

Fish bow to Owlets in fumble fest

BY JOHN CURYLO
Assistant Sports Editor

The Aggie Fish and the Rice Owlets traded fumbles and matched rushing leaders on Kyle Field Thursday night, but the Owlets were able to make the points, and that's the name of the game, as A&M dropped its third straight game, 31-8.

Each team lost four fumbles in the game, which saw Aggie Coach Jim Keller using ten different backs, three of them at quarterback.

George Smith of Rice and Pat Herring of A&M put on a display of rushing in the game. Herring carried 19 times for 121 yards, while Smith ran 23 times and netted 106 yards. However, Rice's number two rusher, Joe Phy, had 65 yards on 18 carries. The Fish offense moved the

ball well at times, but they fumbled in key situations. The defense was stingy in some places, but the Owlets came up with the scores when they needed them.

It was an even game at 0-0 until 3:19 was left in the half. It was then that Rice opened up with 21 points in that time. Fumbles were the order of the day in the first half, starting with the opening kickoff, when Garry Smith came across with an onside kick that rolled around before being picked up by Pat Herring. The ball changed hands five more times by fumble in the half, all but one in the first quarter.

Neither team could mount much of an offense in the first period, in addition to being hampered by the fumbles. The Owlets had only three first downs and the Fish two. One of the bright spots in the quarter came near the end, when Bill Nutt punted over Carl Swiero's head. When the ball stopped rolling, it had gone from one 11 yard line to the other for 78 yards.

Billy Wiebold's interception of a Bob Jenkins pass and a Rice personal foul penalty set the Aggies up at the Rice 34. Seven plays later, the Fish were at the eight, following end runs of 2, 11, and 6 yards by Herring and two first downs. On the first attempted pass of the drive, Tim Trimmier was chased out of the pocket, and he was run out of bounds at the four. Rice was penalized to the two on a personal foul, leaving the Fish a fourth and goal from that point. Gary Smith was thrown for a two yard loss to end the hopes for a score.

Following an exchange of punts, the Owlets moved 85 yards in 10 plays and a penalty, mostly

on runs by George Smith, who had 86 yards on 16 carries in the first half. The TD came on a 29 yard pass to Tracy Terry. The extra point kick by Allen Pringle, a soccer-style kicker from Venezuela, who never played football before college, was good, and the score was 7-0 for the Owlets.

The kickoff was fumbled momentarily at the goal line by Mark Green before he returned it to the five. Two plays later he made his college debut at quarterback, but he fumbled, and two plays later, Jenkins passed to Danny Frazier for the second Rice touchdown in 1:19, with two minutes left to play. Pringle kicked his second extra point, giving the Owlets a 14 point lead.

Rice showed they weren't finished with the half, though, because they forced the Aggies to punt after A&M couldn't move the ball. A 15 yard penalty for roughing the kicker still left the Fish a yard short, and Nutt's 47 yard punt was returned 69 for the touchdown by Preston Anderson. Pringle made the score at the half 21-0 with his third extra point in two and a half minutes.

The trend of the game was kept up in the third quarter, as fumbles ended a drive by each team and set up another Rice score, this time on a field goal.

The Fish moved to the Rice 26 following the second half kickoff. Rigsby mixed his plays by passing for 12 to Grady Harris for one first down and running Standish once and Smith twice for another before passing to Roger Gaskamp, who was interfered with for still another first as the Fish threatened. Two

plays later he hit Hughes for 23 yards. Two more plays later, another fumble once again kept the Fish from scoring.

Seven plays later, a similar Owlet drive was stopped by Mark Benbow's second fumble recovery. Rigsby to Hughes for 28 yards started the Fish offense again, but they bogged down and the ball went over on downs. The Owlets copied the Fish by giving up the ball on a punt, with A&M getting it on their own 27.

On the next play, Rigsby was hit hard by Clyde Adcock when he went back to pass, and Steve Pruitt recovered at the 21 for Rice. The Fish defense got tough and held at the 24, but Pringle made his sixth point of the night by kicking a 42 yard field goal, upping the score to 24-0.

Following the kickoff and a Fish punt, the Owlets showed signs of driving for another score, but defensive end Marshall Jackson had other ideas. On a reverse, Joe Phy was met by the 190 pounder for a fumble, which Jackson himself recovered at the Rice 33 for a loss of 12.

