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"THE MACK"

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Michael J. Pollard In
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At 9:50 p. m.
"FAT CITY" (R)

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"POSEIDON ADVENTURE"

At 10:00 p. m.
"WHEN LEGENDS DIE"

Gridders to Test LSU Defense

Jay, Simonini to Lead Aggie Offense, Defense

By TED BORISKIE
Ass't Sports Editor
The young A&M football squad gets its first real test of the season Saturday when it travels to Baton Rouge, La. to play nationally ranked Louisiana State University.
Rated as the No. 11 team in

the nation by the Associated Press, LSU features an outstanding defense which has become almost tradition at Tiger Stadium. Throw against the Tiger defense, A&M has a fleet set of backs and receivers and a talented but largely untested offensive line.

One receiver that will be very much on the minds of the Bengals is Carl Roaches, who ran a kickoff back for 97 yards and a touchdown in last year's 42-17 loss. Roaches ranks as the fastest receiver in the SWC.

Richard Osborne will be playing tight end against the Tigers this year, a switch from last season when he alternated with Roaches as wide receiver.

At quarterback, Mike Jay should be recovered enough from his foot sprain so that it won't give him any problems. Jay injured the foot in the first quarter of Saturday's 48-0 victory over Wichita State. He completed the game without problems from the injury but it caused some concern at the first of the week.

Backing Jay will be freshman David Walker whose first college action Saturday was a bit discouraging with three interceptions and a 21-yard touchdown run called back on a penalty.

The Aggies feature a five-man "starting" running back corps consisting of Ronnie Hubby, Bubba Bean and Skip Walker at halfbacks and Bucky Sams and Alvin Bowers at fullback. Walker will also be remembered at LSU as he scored the other Aggie TD in last year's game. Bean and Bowers played against the Tigers last

year while Hubby and Sams were on the freshman team.

Bowers is presently the 17th top rusher in the nation with a 126-yard performance against Wichita State. Walker is tied for second in the nation in scoring with 18 points from his three-touchdown night against the Shockers.

The line is led by junior center Ricky Seeker. Seeker played against the Tigers as a tackle last year. Sophomore tackles Glen Bujnoch and Dennis Smelser and guards Bud Trammell and Bruce Welch will all be new faces at Tiger Stadium. Freshman guard Billy Lemons should also see action Saturday.

The defense is the pride of the Football squad at A&M just as it is at LSU. Led by all-star linebacker Ed Simonini, the defense kept Wichita State from mounting even a serious threat in last weekend's shutout. "When you shutout a foe," said Simonini, "that's the ultimate for the defensive unit."

Joining Simonini as the other starting outside linebacker will be sophomore Garth Ten Napel with junior Kenny Stratton filling up the middle. Top reserves that should see some action are 6-2, 245-pound John McCrumby and speedster Lester Hayes. Last year's state 4A 220-yard dash champ, Hayes thrilled the crowd last weekend with his flashing speed into Wichita State's backfield.

It was nothing new for the Shockers to find an Aggie rushing into their backfield, however, as several members of A&M's front four spent quite a bit of

the night there. "Our defensive line played an outstanding game," said head coach Emory Bellard, "especially in being able to control the line of scrimmage."

Junior Don Long is on one end while Paul Hulin and Blake Schwarz hold down the other. Juniors Ted Lamp and Warren Trahan are the tackles. Two freshmen which will probably see plenty of play are tackle Jimmy Dean and end Tank Marshall.

Sophomore tackle Kent Krueger will make his first appearance against LSU but the Tiger fans will recognize his name. His brothers, Charlie and Rolf, have both played against LSU as Aggie all-Americans, Charlie in '56 and Rolf in '67 and '68.

To defend against LSU's accurate passing duo of Mike Miley and Billy Broussard, who went 9 for 12 against Colorado last weekend, A&M has the most experienced player on the squad, two-year letterman safety Larry Ellis. With him in the defensive backfield are transfers Tim Gray at cornerback and James Daniels at safety who will be making their first appearance in Tiger Stadium as Aggies. Filling in at the other cornerback spot is sophomore Pat Thomas, who ran back a 51-yard interception for a touchdown against Wichita State and presently leads the conference in interception return yardage.

