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Before a national audience

Aggies dominate Raiders, 28-7

By TONY GALLUCCI
Staff Sports Writer

Two weeks ago Texas Tech took the Texas Longhorns into the classroom and showed them the basics of football. But Saturday the Aggies took those same Red Raiders by the hand and gave them an advanced lesson.

It was before a national TV audience that the 16th ranked Aggies dismantled the ninth-ranked Raiders, 28-7.

After ten minutes of less than exciting pre-game warmup, the Aggies took off for the north end of Kyle field.

It was an express trip that finally slowed in the fourth quarter and screeched to a halt at the final gun.

Powered by the twin-engined workhorse of David Walker and Skip Walker and the pinpoint foot of Mark Stanley, the Aggs backed Tech up until there was nowhere to go but back to Lubbock.

The maroon train moved so quickly in the first half that it allowed Tech only two first downs and no further than their own 39. In contrast, Walker and company struck without mercy, rolling up three touchdowns in less than five minutes.

Starting at their own 23 late in the first quarter, both Walkers, Bucky Sams, Bubba Bean and Ronnie Hubby dashed, darted and bulled their way to the first score of the game. Skip Walker Sam-Bammed from the one to climax the 16 play 77 yard drive.

Twelve seconds later the Aggs were again headed for the goalline.

Virdon is named top manager

Bill Virdon, who managed the New York Yankees to a second-place finish in the American League's East Division, was named Major League Manager of the Year Tuesday by The Sporting News.

The 43-year-old Virdon, who was dismissed as manager of the Pittsburgh Pirates in September, 1973, was named New York manager in January after the Yankees failed in their efforts to sign Dick Williams

Linebacker Ed Simonini picked off his first interception since he was a freshman, on the Raider's first play after the kickoff. Showing a little of his high school running style he swerved and dove ten yards to the 22. Three plays later Skip broke left tackle to score from the three.

After holding Tech to a couple of sets of downs the Aggs were again headed for TD land non-stop. Skip Walker again did the honors on a beautiful broken tackle run from the 23. Boom, score: Skip Walker 21, Tech 0.

It wasn't until the fourth and final Aggie score that the relentless offensive punch and defensive dead ends began to taper off. Only after Carl Roaches' break of a Tony Green tackle and score did the Raiders even make noise.

The David Walker to Roaches 16 yard play was the first TD on a pass this season. It was a 58 yard, nine play drive.

The Raiders, who advanced past midfield only once before the last A&M tally, really never threatened to score.

It was in the waning minutes of the game, Tech QB Tommy Duniven headed for the end of the line, darted back in, caught Simonini off guard and loped 58 yards for the sole Tech score.

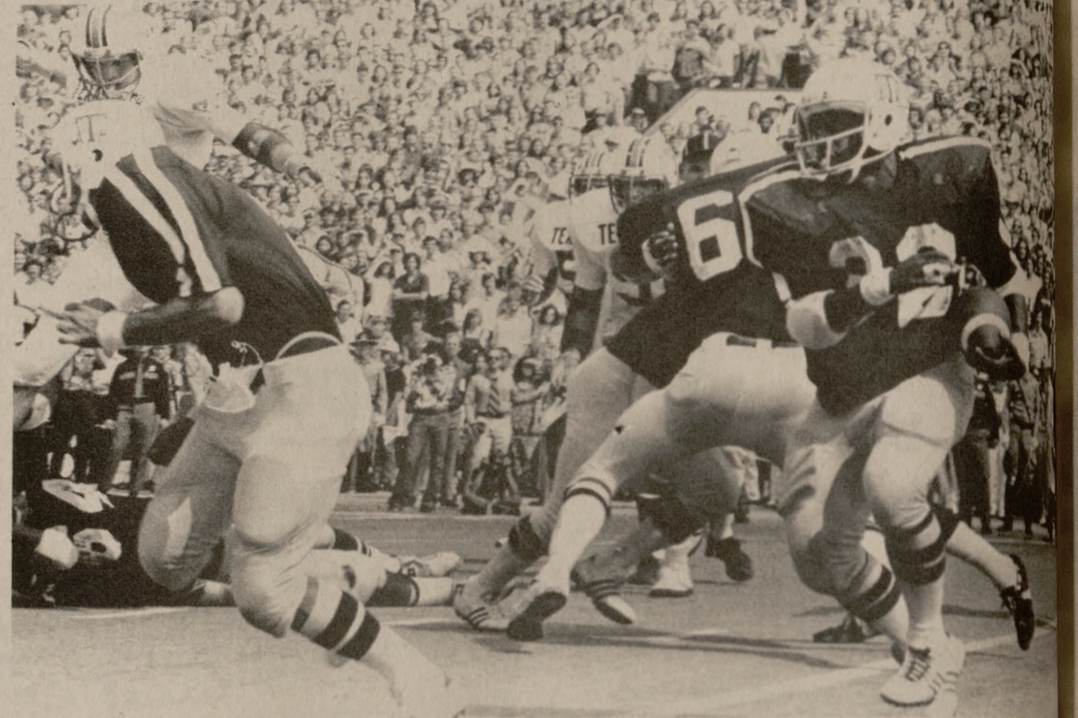
There never was an opportunity to score and the score shouldn't have been. It was one of the few flukes in a game filled with boredom. Exciting boredom.

The 'Hawks' lived up to their name. Especially, Pat Thomas who so hounded Tech receiver Lawrence Williams that Duniven could unload only three of his 18 passes on him. In fact Duniven should have hired a stunt man to fill in for him as he was sacked five times for 58 yards. The best pass Duniven threw all day was the shortie on the post pattern to Simonini.

Bellard's strategy worked like a charm this game. He wanted to "get the defense ready for the Saturday night Dance and send the offense home to bed," he said. That's just what happened as the Aggies boosted their record to 4-1 and the conference slate to 1-0. It is the first time A&M has led the conference since 1967.

The win also broke a six-game winning streak for the Raiders in the Tech-A&M series, and a 13 game unbeaten streak since Tech lost to Texas last year.

The win, played before a record non-UT crowd of 50,620, boosted the Aggs back into the top ten, hopefully for the last time this season.



AGGIE HALFBACK Skip Walker follows Ronnie Hubby en route to part of the 138 yards he gained in A&M's Southwest Conference debut against Texas Tech. Walker scored three TD's to bring his total to nine. The Aggies won the game 28-7. (Photo by Douglas Winship)



DEFENSIVE TACKLE Edgar Fields puts pressure on Raider quarterback Tommy Duniven. A&M defensive front kept the rush on Duniven the whole game, and sacked him five times.

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