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Aggie Question: How Close Is Close?

BY GARY SHERER

In the sports of horseshoes and beanbag tossing, coming close is worth one point. In football, you can come close all night, but if it's not on the money, don't bother getting out your adding machine.

The 1967 football season has been a series of 'coming close' situations for the Texas Aggies football team. Saturday night 19-18 loss to Florida State must go down as the closest the Maroon and White have come to a victory this year.

For three quarters, the Aggies held doggedly to a lead but had to share top billing with a persistent downpour. At the start of the fourth quarter, the rain stopped and so did the Aggie lead.

Although the 20,000 drenched spectators were happy to see the rain disappear, the loss of the lead and the subsequent loss of the game evened things out in the emotion department. Regardless, of the outcome, for the second time in as many Kyle Field games this season, the Aggies were nipped out at the wire.

Even with the weather and time

of day different, when the Aggies grabbed their last lead at 18-13, one still had to think about the Southern Methodist game. In the Sept. 16 opener, the Aggies had taken a 17-13 lead also in the waning moments of the ball game.

The main difference was that there was 8:23 remaining on the clock, while there had been only 43 seconds left in the Mustang game. It also took Florida State longer to score the winning touchdown (about five minutes) and the winning tally was on a run, not a pass.

Though these facts differed, the end result was the same—close but not close enough!

But, how close is close? In the LSU game, the Aggies were out of the game for most of the 60 minutes, but came within 61 yards of equaling the Tigers final yardage total. However, the Maroon and White were topped 415-251 by the Seminoles.

Yes, the Aggies have come close, but the fact remains the season record stands at 0-4. The only thing now is to look ahead at the six conference games that make up the rest of the season. Coming close definitely won't win football games, but because the Aggies have just missed victory, they are on the right track.

Those half-dozen SWC games will now determine if that track that the Aggies are on is going in the right direction.



THREE'S A CROWD
 Aggie tailback Larry Stegent (25) gets buried in the mud by three Florida State defenders after a short gain. Bob Long (42) looks on in Saturday night's 19-18 loss to Florida State.

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Rec Management Seminars Planned

BY JERRY GRISHAM

The previously unstoppable Texas Tech offense fell flat on its face last Saturday, as did its hopes for a undefeated season.

They say that nothing can make a football team madder than having a thus-far perfect season ruined by defeat at the hands of a winless team, which is what Mississippi State was up until Saturday night.

Texas A&M Coach Gene Stallings said that the Raiders "were playing us" and just couldn't keep their minds on the Bulldogs. That inability to concentrate possibly cost them a ball game and come Saturday night, when they really do play the Aggies, that thought

might make them hard to handle.

There's no doubt, either, that Tech has what it takes to make it hot for the Aggie defense. Up until last week's reversal, the Raiders were third in the nation in the rushing category with a 299.5 yard average per game and 10th in total offense with a 412 yard average.

Tech quarterback John Scovell is the big reason the Raider offense clicks. After Tech's defeat of Texas, Scovell had rolled up total of 209 yards rushing and an average of 6.7 yards.

If Scovell finds the going rough on the ground he has an excellent receiver in end Larry Gilbert who has done a good job for the Raiders.

The Tech defense is no slouch either. While the offense has unloaded for 74 points the defense has held the opponents' scoring down to 20 points in three games.

Disappointed Tech Ready For Aggies

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