

Aggies play like cold turkey

Lose everything in first minute

By TONY GALLUCCI
Staff Sports Writer

For the first time since 1918 the A&M-UT game was not played on Thanksgiving, but the Longhorns had turkey anyway. The Aggies were just overdone meat for the 'Horns.

The Longhorns well deserved to win. They came onto the field with enough pent-up energy to burn 10 Aggie bonfires. Bubba Bean's fumble on the first play from scrimmage was just the match that lit the fire. Raymond Clayborn promptly burst 18 yards for the winning touchdown. Time elapsed: 42 seconds.

The Horns had already won when Bucky Sams produced the straw that broke the camel's back a mere 12 seconds later. Sams fumbled, or pitched out, to Lionel Johnson who evaded a half-hearted attempt at a

tackle by Skip Walker and pranced 28 yards for the TD.

With the loss, the Aggies coughed up the Cotton Bowl and the SWC title to the more deserving Baylor Bears. More deserving, possibly, only because they wanted it more.

The Aggies had been expected to, at the very least, give Texas a run for the money. But after Friday's massacre, easily the most inept performance by a Bellard-coached team, such a lopsided affair could be given the label, "annual." Since Bellard handed over the Wishbone to Texas in 1968, the 'Horns have not scored less than 32 points on an Aggie team and likewise the Aggies have not scored more than 14 points against the Teasips. The average for the seven years is 40-10.

Bubba Bean's fumble to start the game was as obvious an omen as any

sportswriter could ever hope for. The Ags have fumbled to Texas on the opening series three years in a row. The rest is history.

In the game, the Ags tied or bettered five school records. The worst record was the most notable. The Ags tied the record with five fumbles in the game for a season total of 50. This is indicative of what made this season sweet-and-sour.

The Aggies finished the season 8-3, best since 1957 but the ending snowed under most of the happy after effects. It all comes down to a Bean fumble three weeks ago that prevented A&M from taking a comeback victory over SMU.

And so the Ags will be right where they belong on New Year's Day. At home watching the big uns play on TV. Who was it that once said, "the big uns will up the little uns."