The two teams again exchanged punts as the quarter ended. With the ball at the Aggie 17, Rigsby ran for 8, 2, and 14 yards and two first downs. On third and 12 at the A&M 40, the Owlets were offside, and Rigsby hit Hughes for 12 and another first. They could move no farther, and Rice took over at their own 42.

Mark Green then intercepted a Chris Walsh aerial and returned it 22 yards. A clipping penalty moved the ball back to the Owlet 46, the second Green interception that was hampered by a penalty.

The fired up Fish moved to their only score behind the running of Herring, who carried for 11, 4, and 10 before carrying five yards for his third touchdown of the season. On the conversion, Rigsby hit Gary Smith, who was all by himself in the end zone, and the Fish trailed 24-8.

Another onside kickoff by the Fish followed the drive, but Rice retained possession at either 43, and four plays later they scored. The key play was on a pass which Mark Benbow and Hobby Stevens both went for. The ball bounced out of Benbow's hands into Stevens', who went 47 yards to the four. George Smith scored on the next play, and Pringle made it 31-8 with his seventh point of the night.

Game Summary:

Fish	Statistics	Owlets
19	First Downs	15
121	Yards Rushing	195
128	Yards Passing	117
249	Total Offense	312
82	Return Yardage	70
29	Passes Attempted	13
12	Passes Completed	7
0	Passes Had Intercepted	3
6-43.2	Punts, Average	5-32.6
4	Fumbles Lost	4
5-45	Penalties	8-79

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4 to be inducted

Four outstanding Texas A&M graduates, who excelled in athletics and later went on to make their mark on the outside world, will be honored Saturday in pre-game ceremonies beginning at 1:10 p.m., when they will be inducted into the A&M Athletic Hall of Fame.

The election of John Wesley "Dough" Rollins, '17; Dr. Sam Houston "Sammy" Sanders, '23; the late Maj. Gen. James Earl Rudder, '32; and Arthur Douglas "Art" Adamson, '39, brings the total of inductees to the Hall to 31.

All will be present at the ceremonies except for Maj. Gen. Rudder, who died March 23 while serving as president of A&M. His widow, Mrs. Margaret Rudder, will receive his plaque for him.

Rollins earned All-Conference honors on the 1915 and '16 Aggie football teams and later coached at Wesley College and East Texas

State University where he headed two Lone Star Conference champions.

He later returned to A&M as an assistant football coach, head track coach, athletic business manager and dean of men.

