

On the sideline

Vocal Aggie bench shines for television camera

By PAUL McGRATH
Staff Sports Writer

There was a lot of action in last Saturday's game and not all of it was on the field.

In the midst of television cables and cameras, parabolic microphones and yellow-jacketed ABC men, Texas A&M's Aggie bench tried to maintain the resemblance of a sideline despite urges to turn and peer into the camera.

Before game time the usual stuff

occurred, with David Walker tossing passes to loosen up. ABC meanwhile gave their player introductions of the Aggie defense so John McCrumbley could broadcast his TV smile.

After the coin toss, the Aggies settled to their respective places to watch the offense and the cameramen go to work. The expressions of the players were tense and deter-

mined as they shouted encouragement without deleting many of the expletives. Commercials slowed the flow of the game but didn't slow the trainers and the managers any. They continued to jaunt onto the field and shuffle between players on the sideline, carrying their towels and water bottles.

After several punt exchanges, the offense prepares to go the attack

once more. Spray adhesive is applied to their hands and in a way symbolizing the sticky situation. The Ags begin to march down the field against the Tech defense and "Train" McCrumbley expresses his approval by waving his engineer's hat. Glen Bujnoch comes to the bench with a foot injury and is immediately tended to by several trainers. Randy Haddox warms up his kicking leg in preparation for a possible field goal attempt. A fourth down decision is made when Walker confers with coach Emory Bellard. The offense is successful

and goes on to score. When Skip Walker punched over the final strip the Aggie bench erupts in a tumult of noise and handslapping. The trainers give a "whoohoo" and raise the zig 'em sign. Bellard gives a satisfied, knowledgeable look as if he knew it would happen all along.

The Ags run up two more scores and completely throttle the usually potent attack of the Red Raiders. A&M seems calm, confident and assured now, quite a contrast to the

opening moments. An even larger contrast is the spirit in the Tech lines. Competing for space with their band and cowbell, the Tech players stand limply with their hands on their hips and their heads bowed. By the third quarter, the Red Raider bench appears more interested in sipping cokes than in the game. The Aggie confidence grows and the coaches shout instructions and encouragement to keep up the pace to prevent them from becoming overly sure. "One more touch," say some of the players "and it will be all over." The defensive players discuss plays and gesture to positions with their hands between squirts of water. The offense scores again and A&M has literally shut the door on the Red Raiders. The game begins to drag and the final gun becomes monotonous for the game is

already decided. Still, the Aggie bench is enthused. Bujnoch struggles to get a glimpse of the outcome while sitting prone on a bench with his hurt foot. Tech finally scores but that fact does nothing to aid the cause or dampen the Aggies' spirits. The "Hawks" clamp their hands for their success in handling Tech's touted receiver Lawrence Williams. The ABC men continue to garble on head sets in their TV codes.

To make the last quarter more exciting, ABC brings Miss World Runner-up Kim Tomes and she starts to get more coverage than Williams did all day. The crack of the gun terminates the game for Tech, A&M and ABC. All that remains is to carry Bellard off the field, which they do to the delight of the television audience.

Batt sports

A&M-BU, full house predicted

(AP) — Baylor athletic department officials predicted Monday that all remaining tickets for the Texas A&M-Baylor Southwest Conference football game Oct. 26 will likely be sold by Wednesday.

There will be 4,000 reserved north end zone tickets available next Monday.

Baylor is idle this week after upsetting Arkansas 21-17 Saturday.

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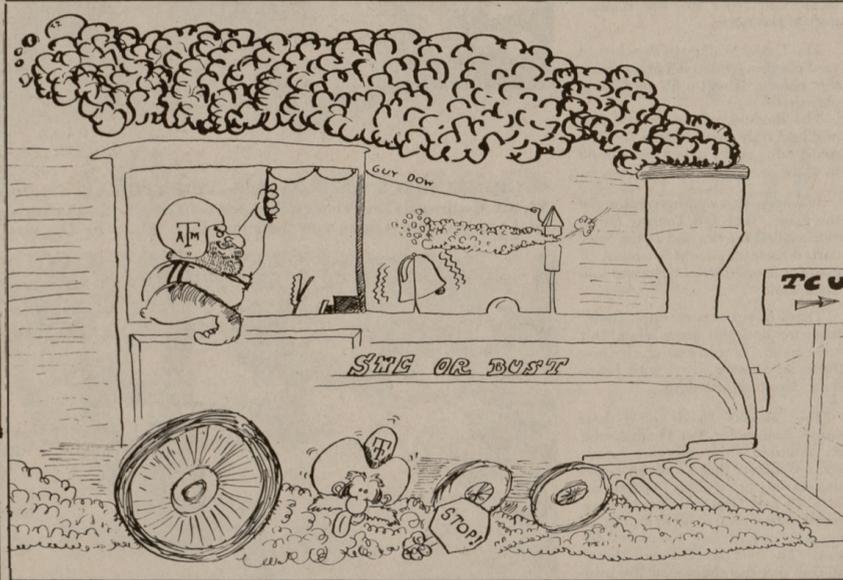
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Ag water polo team ties exes

