

Ferguson Intercepted Six Times By Secondary

Aggies Drop Arkansas For SWC Win

(Continued from page 1)
tables were turned on Arkansas' Frank Broyles who won his first SWC game here 15 years ago, coming with an 0-6 record.

Needless to say, it was not an offensive extravaganza. It was especially frustrating for Arkansas which had been averaging almost 200 yards a game on the arm of Ferguson and tailback Dickey Morton who had averaged 112 yards a game rushing. Ferguson hit but nine of 26 passes for 115 yards and Morton ran 19 times for 88 yards.

The Razorbacks never went beyond the A&M 27-yard line until 13:30 left in the fourth quarter when fullback Marsh White hopped over from the two-yard line for the Razorbacks lone score.

For A&M, the defense won the game giving the offense great field position on the intercepted passes. A&M's lone touchdown drive was only 26 yards after one of Ellis' interceptions.

The field goal was set up on a good drive by the Aggie offense. The drive began at the Razorback's 20-yard line and in ten plays, A&M's drive stalled at the nine where McDermott did his thing with what turned out

to be the margin of victory. The Aggies had numerous chances to make the game a runaway, but the offense never really got untracked. But, as usual, the Aggie defense did a superb job keeping the opposition away from its goal.

The game began with Dean throwing an interception from the Aggie 32-yard line after one first down.

Arkansas took over at A&M's 41-yard line. Three plays later, Murski intercepted for A&M at the 35.

With 6:17, Ferguson completed his first pass of the afternoon, but the defense stiffened at its own 27-yard line and Mike Kirkland missed a field goal attempt from that point. That was the closest Arkansas got to the Aggie goal.

An interesting fact in Saturday's contest was that even though the offense had trouble moving the football, it controlled the pigskin for over 35 minutes while Arkansas had it for only 25.

The Aggies return to action this Saturday for a game against another offensive giant, SMU, in Dallas for a 2 p.m. contest in the Cotton Bowl. Next home tilt will

be against Rice Nov. 18 beginning at 1:30 p.m.

FINAL STATS

A&M	ARK
12	16
First Downs	16

57-140	Rushes-Net Yards	44-161	6-30	Penalties	4-44
77	Net Yards Passing	115	9-40.7	Punts	3-37.3
5-11-2	Passes	9-26-6	Score by Quarters:		
68-217	Total Offense	70-276	Ark	0	0
0-0	Fumbles	3-1	A&M	0	3
				7	0
				7	-7



DEFENSIVE END MAX BIRD (87) PAID A DEAR PRICE in the Aggie win over Arkansas with a sprained knee but it all seemed worth it when the final gun sounded. The Aggies put a halt to the six-game losing streak with the first SWC win for both the Aggies and Emory Bellard (at right). Assisting Max off the field is student trainer Jim Kotch (left). It is not known as to how long Bird will be out of the lineup. (Photo by Gary Baldasari)

Ag Dressing Room Happy, But War Hymn Bit Shaky

By BILL HENRY
Battalion Sports Editor

In the dressing room of the Texas Aggies Saturday afternoon, it wasn't the Texas Boy's Choir, but the sound of the Aggie War Hymn sounded great just the same.

It was a long time coming for the Aggies. Six games in fact. Six games of sad tears, quietness and broken dreams quickly melted into a sight of happy tears, back-slapping and sliding around in the showers.

"I'm a happy son-of-a-gun," coach Emory Bellard said after he and his Aggies won their first Southwest Conference game together.

"I'm proud for all the people connected with Texas A&M. I am proud for our coaching staff that stayed in there and worked hard every week, but most of all, I'm proud for the players because they never quit and kept coming back week after week."

It was a time of everyone congratulating everyone else on the team for heroics performed.

"The defensive line rushed like gangbusters," cornerback Robert Murski (who intercepted two passes) said. "Everyone was just great."

"Our line blocked well, but it was our defense that won the football game for us," fullback Brad Dusek said.

"The whole defense did a great job," middle linebacker Kenny Stratton (who replaced injured Grady Hoermann throughout most of the game) said.

"Ferguson is a great quarterback, but our defense is well drilled during the week. Coach Robertson (defensive coordinator) and Coach Young (linebackers) do a great job."

"It was a great win, I'll tell ya," tight end Homer May said. "Defense played a great game. Arkansas' defense was real tough. We could move the football on offense, but we couldn't score."

For some other players, it was a beginning of a new career. It was the first varsity action for freshman Dennis Smelser and runningback Ronnie Hubby.

"I'll always remember my first start on the varsity," Smelser said. "I've never been so nervous before a football game in my life as I was for this one. Arkansas' defense was a lot quicker than the freshman teams we've played but they didn't hit any harder."

"Arkansas' defense had more pursuit and had harder initial blows than the freshmen we've played," Hubby said. Hubby took over for the injured Bubba Bean late in the second quarter.

There was also talk of opponents and of themselves.

"Dickey Morton is a lot faster than I thought he was," cornerback Corky Sheffied said. "The secondary was playing back because of the pass threat and Morton got to the corner faster than we could come up on him."

"We simplified our attack, or the plays we used, and I think we blocked better than we have been."

"Our front four rushed for 2 or 3 steps and looked for the draw or handoff and then went in hard for Ferguson," defensive tackle Boice Best said. "We were raising our arms hoping to block off his view some and also to perhaps tip a few of his passes."

Another chapter is written for the Texas Aggies but it seems hard to let this one go as it has been so long in coming. The confidence gained in beating a team like Arkansas may let the Aggies get to be a little better singers in the dressing room.

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