

Gene praises Ag fans, tells about Lex's injuries

By JOHN CURYLO
Battalion Sports Editor

In Lubbock Monday, Texas Tech Coach Jim Carlen blasted Red Raider fans for booing quarterback Charles Napper in Saturday night's game with the Texas Aggies, but Coach Gene Stallings said yesterday that the same thing won't happen here.

"I think A&M's fans are good," he explained. "I always have, and I've always been complimentary to them. As far as Coach Carlen is concerned, you never know what makes somebody say something. I've always found that the

less you say, the less people have to get mad at you for. As for booing, I don't like that at all."

Quarterbacks and injuries were big topics of conversation during the weekly news conference, with Stallings reading off a long list of hurt people. The main players involved in the injury situation were Lex James, Steve Burks (sprained leg), Tommy Goodwin (broken ankle), and Ed Ebrum (sprained collarbone).

"Lex is sore and bruised all over," Stallings said. "He hurt his hip and his shoulder. I don't think he'll be able to play this weekend, but he might. He couldn't practice Monday, and he won't today (Tuesday). That's been our big quarterback problem this year: our kids haven't been practicing, because they haven't been well enough to work out."

Five stars were given out by the coaching staff, with the defense getting most of them. Homer May, who caught the touchdown pass, was the only defensive player to win one.

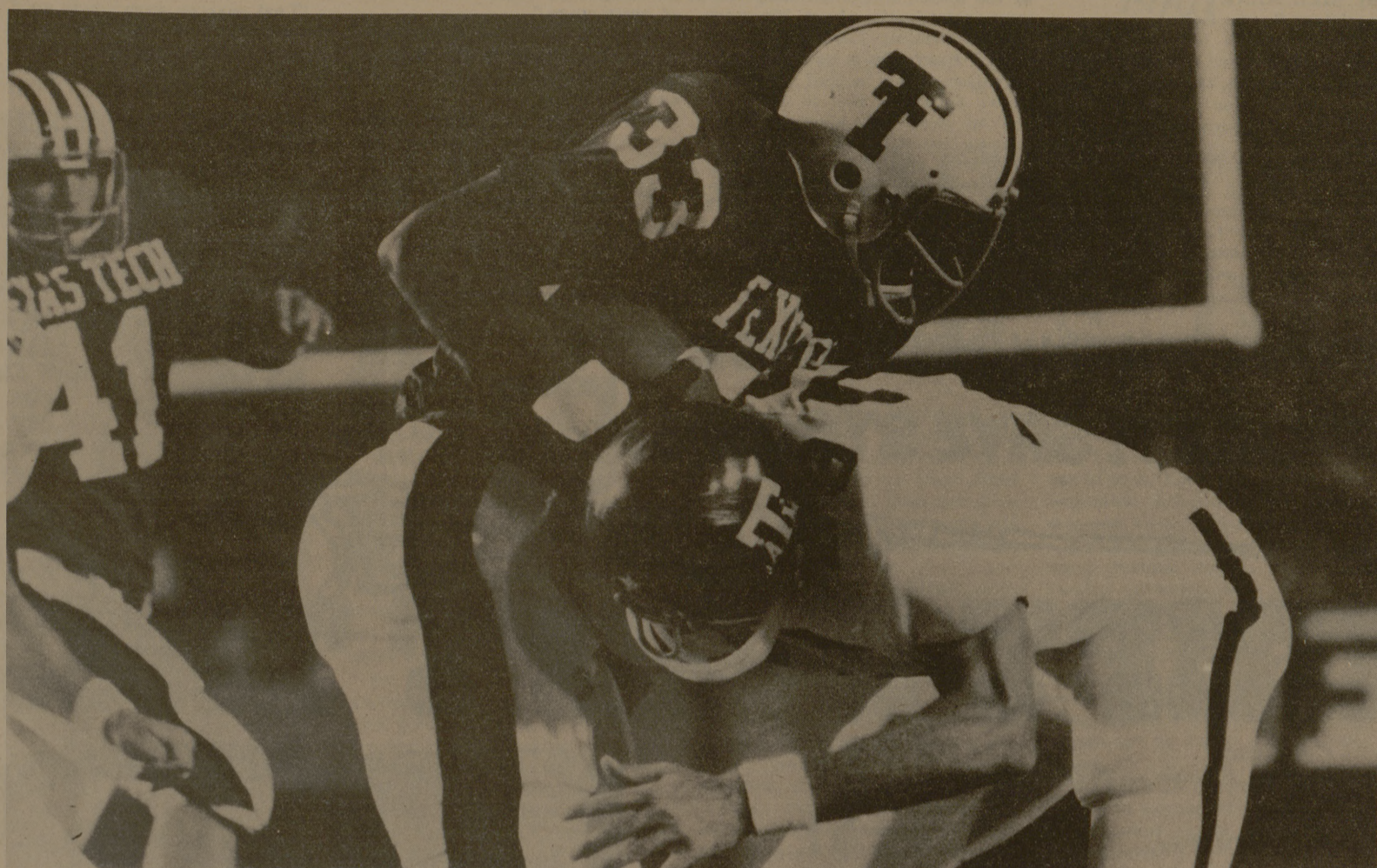
"Homer played one of the best games he's played in a long while," Stallings said. "The only exception was that he missed a tackle, and that's something he doesn't work on too much."