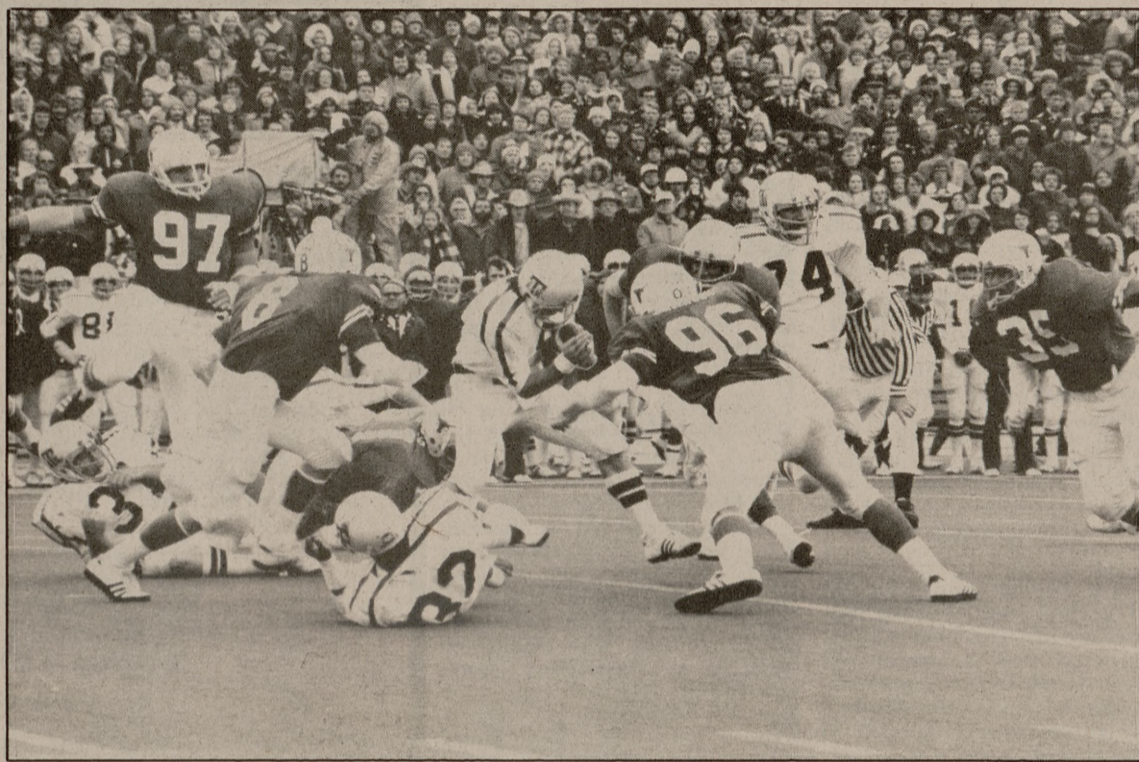
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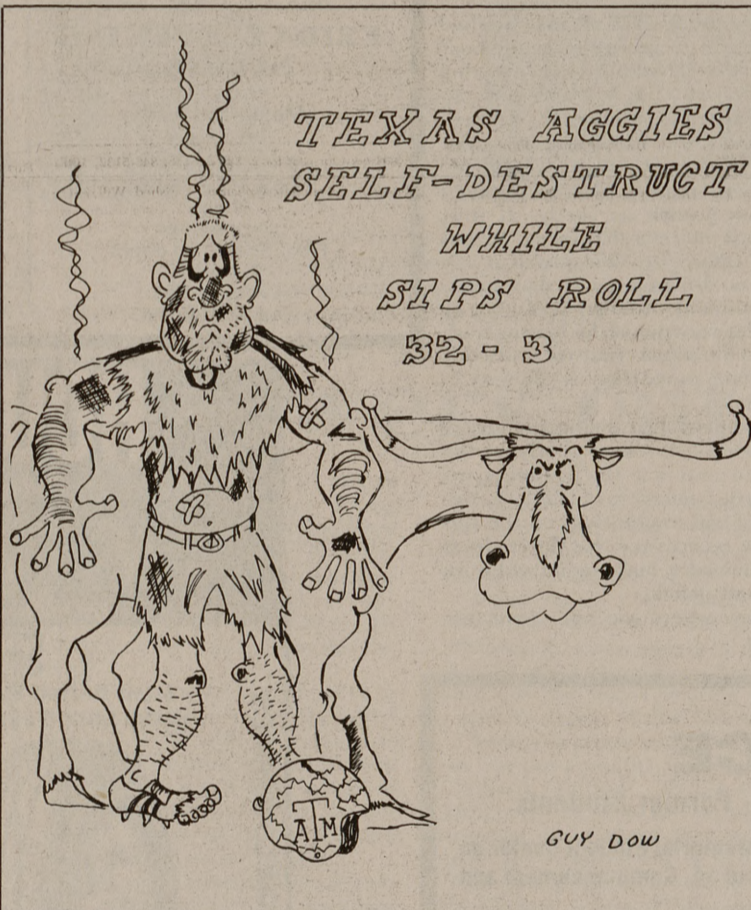
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David Walker surrounded by Longhorns in Friday's game.



Hog player shot in thigh

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. (AP) — Chuck McKinney, a defensive tackle at the University of Arkansas, was listed in good condition today at a Fayetteville hospital after being shot in the left thigh.

Police said they were questioning a female student at the university. The shooting occurred about 12:30 a.m. in the lobby of Wilson Sharp House — the school's athletic dormitory, officer said.

Police said McKinney, 20, was with a girl when a .22-caliber revolver the girl was holding went off. Officers say the bullet ricocheted off the floor and hit McKinney in the thigh.

McKinney, a junior from Clermont, Fla., transferred to the University of Arkansas from Pratt Junior College in Kansas and was a second-team defensive tackle this fall.

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