

Costly Mistakes Lead To Aggies' Downfall, 14-0

By Richard Campbell
Battalion Sports Editor

The Texas Aggies, plagued constantly by costly interceptions and fumbles, punched everywhere but over the goal line Saturday as they fell to the Nebraska Cornhuskers, 14-0, before a packed house of 66,331 and a regional television audience.

It was the first shutout of the Aggies in 26 games as they were knocked on the door several times but couldn't put the ball across. Four different times A&M was inside the Nebraska 10-yard line

and failed to score. "This indicates either a good defense or poor offense," Coach Gene Stallings said. "They made some good defensive plays."

The first quarter was relatively uneventful with neither team able to move the ball consistently until Nebraska's Jim Anderson intercepted a Jimmy Sheffield pass on the 20 and scotted to the A&M three. Reserve Nebraska quarterback Jerry Tagge replaced injured Van Brownson and handed the ball to soph Jeff Kinney, who plunged three yards

for the touchdown. Paul Rogers converted and Nebraska led, 7-0. The Aggies got their first break minutes later as they recovered a Frank Vactor fumble on the

Cornhusker six. But Aggie tailback Larry Stegent was trapped for a six-yard loss and it was second and goal from the 12. On the next play Stegent regained

the six yards on a sweep around right end. But on the next play Sheffield's pass, intended for Barney Harris, was intercepted by Randy Reeves in the end zone.

The second quarter was all Nebraska as Tagge hit on pass after pass for short yardage and Nebraska began to march. Tagge mixed up his plays with short

throws to tight end Jim McFarland and handoffs to sophomore workhorse Kinney. The Huskers marched 93 yards in 16 plays capped by a one-yard Tagge keeper for the score. Rogers again converted and the scoring for the afternoon was ended as the Huskers took a 14-0 lead.

Early in the second quarter Stallings gave sophomore quarterback Rocky Self a shot at running the team and run them he did. Once he got his passing arm warmed up in the third quarter, the Aggies began to march also. But again breaks told the story as A&M drove from their own 30 paced by Self's daring runs to the Husker five where Stegent lost the handle on a pitchout and Nebraska recovered.

Dave Elmendorf brought the crowd to its feet in the final period with an electrifying 55-yard punt return to the Nebraska 25. But five plays later a Self aerial was picked off by Dana Stephenson on the one and returned to the Nebraska 40. The Aggies had only one more chance as the clock ticked off the final minute and Self moved the team from their own 20 to the Husker 36 with five of eight completions but time ran out and the Aggies were left outside the door again.

There were several key players who played well despite the disappointing loss and Stallings singled out Self as his "No. 1 quarterback, if we had to play today." He also named both Odum brothers and linebackers Mike DeNiro and Buster Adami as having played well.