Kicking for A&M will be Randy Haddox, who was impressive making long field goal attempts in practice this week. Handling the punting is sophomore Mark Stanley, who is the leading punter in the SWC and is 11th in the nation with a 43.2 average.

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Texas Opens Against Miami To Highlight SWC Weekend

The Texas Longhorns, who have only lost seven of 80 previous openers, take dead aim on the national title and a sixth consecutive Southwest Conference football championship tonight against the Miami Hurricane in the Orange Bowl.

The Longhorns are solid 16-point favorites over Miami, which lost to Texas last year in Memorial Stadium.

Texas Coach Darrell Royal has won 87 SWC games and needs nine more wins to surpass Jess Neeley as the coach with the most overall victories at a conference school. In 27 years at Rice, Neeley's teams won 144 games. In 16 years at Texas, Royal's teams have won 136.

Marty Alkins, only a sophomore, will start at quarterback in the awesome Longhorn Wishbone-T attack. Texas' offense last year consisted mainly of handing the ball off to thunder-running Roosevelt Leaks, a junior who is in top form this season.

In another game tonight, the University of Houston, which begins SWC play for keeps in 1976, hosts tough South Carolina. The Gamecocks blasted Georgia Tech last week.

Texas Tech and Arkansas parade before the regional television cameras Saturday. The Red Raiders host New Mexico and Arkansas entertains strong Oklahoma State in Little Rock.

The Red Raiders, generally picked to finish second to Texas in the SWC title chase this year, survived a scare from surprising-tough Utah last week. Tech is

a 10-point choice over New Mexico.

Arkansas did itself proud in a losing cause last week, falling 17-0 to No. 1 ranked Southern California, which had been a four-touchdown pick. The Razorbacks will have to pick up their offense to handle Oklahoma State, a five-point selection.

Girl's Softball Visits Lamar For Tourney

Softball is the name of the game for the women traveling to Beaumont for the Lamar University tournament.

The girls will be competing against five other teams in round-robin competition. Friday A&M will meet Lamar at 4 p. m. and Texas Women's University at 7 p. m.

Starting in this year's opener will be Robin Oakley, pitcher; Arlene Averill, catcher; Terri Sandvik, 1st base; Liz Blackwood 2nd base; Sarah Savage, 3rd base; Connie Karcher, short stop; Lorita Fickey, left field; Debbie Berrier, center field; and Debrah Brown, right field; with Belinda Gaines working as manager.

The girls have played in summer softball leagues and are ready to challenge the other teams. Sponsored by the Women's Sports Association, these women are engaged in Southwest Conference play throughout the fall.

In two other day games, shell-shocked Baylor is at Pittsburgh while Southern Methodist takes to the far West to play Oregon State.

Baylor is bruised and battered after a 42-14 slaughter by Oklahoma. Pitt played Georgia to a 7-7 tie. The Bears have lost center Cary Dorman and linebacker Don Bockhorn for this one and the Panthers are 41-2 point picks.

Pitt Coach Johnny Majors says of Baylor: "The Baylor coaching staff did a fine job last year. I'm sure they didn't play near their capabilities against Oklahoma."

SMU and Oregon State meet for the first time. Oregon State lost 18-9 to rugged Auburn last week while the Mustangs romped to a 49-7 victory over weak Santa Clara. SMU is a 6 1-2 point pick over Oregon State.

Texas Christian is a 19-point favorite over Texas-Arlington in the Horned Frog opener Saturday night at Amon Carter Stadium. Coach Billy Tohill of TCU will be making a comeback from a near-fatal automobile accident this spring.

Rice is such a heavy favorite over Montana in Houston Saturday night that the oddsmakers have taken the game off the boards.

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PEANUTS
By Charles M. Schulz
9-21