

Wigginton-led Longhorns end Aggie bowl hopes, 34-14

By JOHN CURYLO
Battalion Sports Editor

Little Donnie Wigginton gave an excellent demonstration on how to run the Wishbone, and in doing so last Thursday he destroyed Liberty Bowl dreams for the Texas Aggies.

Texas won 34-14 to win the

Southwest Conference championship for a record fourth straight time. They will face Penn State in the Cotton Bowl New Year's Day.

The Longhorns finished the year 8-2, with a 6-1 slate for conference play. A&M ends up in fourth place with a 4-3 league record.

They were 5-6 for the year after losing five in a row.

Wigginton's individual statistics were not impressive — he gained 11 yards in 10 carries and completed four of 10 passes for 54 yards—but his perfectly timed pitches on sweeps are what the wishbone offense was designed for.

Tailback Mark Green was the leading rusher in the game with 104 yards in 25 tries. Doug Neill ran 12 times for 67 yards. Aggie quarterback Joe Mac King hit on nine of 19 aeriels for 123 yards and one touchdown. His big targets were Robert Murski, who caught three for 39 yards, and Joey Herr, who got 32 yards on a pair of receptions.

For Texas, Jim Bertelson carried the ball 21 times for 79 yards, Don Burrisk ran nine times for 77 yards and Dan Steakley got the call three times for 66 yards. He led Longhorn receivers with two catches for 27 yards.

A&M looked like the Aggies of the Cincinnati and Texas Tech days, playing with effort but making errors which led to enemy touchdowns. Three interceptions and two lost fumbles got them in trouble, and a statistical advantage and the usual hard-hitting defense couldn't make up for it.

On the third play from scrimmage, Burrisk fumbled and Grady Hoermann recovered. The Aggies made two first downs, but were forced to punt. When Texas punted it back five plays later, Hugh McElroy fumbled the fair catch, and Jeff Zapalac feel on it at the A&M 22.

On a fourth and goal two minutes later, Bertelson went over left guard for the score. Steve Valek's conversion made it 7-0 with 5:29 left in the first quarter.

The Aggies bounced back, moving to Texas' 36, where Roberto Payan's attempt at a 52 yard field goal was just short.

In the second quarter, the

Longhorns drove 44 yards in 10 plays and one personal foul penalty. Wigginton circled left end for a yard to get into the end zone. Valek's point after made the score 14-0 with 6:54 showing in the half.

After the kickoff, King launched a pass for Neill, but it bounced off the fullback and into the hands of Alan Lowry, who returned it 15 yards to the A&M 12. Dennis Ladd dove off left guard for one yard and the touchdown with 3:22 to go in the half. Valek made it 21-0.

A&M's offense couldn't get enough for a first down, and Robertson's punt gave the Horns the ball at midfield. Texas moved to the four after Burrisk danced 33 yards. He got two more and Bertelson added one. Burrisk tried left tackle, but the Aggie defensive line couldn't be penetrated, so Wigginton went to the right corner for his fourteenth touchdown of the season, tying Steve Worster's school record. Valek's kick made it 28-0 with 27 seconds remaining.

After an exchange of punts at the start of the second half, A&M had the ball at the Texas 45. King handed off to Green, who faked a reverse to Herr. Green rolled to the right and spotted Homer May downfield. Lowry got between the tight end and the dying duck, and Texas was set to strike again.

Wigginton ran out of the pocket for 10, Steakley dashed for 44 and Burrisk got 14 to move the Longhorns to within 12 yards of another touchdown. Bertelson capped the 77 yard drive by going eight yards. Valek's try for

a fifth conversion was wide, and Texas was out in front 34-0 midway in the third period.

After a Lowry punt, King led his troops 72 yards in 12 plays to put the Aggies on the board. He hit Herr for 15 and ran for nine. Two plays later, Green got 12 and then eight to move the Aggies to the Texas 24. Five plays and nine yards later, King hit Billy Joe Polasek at the goal line. The senior wingback was interfered with, but he still caught the bomb in a crowd for the score. Pat McDermott added one more to make it 34-7 with a single second left in the third stanza.

The defense forced Lowry to punt to the Aggie 40, but A&M drew 15 for clipping on the first play from scrimmage. Not to be denied, Green ran for six before King hit Murski for 16. Green's run for four more preceded two incomplete passes. Neill went from the Texas 48 to the 34 on a draw, then repeated the play for five more. King hit Herr for 17, and Neill went off left end for 10 important strides to the two yard line. Green climaxed the drive with a run off left end with 10:27 left. McDermott was good on the conversion to put it at 34-14.

A&M got into Texas territory once more, but a pass for either Robertson or Herr was picked off by Tommy Woodard to end Aggie hopes.

The Cadet defense had another busy day. Press box statisticians created Boice Best with 16 tackles, Hoermann with 15, David Hoot with 13, Brad Dusek with 12, Mike Lord with 11, Van Odom with 10 and Lee Hitt with nine.

A&M	Statistics	Texas			
17	First downs	16			
203	Yards rushing	263			
123	Yards passing	54			
9-20-3	Passes	4-11-0			
326	Total offense	317			
6-30.3	Punts, average	8-35.3			
16	Return yardage	24			
2 of 3	Fumbles lost	1 of 2			
5 for 48	Penalties	2 for 10			
Score by Quarters					
A&M	0	0	7	7	14
Texas	7	21	6	0	34
Attendance: 52,090					

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Varsity defeats Fish roundballers as Ags prepare for season opener

Texas Aggie basketball was shown to the public last night during an open house at G. Rollie White Coliseum, featuring a scrimmage between the varsity

and freshman teams. As expected, the varsity won, 92-70, but an exciting attack and a fine Fish squad were additional treats for the crowd.

Wayne Howard led the varsity with 28 points, Mario Brown had 21, Jeff Overhouse made 10 and Bob Gobin scored nine.

For the Fish, Isdell Birnbaum scored 16 points, followed by Dale Donaldson with 15 and Cedric Joseph and Mike Floyd with 13 each.

Coach Shelby Metcalf played every varsity player in each half, regarding the experience and playing time over momentum and the point margin.

The Aggies open the season Thursday night, hosting Texas Wesleyan, North Western Louisiana State visits College Station Saturday, with Tulsa playing here Monday night. All games begin at 8 p.m.

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To be eligible to purchase the Texas A&M University ring, an undergraduate student must have at least one academic year in residence and credit for ninety-five (95) semester hours. The hours passed at the preliminary grade report period on October 18, 1971 may be used in satisfying this ninety-five hour requirement. Students qualifying under this regulation may now leave their names with the Ring Clerk, Room Seven, Richard Coke Building. She, in turn, will check all records to determine ring eligibility.

Orders for these rings will be taken by the Ring Clerk starting November 1, 1971 and continuing through December 14, 1971. The rings will be returned to the Registrar's Office to be delivered on or about January 21, 1972. The Ring Clerk is on duty from 8:00 a. m. to 12:00 noon, Monday through Friday, of each week.

H. L. Heaton, Dean Admissions and Records
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