

# Nebraska Smothers Aggies In Red Sea

by BILL HENRY  
Battalion Sports Editor

Like the Phoenicians, the Texas Aggies had a terrible disaster caused by a Red Sea. For A&M, it was a sea of red-jerseyed Nebraska football players and 76,042 red-clad Cornhusker fans.

The Big Red wall fell on the hapless Aggie defense for 37 points from a total offense of 468 yards split evenly between rushing and passing.

The "James Gang" collected 239 yards, mostly through passing yardage granted by Nebraska's secondary through short, side-line passes.

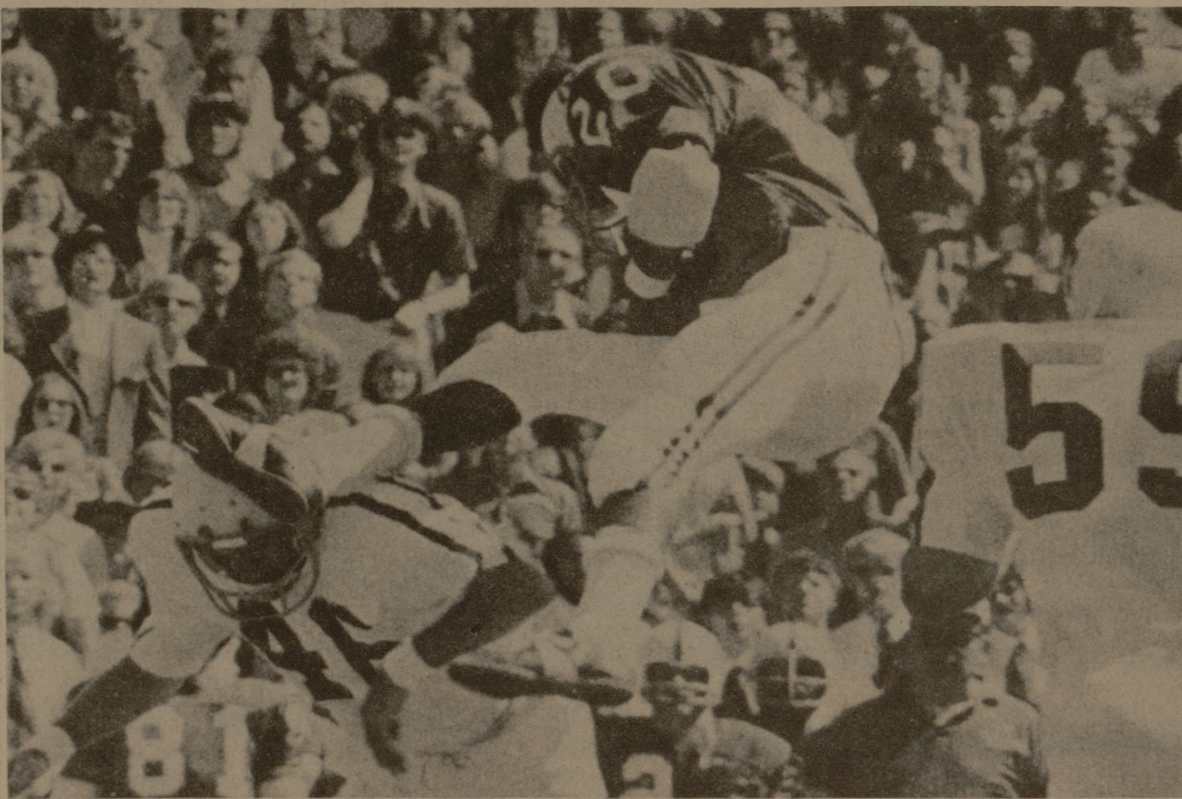
The lone Aggie touchdown was scored late in the fourth quarter against Husker reserves with a pass from sophomore quarterback Don Dean to tight end Homer May from 29 yards out.

It could have been much, much different but the Aggies just couldn't get untracked when it counted. There were rays of hope but just rays as time after time the Aggies blew plays at unopportune times. There was no continuity, there was no pizzazz and there certainly was no fire.

This is not to say the Aggies did not want to win.

"The players really wanted to win the football game," coach Emory Bellard said following the game. "We had chances early but couldn't get across. In the second half, we couldn't do anything; they just flat whipped us."

There is really no sense in giving a blow by blow description of the game. Nebraska scored at will and played near perfect football throughout the entire ball



NEBRASKA'S JOHNNY ROGERS finds the Texas defense quite un hospitable after making a tremendous catch during the first quarter of Saturday's game. Making the tackle is left defensive safety Larry Ellis (46) while linebacker Dennis Carruth comes in for moral support. The Aggies were defeated by the defending national champions, 37-7.

game while the Aggies had a bad day. Some of the observations spoken by the A&M team are of merit however.

"They had a lot of exceptional, experienced, proven football players," Bellard said. "Johnny Rodgers makes an exceptional play every time he touches the football. They played great defense and had great pursuit."

Rodgers, who missed some practice during the week due to a bleeding ulcer and another automobile accident, played sparingly but enough to pick up 35 yards on six carries, caught two passes for 56 yards and ran back four punts for 94 yards.

David Humm, sophomore quarterback from Las Vegas, Nev., looked like Moses in leading the Big Red attack to the promised land. He hit on 10 of 17 passes for 181 yards. He also scored two Husker touchdowns carrying the ball.

"Humm is going to be a great quarterback," senior linebacker Grady Hoermann said. "He had a lot of poise back there but he also had a lot of time to throw the football. We didn't rush him well."

"We overpursued," defensive tackle Boice Best said. "We let them overpower us by standing back and waiting to see what they were going to do with the football. We really let down. None of us played as well as we could and should have. It will take a lot of work but we'll be back up there, we still have a lot to learn."

Not only did A&M lose the battle but they may have lost the war due to an injury to full-back Brad Dusek. Dusek suffered a sprained knee after running for a 16 yard gain following a screen pass from James in the second

period. His status at the present time is doubtful for the LSU game.

Bubba Bean, who did not play against Nebraska Saturday, due to a sprained ankle, will return to his starting right halfback position for LSU.

Replacing Dusek is sophomore David Standish, who took over at the game, and freshman Alvin Bowers.

During the first half, A&M saw two scoring opportunities literally knocked away by the Nebraska secondary and instead of the score being tied 14-14, it was 21-0. This seemed to have a lot to do with the lackluster performance shown the second half.

The back breaker in the first half came when the Aggies drove down to the Nebraska five-yard line only to have a pass from

James to Osborne knocked down by 6-7, 248 John Dutton on a fourth and goal play. The following play had Nebraska off-sides which put the ball on the 2 1/2-yard line from where the Big Red drove 97 1/2 yards to score the third time.

In the second half, the Aggies did not get a first down until 7:16 left in the game. Dean had taken over for James and the score stood 37-0. With 4:57 left, Dean hit May for the score.

"We'll be back in there Saturday night against LSU," Bellard said. "I have faith in the players' ability and I am confident that we will have a good football team this year. We have got to work on the things we do and get better but we won't change our type of attack. We'll go with what we have."

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