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Fish Make The Big Plays As Rice Falls, 14-7

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By RICHARD CAMPBELL
 The Texas Aggie Fish showed a Kyle Field crowd of 3,000 a touch of the old big-play magic Thursday night as they converted two fourth quarter fumbles into touchdowns and clipped the Rice Owlets, 14-7, for their third straight victory without a loss.

Stifled by three quarters of uneventful football, the Fish, inspired by a tremendous fourth quarter defensive charge, came back in the big play tradition

reminiscent of the Aggie varsity. Led by the pin-point passing of Joe King, they marched down the field in the final minute hitting pass after pass until King found Joey Herr in the end zone for the winning touchdown.

THE FIRST quarter belonged solely to the Owlets as they marched to the Fish one yard line aided by the 50-yard run of Quarterback Stahle Vincent. Vincent rolled to his right on the option play, cut sharply inside and sped to the Fish 18 before Chris Johnson could put the collar on him. But, six plays later Rice tailback Mike Tyler was jarred loose from the football and Edwin Ebrum recovered for the Fish on the one.

Here the Fish attack bogged

down and punter Herr booted 50 yards to the Rice 38. After unsuccessful thrusts, Rice punter Mark Williams dropped back to his own 37 but the center hiked it over his head and Aggie Robert Hill tackled him on the Rice 28. Unfortunately, the Fish could not capitalize on this opportunity as Billy Martin attempted a 38-yard field goal with 5:10 left and it sailed off to the left.

The Owlets took over on their own 20 and drove to the A&M 29 where the Fish held and Williams attempted a 46-yard field goal. It was short and the Fish took over on their 20. On the second play of the drive, QB Mike Bunger scotted around left end for 15 yards and the longest Fish run of the night behind a beauti-

ful block by Steve Burks of Du-

At this point, the going got rough as the Rice defense smothered Bunger for two quick losses and Herr punted again. Rice took over after the 28-yard kick and marched on the strong legs of Crabtree to the Fish 40 where Williams attempted a 57-yard field goal. But it was short and to the right and the score remained 0-0. The half ended with one of King's passes being intercepted by Jimmy Davis.

After an exchange of punts, the Owlets picked apart the Fish defense with slashing runs by Crabtree, who carried 35 times in the game. They went 81 yards in 14 plays with Vincent zipping for the final 11 on a quarterback keeper. Williams' PAT was true and the Owlets drew first blood, 7-0.

IN THE FOURTH period, the

Fish began their Halloween tactics quickly on defense as Vincent was again loosened from the pigskin and Luebbehusen recovered on the Rice 32. But the Fish were penalized 15 for holding and the ball went back to the 47. On the next play, Bunger lost two to the 49. Just as disaster seemed imminent, Bunger found Herr all alone and unloaded the bomb to the Rice 8. And, all of a sudden, the Fish were back.

Four plays later, Billy Joe Polasek took a handoff from Bunger on the wingback-around play and waltzed into the endzone untouched for the final two yards and the score. Martin converted and it was 7-7.

WITH EXACTLY one minute showing on the clock, King cranked up his throwing arm and hit split end Johnny Gardner for 14 yards to the 32 and a first down.

One play later, he found Herr for 11 to the 19 and another fumble. The Fish were penalized the next play back to the 25. This time King hit David O on a sideline pattern for 11 to the 11. On the next play, Herr took the snap, moved cutting to his right, and then fired ball back across the middle. Herr latched onto it all alone the score. After two penalties, the extra point attempt, Martin put one through and the fish 14-7. With only 22 seconds on the clock, the outcome purely academic as Wayne W tackled Kramer in the act throwing to end the game.

The next game for the Fish is Thursday, Nov. 7, in Lubbock against the Texas Tech Pines at 7:30 p.m. They return home Nov. 22 at 7:30 p.m. against Texas Yearlings.

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AGGIES

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to play Saturday after missing three games with injuries. Despite the layoff, Stegent is A&M's top ball carrier with 300 yards in 54 carries for a 5.6 yard average. Dave Elmendorf has picked up 177 yards on 29 attempts while Jimmy Sheffield has 162 yards on 32 tries and Wendell Housley has gained 143 yards on 43 carries.

Barney Harris and Tommy Maxwell remain Hargett's favorite targets as Harris has pulled in 18 tosses for 352 yards and Maxwell has grabbed 15 for 256 yards.

ALL-AMERICAN Bill Hobbs, who Coach Stallings says is getting better with each game after a bad back slowed him down in the early going, paces the SWC's top defense. Joining Hobbs at the linebacker spots will be Buster Adami while Ivan Jones will be at rover. The Aggie defensive line from end to end consists of Jim Piper, Rolf Krueger, Lynn Odum, Harvey Aschenbeck and Mike DeNiro while Curley Hallman, Ross Brupbacher and Tom Sooy make up the defensive backfield.

A crowd of over 40,000 is expected for the first Arkansas-A&M daytime game in College Station in over 20 years.



HE'S LOOKING
 Aggie Fish Quarterback Joe King of Mineola scrambles in the backfield while looking for receiver in the first quarter of last night's 14-7 thrashing of the Rice Owlets. (Photo by Mike Wright)

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