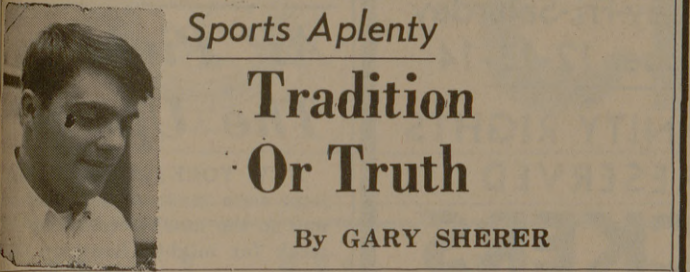


BATT PICKS

Games	Sherer	Rowton	Grisham	Fuller	Mr X
A&M at Tech	A&M by 3	A&M by 14	A&M by 3	A&M by 7	Tech by 2
Arkansas at Baylor	Arkansas by 4	Arkansas by 14	Arkansas by 10	Arkansas by 6	Even
O.U. at Texas	O.U. by 8	O.U. by 7	O.U. by 6	Texas by 4	O.U. by 12
Army at SMU	Army by 10	Army by 21	Army by 7	Army by 6	Army by 64
N'western at Rice	N'western by 7	N'western by 7	N'western by 5	Rice by 4	Rice by 9
USC at Notre Dame	USC by 3	ND by 10	USC by 4	ND by 2	ND by 4
Missouri at Colorado	Colo. by 1	Mo. by 4	Mo. by 2	Colo. by 3	Colo. by 29
Purdue at Ohio State	Purdue by 25	Purdue by 21	Purdue by 10	Purdue by 12	Purdue by 6
Last Week	3-6-0	6-3-0	5-4-0	5-4-0	None
Season	9-16-0	13-8-0	17-12-0	15-14-0	0-0-0



Sports Aplenty

Tradition Or Truth

By GARY SHERER

While searching through the mail bag Monday night, a 9 envelope caught my eye. It was addressed to the sports Editor. Since we hardly ever get written correspondence it was opened first.

Folded neatly inside was half of last Friday's Battalion sports page. Scrawled around the margin was a message from an irate Aggie. As is usually the case in this type of mail, it was unsigned.

Here is the message. . . Look who needs to learn about Aggie Tradition. What is all this "give them the win" and ball that the "LOSS to Southern Methodist." Aggies never lose — no one takes place gets a win from us. In the future please remember it before this in your sports reports. . .

The title of my Friday story was 'Aggies Aim For First Victory' and put in the margin. . . Every game is a Phactory. Title should read "Aggies Aim For First Scoring Texas-Oklahoma Edge."

I sat and read the message over a couple of times and started to think. My thoughts ran the gamut from angry to very sad.

From the way this sounded, it seemed this unknown writer thought that I was glad the Aggies had lost. Just because I must print the facts of a story doesn't mean I think any less of the Aggies.

Granted, I am not up on all the Aggie traditions. Being a member of the Corp, I have not had an adequate opportunity to learn it completely. But, this doesn't mean I'm not in back of the Aggies' efforts.

I would not be doing my job as a sports reporter if I wrote lines like . . . Aggies win 18-19 or . . . Tigers outscore Aggies 17-6. What this all boils down to is a loss or a win and it must be printed as such.

When Aggies talk to Aggies, it is true, the Aggies never lose. But, when I report the facts of a sports contest that will be read by not only Aggies, but also non-students, it has to be factual in my writing.

I'm as much a fan of the Aggies sports representatives as any other A&M student, but if I didn't report the true facts, I would be fooling myself as a sports writer.

Ags-Tech Is Top Game

By JERRY GRISHAM

All of the Southwest Conference football legions, except Texas Christian, will be in action this weekend.

The Horned Frogs will be taking it easy Saturday trying to forget the 26-0 licking they received last week, courtesy of the Arkansas Razorbacks.

THE HOGS ON the other hand have tasted blood for the first time this season and will probably be loaded for bear—Baylor Bear—come Saturday.

The game will be played Saturday night in Waco and the home field advantage lies with the Bears. And the Bears are also coming off of their first victory of the year also. Baylor edged Washington St. 10-7 and it's a certainty that the Bears will be going all out against the always tough Ozark boys.

Action for the Ponies of Southern Methodist begins Friday night as the Cadets of West Point move into the Cotton Bowl for maneuvers.

BOTH TEAMS COME off of defeats last week. SMU was clobbered by Minnesota 23-3 and Army was upset 10-7 by Duke after previously defeating two lesser opponents.