The Texas A&M Water Polo team played against familiar faces Saturday morning as they tied the Alumni, 7-7, in Wofford Cain Natatorium.

Under NCAA rules, water polo does not end in a tie. Both teams decided after the regulation four quarters to end the game in a tie due to the Texas A&M-Texas Tech football game.

Don Reeser and Doug Adamson led the Ags with two goals each and Lester Hamann, captain of the 1973 water polo team, led the Alumni.

Steve Sonnenberg, David Russo, Bill Harrington and Tom Kennerly scored one goal each for the Alumni and Harry Palmer scored one for the Ags.

The Aggies will take on the Bunch W. P. C. from Houston Thursday night at 8. Friday and Saturday the Ags will travel to Conway, Arkansas for the Hendrix Invitational.

The AP Top 20

The Top Twenty, with first-place votes in parentheses, season record and total points. Points tabulated on basis of 20-18-16-14-12-10-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1.

1. Ohio State (51)	5-0-0	1,160
2. Oklahoma (5)	4-0-0	1,020
3. Michigan (1)	5-0-0	924
4. Alabama (1)	5-0-0	814
5. Auburn (1)	5-0-0	636
6. So. California	3-1-0	574
7. Notre Dame	4-1-0	506
8. Texas A&M	4-1-0	455
9. Arizona	5-0-0	394
10. No. Caro. St.	6-0-0	323
11. Penn State	4-1-0	244
12. Nebraska	3-2-0	169
13. Kansas	4-1-0	141
14. Florida	4-1-0	107
15. Arizona State	3-1-0	73
16. Texas	3-2-0	69
17. Texas Tech	3-1-1	59
18. Maryland	3-2-0	49
19. Miami, O.	4-0-1	41
20. Tulane	4-0-0	39

Others receiving votes, listed alphabetically: Arkansas, Baylor, California, Illinois, Miami Fla., Missouri, Oklahoma State, Pitt, Temple, UCLA, Vanderbilt, Wisconsin.

Maroon, White sides lose to Houston in rugby play

By TONY GALLUCCI
Staff Sports Writer

The maroon and white sides of the A&M rugby club had a bad day Saturday, losing both of their games to the Houston Blacks.

The losses for the national champ white side sends their record reeling to 2-2, their worst start in years. President George Alden says that

the 12-6 loss is "in no way indicative of our play thus far."

The Ags were in bad shape from last week's St. Louis Invitational where they placed second. The backs had trouble getting the ball out and seldom were in position.

James Sungy scored the only try for the whites and Bruce Mills converted.

Allen credits the loss to mental mistakes. "We kicked too much

when we should have run."

He also said Houston deserved to win. "They took the game to us. They made us play their game."

The maroons are 1-1 for the season, after losing 19-6.

The maroon loss was due mainly to an inexperienced backline, said Alden.

"We have a young rugby club. Still have a lot of potential," said Alden.

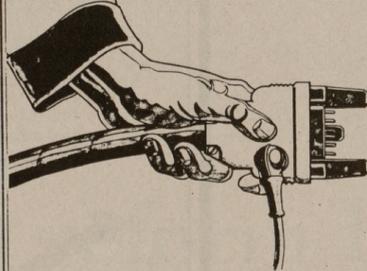
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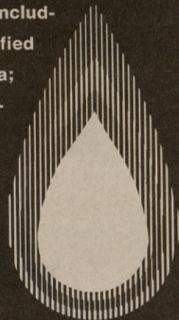


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