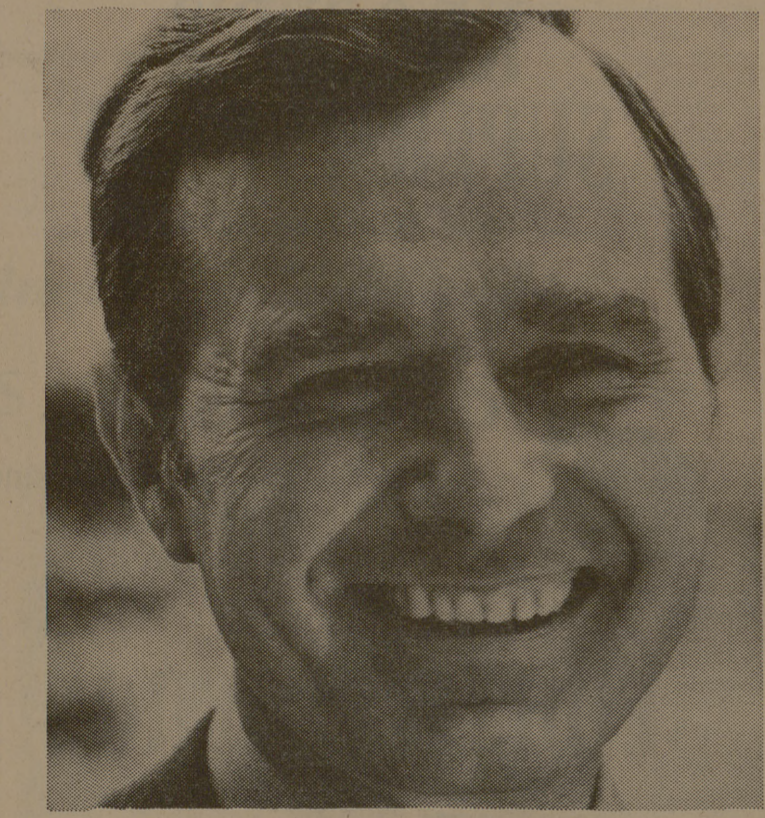
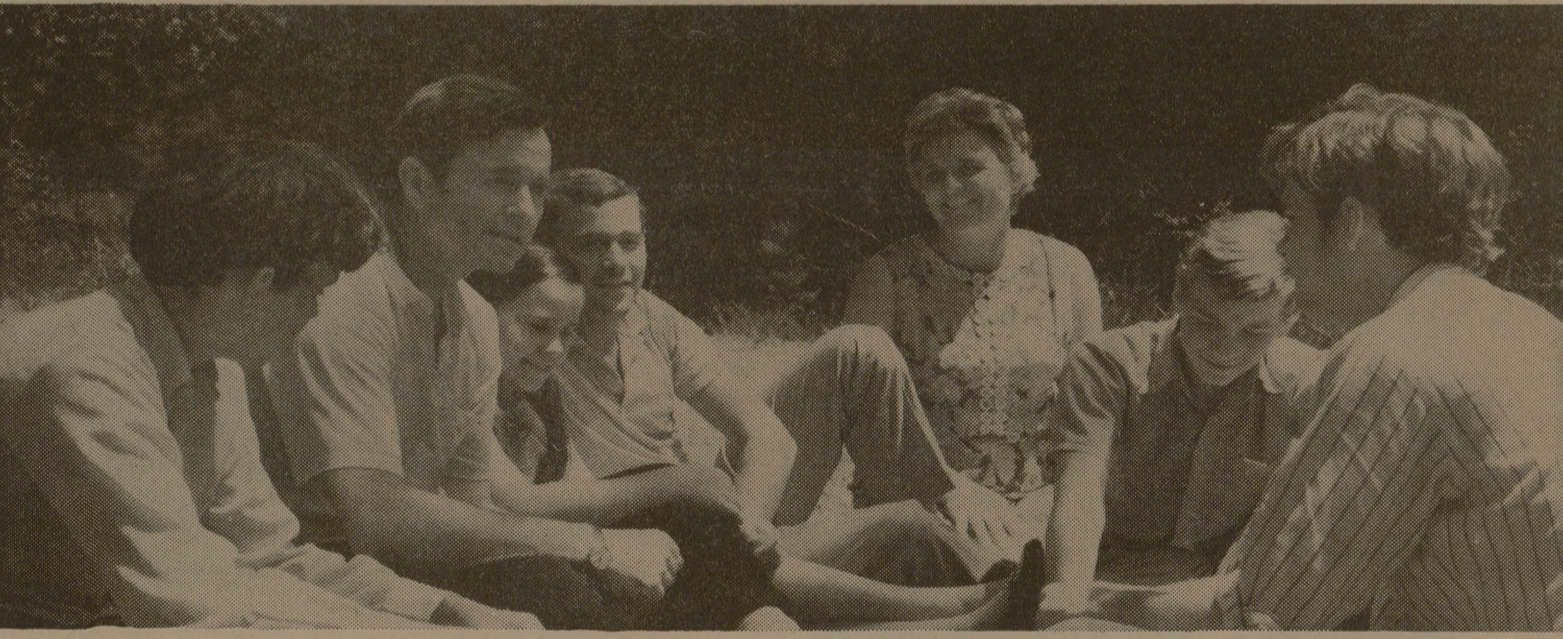
Dr. Sanders was a two sport standout. He set the SWC mark in the 440 yard dash in 1921 and captained the Aggies 1922 SWC champion track team. He was an All-Conference running back on the 1922 football squad.

He later earned a medical degree from the University of Tennessee and is nationally renowned for his work in the fields of otolaryngology, ophthalmology and allergy.

Gen. Rudder was the number one center on the Matty Bell coached teams of 1930 and '31. His greatest achievements, however, were not on the athletic field. He served with great gallantry during World War II and later served as State Land Commissioner before lifting A&M to its greatest heights as its president during the '60's.

Adamson was the swimming coach at A&M for 35 years, from 1934 to 1969. His teams won several SWC championships and five of his swimmers were All-Americans after they won NCAA championships in their events. His water polo teams compiled an unbelievable record of 95-2 and won national championships in 1939 and 1965.

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