With quarterback Steve Lindell guiding the Cadets, they are a

definite offensive threat. The Mustangs, however, have been very deficient in that department. Since the A&M game in which they scored two six-pointers to win 20-17 the Ponies have scored only a field goal against Missouri and Minnesota combined.

The Rice Owls will have all that they can handle in Houston when they play Northwestern. The Wildcats were defeated 25-16 by Purdue last week. Northwestern, however, led the conquerors of Notre Dame for three quarters before the Boilermakers could pull ahead with three TD's.

RICE HAS HAD two weeks to rest since they topped Navy two weeks ago and should be in great shape to meet the Cats.

While the Mustangs and Army are butting heads Friday night in the Cotton Bowl the rest of the town will be rocking with the annual shenanigans of the Texas and Oklahoma University fans who will be tanking up in preparation for Saturday's Texas-OU game in the Bowl.

If you believe everything you read or hear you would arrive at the conclusion that the entire Oklahoma team is home in bed with ice packs and poultices and that Darrell Royal is ordering splints, bandages and crutches by the carload.

It's probably nearer the truth that both teams will show up at the field Saturday as healthy as ever. As far as the winner is concerned, flip a coin and your answer will be as good as anyone's.

THE TEXAS AGGIES play their first conference game since SMU Saturday night when they play Texas Tech in Lubbock. The Aggies will have a dual objective in the contest. They will be going for their first win of the season and will also be trying to climb out of the cellar.

The Raiders were upset by Mississippi State last week to ruin their hopes for a perfect season but they still have a stainless conference mark and are certain to try and keep it that way.

After this weekend's action everyone but Rice will have taken at least one dip into the SWC pool. Right now Tech is occupying first place along with Arkansas and SMU. All three have 1-0 league marks.

Texas, TCU and A&M are all in the cellar with identical 0-1 conference records. After Saturday-Baylor will either move into the penthouse or climb in the basement window.

Title For Cortez? A Contact Player

It matters not to Robert Cortez where he plays just as long as he is in action for the Texas Aggies. Cortez now is working as a guard with the offensive line. And, once he learns the techniques of blocking in the line he's to be one of the most aggressive guards in the league.

A&M Coach Gene Stallings often tells the story about the helmet he keeps in his office. It has splashes of colors on it, representing nearly all the foes the Aggies play. It belongs to Cortez, or did before he busted it with a vicious tackle. "When I get to feeling low and start looking for a contact player, I look at that helmet and know that I can find a contact football player in Cortez," Stallings says.

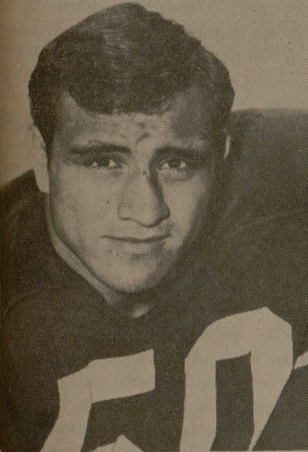
Cortez is a shy, pleasant person off the field but once he puts on that football gear he's a vicious head-hunter.

Robert is one of 13 children born to Mr. and Mrs. Gaspar Cortez of San Benito. His father is employed by Cameron County Highway Dept. Robert is fourth from the youngest and he'll be 23 on Oct. 23.

At San Benito High, Cortez played linebacker-fullback and was all-district, all-Valley and honorable mention all-state. His coach then was Jake Helms, now freshman mentor at Aggieland.

He was a blasting fullback for the A&M Fish but shifted to linebacker as a defensive specialist his sophomore year. He's majoring in physical education and has plans for a career in coaching when he is graduated from A&M.

The latest shift to offense doesn't bother Cortez. Just as long as he gets to play and stick that helmet on somebody. He's a real contact football player.



ROBERT CORTEZ
Contact football is his bread-and-butter.

Aggie Defense Makes Changes

Coach Gene Stallings announced some defensive changes following Wednesday night's practice session.

Split end Tommy Maxwell has been moved to safety for Saturday night's Texas Tech game. Regular safety Curley Hallman will start at defensive halfback and Jimmy Adams will be moved

back to offense at split end.

The move was made because the Aggie mentor has not been satisfied with the defensive secondary in the team's first four games.

The team will debark from Easterwood Airport at noon on Friday and return after the game Saturday night.

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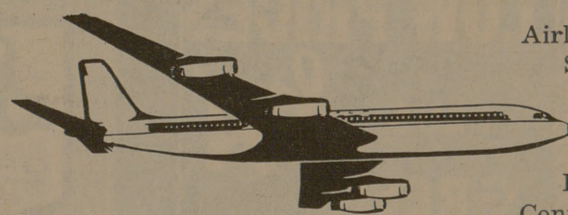
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