

Losing A Tradition Also?

Cadets Outfight Aggies For Upset Win

BILL HENRY
The Aggie Sports Editor played a big part Saturday night's performance against the West Point Cadet football team.

There was the tradition of Town Square, Midnight Yell Practice, the March-In and of course the tradition of the Texas Aggie football team losing to a team that shouldn't have.

It was the largest crowd ever to see a non-conference football game. Kyle Field, 46,680, watched the Aggies hold so dear the tradition losing, 24-14.

"We played a non-aggressive, non-enthusiastic football game," said coach Emory Bellard said. "I might add that it looked as if we were poorly coached."

A&M may have been poorly coached, but this problem must be started way before either the Stallings or Bellard took over. This year's seniors won the routing battle for A&M four years ago and so far their protection for the Aggie varsity has been far less than successful.

In 1970, the Aggies stood 1-9. In 1971, the team stood 5-6 by virtue of winning four of its last six games, and this year, the Aggie varsity stands in at 1-1.

The football game had two excuses, or reasons, for its outcome. Injuries to Brad Dusek, Mark Jensen, Boice Best and Homerly made the task more difficult, but did five turnovers, but the reason the Aggies lost is that they wanted to win far less

than did Army—far less. Army drove for the first score with a 75-yard drive using 13 plays and consuming 5:07 minutes on the clock. Kingsley Fink, who was made an honorary citizen of Fink, Tex., in pregame ceremonies, hit on three of three passes for 37 yards to aid in the Cadets' scoring drive.

A&M came back late in the first period and began to move the ball down the Army defense's throat. The Aggies tied it up driving 55 yards in eight plays, two of which were passes from quarterback Lex James to split end Richard Osborne for 34 yards. The scoring play came when James made a perfect pitch to halfback Bubba Bean who carried it the final 12 yards.

It looked at that time like the Aggies were to storm back and take the game under control and live up to their 14-point pregame favorite role.

Robert Murski scooped up a Bruce Simpson fumble at the Army 39. The fumble was made at the 20-yard line but was batted back up field. A&M still had the ball and in good field position.

Freshman fullback Alvin Bowers carried it for 17 yards, Bean carried for five and Skip Walker carried for nine. James then carried for nine and Bean got the honors again as he scored from the four. Pat McDermott kicked the extra point and the Aggies led 14-7. This lead was to be short-lived as Army began another drive.

The Black Knights took the ball

73 yards in nine plays to tie it. The crucial play was a 33-yard penalty charged to the Aggies for holding downfield. On that play, Max Bird had stopped quarterback Fink for a seven-yard loss. So, instead of it being third and 17 from the 21, it was first and 10 from the A&M 48.

Early in the third quarter, mistakes began to take their toll on the Aggies. With only eight minutes gone in that stanza, James was hit while trying to pitch at his own 17-yard line and the ball was recovered by Army at the Aggie 19.

It took but three plays before the Cadets took it in for what turned out to be the winning score with 3:56 left to play in that period.

A&M began to move again. The drive started at the 28-yard line of A&M and went all the way to the Army 35 before that incurable disease, fumbleitis, hit again.

Army drove from its own 34 to the A&M 35 before the drive fizzled. James Barclay proceeded to put icing on the cake for the Black Knights with a career best on a 44-yard field goal which put the score at 24-14 with 8:03 remaining in the contest.

The Aggies tried to mount three more drives but failed at each and the score stood 24-14.

After the game, a tearful group of Aggies went into the dressing room for a little chat with coach Bellard, but soon afterwards Bellard and the other coaches were asked to leave while the team had a little meeting.

There is no speculation as to what went on in that room. If anything concrete was done, it

won't be seen until Texas Tech journeys here to take on the Aggies Oct. 14.

Coach Bellard made no excuses for his team's play after the game. He was obviously distraught but refused to crack under the barrage of questions coming from sports writers at a near-midnight press conference at the Ramada Inn.

"We gave up the ball at crucial times," he said. "We broke down both offensively and defensively in every phase of the game."

"Army played hard and had a

lot of character. They certainly weren't as talented as we are and aren't as talented as teams we've played. They also aren't as talented as teams we have left on our schedule."

The Aggies will play teams with more talent but none with more heart or character. Army will play only one more team which could have more talent than the Aggies, Penn State, but probably won't play another team with less heart or character than the Aggies showed here last Saturday night.

Royal Praises Longhorns After First Conference Win

AUSTIN (AP)—A stubborn goal line defense that forced Texas Tech to "go for threes instead of sevens" was a major factor in Texas' victory over Texas Tech Saturday night, Longhorn Coach Darrell Royal said Monday.

Excluding four field goals by Tech's Don Grimes, Tech ran 13 plays inside Texas' 20-yard line and gained only 25 yards.

Also important in Texas' 25-20 triumph, Royal said, was the ability of the Longhorn defense to slow down Tech's rushing attack to an average of about 3.5 yards a carry "when they had been averaging big figures."

And for the second straight game, Royal added, the Texas offense did not turn the ball over inside its own 50. "Texas Tech is about like we are. It was a tossup affair, about equal ability. The biggest difference in the ball game was that we got the ball in close a couple of times and they had a long way to go."

But eventually, Royal told his weekly news conference, it was Texas' rushing defense and "our stiffening inside our 20 that won it for us."

Asked if he was impressed with Texas' offensive line as Tech Coach Jim Carlen, who called it "the best one I've ever seen," Royal replied, "No."

Ag Golfers Beat Knights

Texas A&M's golf team defeated Army here Saturday afternoon, 6½-½, in 18-hole match play.

Each team had five players with all five Aggie golfers beating their Army counterparts in the match play portion of the round.

Tommy Johnson won medal honors with a one-under-par 71. Steve Veriato was second with a 73, Charlie White and Randy Tickner followed with 74's and Clay Dozier rounded out the Aggie squad with a 75.

Army's top golfers were Andy Andrews and Gordon Jaehne with 77's followed by David Rodarte with a 79, Jeff Ford at 78 and Don Dubia with 84.

A&M also won team competition with a four-score aggregate total of 292 compared to a 311 posted by Army.

Gadd Outpaces Ferguson In SWC

DALLAS (AP)—Bruce Gadd of Rice is outgunning the more heralded Joe Ferguson of Arkansas in the passing department of the Southwest Conference football statistics.

Gadd, a senior from Richardson, has averaged 17.3 completions per game to 14.3 completions for Ferguson.

Gary Butler and Edwin Collins of Rice are tied with Arkansas' Jim Hodge in receptions with five catches per contest.

Southern Methodist's Alvin Maxson has regained the rushing lead, averaging 127.3 yards per contest. Texas Tech's George Smith, who held the lead last week, dropped to 118.3 yards per game.

Smith still has the lead in tandem offense—yards gained rushing and receiving—144.3 yards to 127.7 over Maxson.

Tech held onto its total offense at 504.3 yards per game and rushing offense with 324.3. Rice retained its passing offense lead at 212.0 yards per game.

Rice retained its passing offense lead at 212 yards per game. Baylor became the conference's No. 1 defensive unit during its off week. The Bears are yielding 256 yards per game to SMU's 264 steps.

Baylor lead the league in pass defense, yielding 123 yards per game. SMU is the best against the rush—58.7 yards per contest.

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