Other players receiving stars were Lee Hitt, who has had several good games in a row, plus another pass interception; Max Bird, for what was termed a "fine, fine game"; Boice Best, for causing two fumbles and an interception; and Grady Hoermann, who made 17 tackles. Hoermann leads the Aggie defense, having made 65 tackles in five games.

Mark Green started his first game as a tailback, and the Odesa sophomore made 21 yards in seven carries. Stallings was pleased with his performance.

"I think Mark will be a good tailback," he explained. "The position was a little foreign to him, but he's got a lot of natural running talent."

The Texas Tech game was another one of frustration, with fumbles and interceptions giving the Red Raiders all of their touchdowns.



CORNERBACK LEE HITT (29) stops Texas Tech fullback James Mosley in Saturday night's game in Lubbock. Hitt, a graduate of Fort Worth Arlington Heights, will be return-

ing to his hometown this Saturday when the Aggies take on TCU at 7:30 p. m. in Amon Carter Stadium. (Photo by Mike Rice)

Unbeaten teams lead intramurals

Intramurals are continuing this week with several teams in each sport still undefeated and on their way to league championships.

Leading their leagues in Class A football with 3-0 records are A-1 and Squadron 10. Each of the other league leaders have lost one game. In Class C football, Keathley, Puryear, McInnis and Walton are all undefeated.

In basketball, Davis-Gary, Crocker, Fowler and Utay lead Class C with 3-0 records. In Class B basketball, A-1, Squadron 2, B-1, M-1, I-2, Squadron 12, Squadron 11 and L-1 are all undefeated.

In Class A handball, E-1, A-2, Squadron 2, G-1, C-2, H-2 and Squadron 13 are undefeated. Leggett, Law and Utay are also undefeated in Class C handball.

In horseshoes action, Class B leaders are Squadron 8, Squadron 5, Squadron 9, Squadron 3, Squadron 12, K-1, Squadron 7 and White Band. Also playing horseshoes and leading their leagues are Puryear, Leggett, Crocker, Walton and Hart.

Women intramurals are in full swing as they will be until December 1. Taking wins last week in Class G basketball were Hart Hall, G-1, Ramp Ten Law and The Liberators. In Class W volleyball, a faculty league, Texas Agricultural Extension Service teams one and two and Dean-O'S Dolls took victories in last week's action.

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"I've been in a lot of football games, and I've seen a lot," Stallings said, "but I've never seen a snap from center caught by the middle guard and returned to the eight yard line."

"We just don't concentrate good," he explained. "We get deep in their territory and jump off sides. People say that's what you're supposed to coach them for, and I agree completely."

Stallings was asked if there were any changes in store for this week's game, and the answer indicated what kind of month the last four games have been for the Aggies.

"A new wrinkle for us would be to hold onto the ball," he said.

"We've got to get A down before we go to B, then we can try something else."

In the Texas Christian Horned Frogs, A&M will be facing a team that was rated about equal with the Aggies in polls taken before the season began.

"TCU doesn't have a whole lot of experience," Stallings said, "but they've got a quality quarterback. Anybody with a good quarterback has got a chance. Also, they've got great speed at split end and tailback. They've just begun to exploit the Wishbone, which they used all of Saturday. I've played against teams Jim Pittman coached before, and I know how tough they'll be."

With a 1-4 mark, the Aggies

will try to correct errors that have caused 18 turnovers. Two of these were interceptions returned for touchdowns, and one other was a fumble on the six yard line against Tech.

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