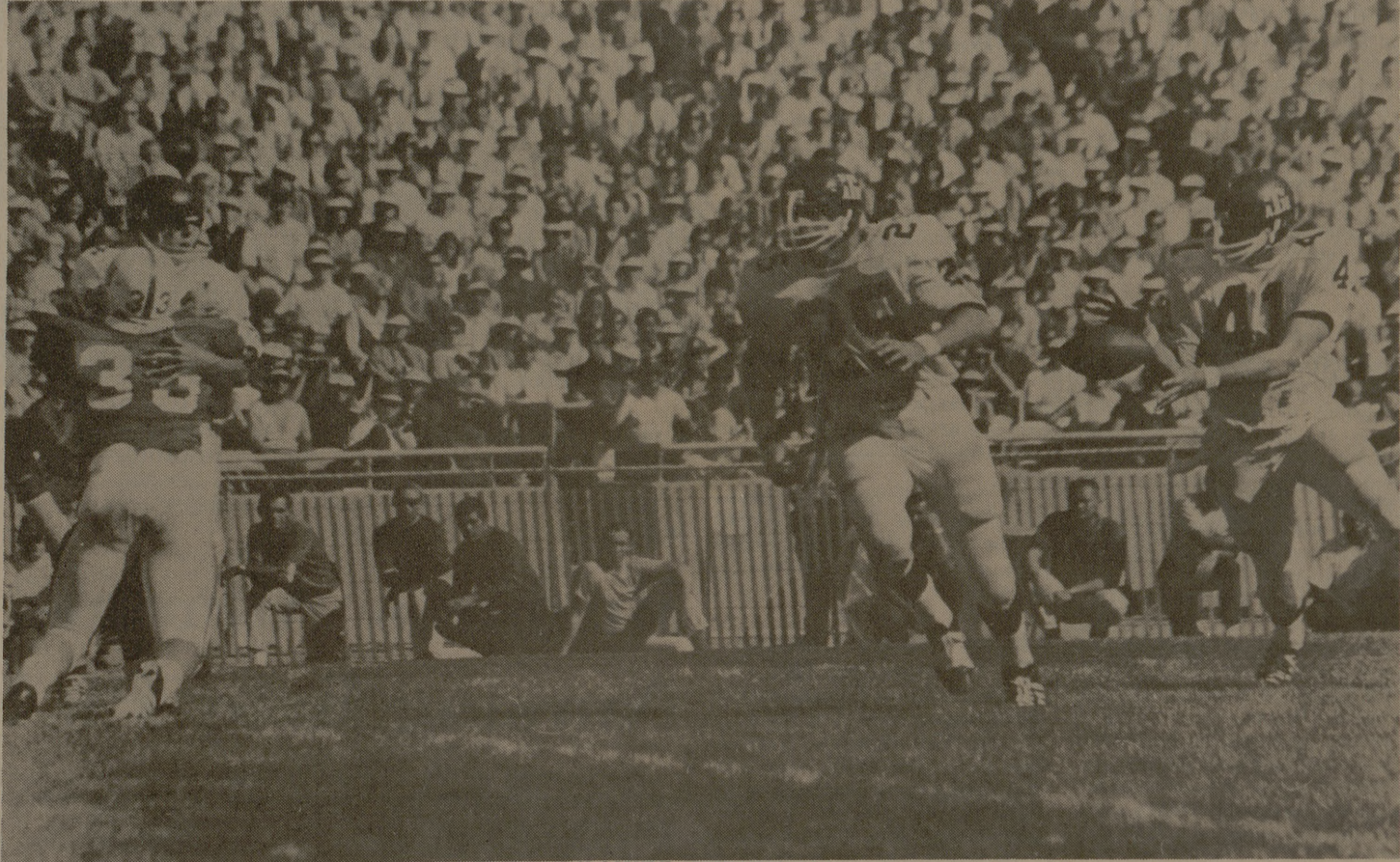
Player of the Week

Sophomore quarterback Rocky Self rose to the occasion Saturday against the Nebraska Cornhuskers to become the Battalion's Player-Of-The-Week.

