta, and the winning Aggie Team.

And Head Coach Gene Stallings! The team won the game, but it was his leadership, planning and inspiration that have started the Aggies on the way back.

The question of the week: Where was the Aggie Band Saturday night?

**Aggie Notes and Quotes**

Three sophomores and a junior were in the opening A&M backfield against Georgia Tech.

Wingback Dan Westerfield was the junior. The sophos were QB Harry Ledbetter, halfback Bill Sallee and fullback Dan Schneider. . . . Schneider, of Trafford, Pa., had a personal cheering section on hand. His mother, two brothers and their wives and his girlfriend, made the 17-hour auto drive to watch him play. . . .

Coach Gene Stallings told Bryan-College Station TV viewers Sunday afternoon. . . . "Our bunch of narrow-shouldered, skinny-legged kids just did a great job. . . they just kept scrapping and it was a big victory that took a lot of doing. . . they proved they were willing to pay the price and the win proved to them that things come to those who prepare themselves" . . .

Jerry Nichols received a gash in his forehead that required eight stitches but A&M team doctors Henry McQuaide and Tom Moore had him ready to return to action so quickly that he missed only two plays. . . Texas writers staffing the A&M-Georgia Tech game included Mickey Herskowitz of the Houston Post, Charles Carder of the Houston Chronicle, Bob St. John of the Dallas News, John West of the Bryan Eagle. . . .

Ted Nelson, SWC 440-yard dash champion from Andrews, Tex., was in on one play and made a 16-yard pass reception that kept alive A&M's first TD drive in the fourth period. . . Lloyd Curington's TD pass catch was the first scoring play of his varsity career. . . He scored two TDs as a freshman. . .

Coach Bobby Dodd's post-game comment: "I thought our (Georgia Tech) offense was great today compared to the way we looked last week (against Vanderbilt) and our defense held up well except for the last half of the fourth quarter. We are hurting personnel-wise defensively. It was a very exciting football game and a tough one to lose."



DEFENSIVE END JERRY KACHTIK

**Stallings Praises Aggie Comeback**

By GLENN DROMGOOLE  
Battalion Editor

Aggie coach Gene Stallings Tuesday praised A&M's fourth-quarter comeback that earned a 14-10 victory over Georgia Tech for the Cadets' first win of the season.

"We've tried to teach our kids that if they really want it—no matter if we are outpersonnelled—we can come from behind in the fourth quarter," the rookie Aggie head coach said. "The thing that really pleased me was that fourth quarter."

Stallings told area newsmen at his weekly press conference that the winning pass play from quarterback Harry Ledbetter to halfback Lloyd Curington was developed at halftime.

"It's actually sort of silly to put in a play at halftime, because there is the chance that it will do more harm than good. But when you're behind you have to take those chances."

The play covered 26 yards and put A&M ahead for the first time this season. The touchdown, coming with 1:24 left in the game, climaxed a dramatic fourth-quarter attack during which the Aggies collected all their tallies.

"Curington's only play at wingback was that play. I didn't even know if he could line up at wingback," Stallings said.

Curington, who alternates at tailback with Bill Sallee, was shifted to wingback for the play because of his speed.

"I sent Sallee in for (wingback Jim) Stabler, shifted Curington to wingback and just prayed," the A&M mentor de-

scribed his strategy. "It worked though, so that's the main thing." Stallings, pointing to the Aggie date with Texas Tech Saturday in Lubbock, told the writers, "They've got a bunch of big ol' strong, mean-looking folks. I know they'll be trying to avenge that loss last week. That's just human nature."

"The thing that concerns me is MY team," he continued, "not so much the other team. I can't go to the game hoping (Tech tailback Donny) Anderson fumbles every time he gets the ball."

Stallings said the Red Raiders have an excellent kicking team, hard strong-running backs and good size.

Singled out for outstanding performances in the Georgia Tech game were:

—Curington, who caught the game-winning touchdown pass and gained 40 yards in eight carries.

—Jerry Nichols, who played the entire game as defensive halfback even though he suffered a serious cut on his forehead in the fourth quarter and worked A&M's last defensive stand with 12 stitches in his head.

—Ledbetter, who completed 8 of 17 passes for 112 yards, passed for one Aggie touchdown and ran the entire game.

—Joe Wellborn, Ken Lamkin and Grady Allen for outstanding defensive effort.

Stallings said he read in an Atlanta newspaper Saturday morning that Georgia Tech coach Bobby Dodd "knew we couldn't run wide."

"Maybe our kids didn't read it," he noted.

**Kachtik Masters End**

When the talk gets around to good solid football players on the 1965 Texas A&M squad, the name Jerry Kachtik always is mentioned quickly.

Coach Gene Stallings told his Sunday TV viewers "If you had eleven Jerry Kachtiks on your team, all you'd have to do would be sit back and say 'Go get 'em Kachtiks.'"

If Stallings believes in Kachtik, the senior defensive end from Rio Hondo has an even stronger faith in the new Aggie coach.

"Our good showing against LSU and our win over Georgia Tech is all coach Stallings' doing," Kachtik says. "He and his staff got everyone in good shape and they made us believe we could win. I really believe everything he says and I know you can make your own breaks if you keep plugging away as hard as you can."

This is the first year Kachtik has ever played defensive end but after two games he looks like a veteran. He was a halfback both ways his sophomore year at Rio Hondo High, a fullback-linebacker his junior year and then he played both halves his senior year. At A&M, until last spring, he was a fullback-linebacker.

The relatively small A&M squad is nothing new to Kachtik. "During my senior year at Rio

Hondo, we had 23 players on the squad and 14 of us played. We won 11 and lost 1."

In two games this year, the Aggies have had 45-player travel squads and about 30 have gotten into the games.

The two big things about playing defensive end are "containing" and "offside pursuit," Kachtik says. "Grady Allen proved the value of offside pursuit when he came from the opposite side to recover that Georgia Tech fumble in the endzone."

Defensive halfback Jim Kauffman, who plays the same side as Kachtik, is sold on Jerry. "Kachtik and I have to coordinate a lot of things. He's a real football player and I have great confidence in him. He has a lot of football knowledge and he's a leader on the field."

Kachtik is majoring in physical education and plans to go on at A&M and get a master's degree in either PE or Education. Then, he wants to pursue a coaching career.

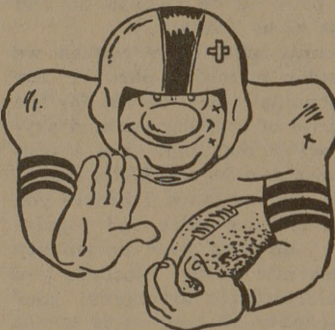
This week, however, his attention is focused on Texas Tech Red Raiders.

**NCAA Marks Fall To Western QB**

NEW YORK (AP)—Texas Western's pitch-catch combination quarterback Billy Stevens and flanker Chuck Hughes are kept the statisticians busy at the NCAA Athletic Bureau.

Stevens has clicked for 10 touchdowns and 797 yards, completing 37 of 68 passes in first two games, according to figures released Tuesday. His best previous mark in major league ball was seven in the two games by Bill Wade at Vanderbilt in 1950 and 611 yards Stan Heath of Nevada in 1951. NCAA rankings by completion put Stevens in third place among passers.

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