

Reserve running back shines in 20-10 win

Honore saves Ags from calling on '12th Man'

By TONY GALLUCCI
Staff Sports Writer

Once upon a time there were rumors that the Aggies would not have a chance to win the conference in 1974 because they lacked depth at running back.

Well folks, bury those rumors, Jerry Honore is here.

Head coach Emory Bellard, after Honore led the Ags to a 20-10 win over tough Arkansas, said "He came in and did an outstanding job. I just don't know what we'd have done without the crazy son of a gun."

And so it was as Honore came into the game to play the longest period of his college career, racking up 131 yards on 19 carries in the process.

Honore entered the game with four minutes remaining in the first quarter after Skip Walker reinjured his ankle. As the game progressed, running back after running back left injured and Honore took up the slack.

Besides gaining over 100 yards, Honore scored both of the Aggies touchdowns in the game including a 60 yard blast in the third quarter to put the Ags in the lead for good.

Honore's major performance to date was punctuated by his characteristic extra effort style. Some coaches have indicated that Honore was too slow in getting to the line to execute the wishbone-type offense. Honore however proved that his extra effort would counteract his slowness more than adequately. His long run was especially noteworthy as he twisted and spun, eluding the grasp of several tacklers on his way to the endzone.

To Honore the biggest thrill of the game was the first touchdown.

"It was really a thrill to score my first varsity touchdown," said Honore. He played scout team for two years, and felt he did his job in that capacity. "I just wanted to contribute. If the team held the other team to less than they were supposed to, then I felt I did my job."

Dan La Grasta, offensive line coach, "kept urging me on," said Honore. "He told me, 'When you get in just do the best you can!'"

The senior with 4.7 speed is as much involved with A&M as a school and the world around him as he is with football.

"I love this school," said Honore. "It's done a lot for me. I love the people here."

He has developed a tradition with the basketball team stemming from his freshman friendship with hoopsster Cedric Joseph. "Ced and I became real good friends and I tried to follow the basketball team," said Honore.

The custom started when Honore attended the Bluebonnet classic in Houston as a freshman and coach Shelby Metcalf invited him to eat with the team. It has become a tradition and Honore has become somewhat of a mascot.

As for his impact on the basketball team? "I yell at Cedric a lot," he said.

Honore is a sociology major and plans to venture deeper into it after he graduates. He is currently active with the local probation department in their troubled children program.

Meanwhile, Honore has been

moved up to the No. 2 fullback spot behind Bucky Sams and is likely to see quite a bit more action in his

final three games as an Aggie. Two and possibly three of his present goals have come true. He

wanted to play, to play well and make his parents proud of him. He played and played very well and if

his parents couldn't show their pride it's because they were waiting to come to the Rice game to see him

play. If Honore plays like he against Arkansas, he will not be unfulfilled.



Jerry Honore breaks for 60 yard TD against Arkansas. (Photo by Chris Svatek)

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