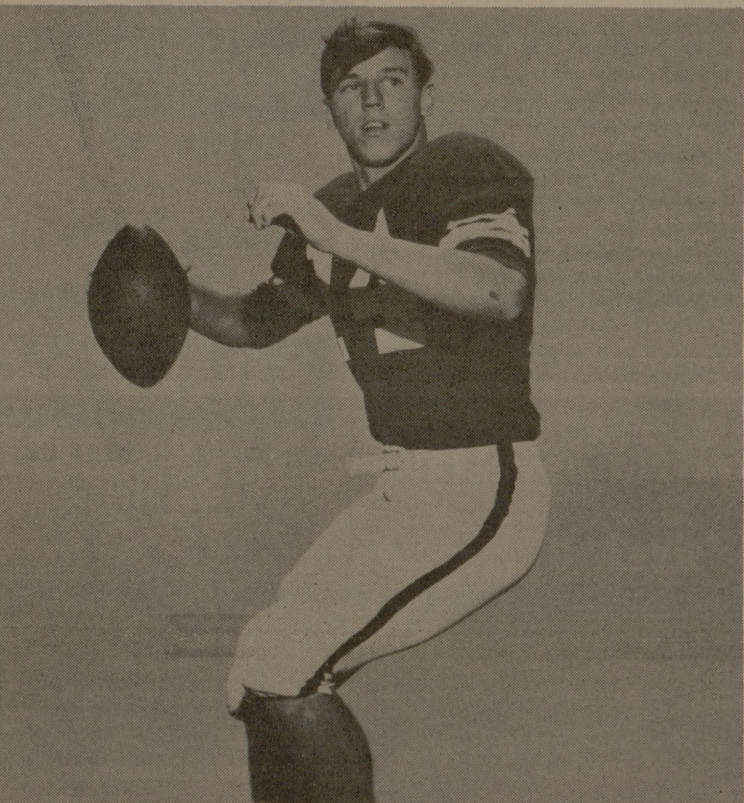
The 6-1, 178-pound signal caller from San Antonio took over for Jimmy Sheffield in the second quarter and finished the game with 16 completions in 31 attempts for 136 yards and reeled off several timely runs to keep the Aggies in contention.

Self was an all-district, all-city, and all-state quarterback at San Antonio MacArthur under Coach Joe Bill Fox. He was also all-district in basketball and baseball. He won his fish numeral in 1967 with 51 completions for 698 yards.

Thus far this year he has completed 23 of 49 for 219 yards and one touchdown. Coach Gene Stallings said after Saturday's performance that "if we had to play today, Self would be my starting quarterback."



POWER SWEEP
Sophomore fullback Mare Black takes a pitchout from Rocky Self (already tackled) and prepares to follow the blocking of tailback Larry Stegent (25). This second-period



ROCKY SELF

Aggies To Invade West Point During Army's Homecoming

Saturday will be Homecoming in Army's Michie Stadium when the Texas Aggies pay a visit there. And it will be a homecoming of sorts for A&M fullback Marc Black.

After an All-America high school career at New Mexico Military Institute (he twice scored five touchdowns in one game), Black was a popular choice of a great many college recruiters. But the all-around athlete's criteria for a college quickly narrowed the list.

"I wanted a school with a military background and a strong football program," Black says. The obvious choices were West Point and Texas A&M. Needless to say, the Aggies won that contest between the schools.

The Aggies waited two years, though, to see how Black turned out. He missed his freshman season due to a knee injury. Then coach Gene Stallings elected to redshirt Black last year since the Aggies had a pair of experienced backs.

In the meantime, Black wasn't twiddling his thumbs. He threw the javelin 201 feet for the A&M track team and just missed placing in the Southwest Conference

meet. (Black still holds the New Mexico schoolboy javelin record.)

In his first real test last spring, Black moved right in as the No. 1 fullback and gained 142 yards in the spring game. His varsity debut came against LSU in Baton Rouge two weeks ago. The 6-2, 212-pounder carried the ball seven times for 30 yards, a respectable 4.5 yard average. He also caught two passes and drew praise from Stallings for his blocking.

Sample believes that after it is published, Rozelle may ask the other teams not to grant interviews for the book series.

Sample, a Negro, says that although Negro and white football players on the Jets are a closely knit lot, there is still much left to be desired on the working relationship between Negro players and management in pro football as a whole.

"Negro players are offered lower salaries to begin with. Management thinks you should be grateful to get that," Sample said.

Sample Cuts Pete Rozelle

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. (AP) — Johnny Sample, New York Jets cornerback, said Monday that football would be better off without Pete Rozelle, the commissioner of professional football.

"He's no more than a dictator," Sample told a news conference at which he announced that he plans to publish a series of books on black athletes and their struggle for equality in professional sports.

"As a person, Rozelle has too much power," Sample said. "He's biased against the AFL because it was the NFL which gave him his job."

Sample's first book, set for completion early next year, will be on his dozen years in professional football. The book is half finished.

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