Oilers vote not to strike

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HOUSTON — The Houston to strike Tuesday.

"We voted 43-0 not to strike at this time," Oilers player rep-Football League players' strike.

"The Oilers will continue to practice and will play football Sunday. The vote means that

"Right now, the team is unified - both management and players. In fact, I think the vote together. We'll play this week whether it's against the Shreveport Steamer, New Orleans or New England.

The Oilers are scheduled to play the striking New England Sunday at Foxboro, Mass





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By PAUL McGRATH **Battalion Sports Writer**

During one particular phase of the Ole Miss-A&M game last Saturday, the Aggie defense trudged toward the sideline to the cheers of the over 47,000 member crowd after having once again stymied the Rebels.

Ed Simonini was among the defenders leaving the field when he stopped in his tracks a few yards short of the bench. The enraged Aggie linebacker began to shake his finger at the A&M offensive team as they were taking the field. His verbage is unprintable, but not beyond the realm of the

Simonini's anger at the offense has been shared by many recently as Coach Emory Bellard's offensive troops have been criticized, chastized and severely raked across the coals in every possible manner.

The cry was soon heard of "here we go again" and "just like last year." Ronnie Hubby's first quarter fumble instantly caused looks of despair.

To most folks it appeared that Bellard forgot to include any offensive players in the new 60-man limit

The offense is deserving of criticism, yes, but perhaps not as severely as the doses have been administered. Aggie fans have a tendency to over-react and once again thy have done

Why is it that an A&M fumble or mistake of any kind is turnovers by Texas, Oklahoma or another team for that matter? They cough up the ball as much if not more than the

Some may argue that Aggie mistakes usually result in points for the other team, especially after Turkey Day. But that did not happen Saturday and last season's outcome should not be applied to this season. It's a brand new year,

A&M has been so crucified over the years for their miscues that the offensive players seem to have developed a complex of sorts. The Aggies have become so fumbleconscious that they forget about their main task — that of scoring points. The linemen are so meticulous in planning their execution and the backs so concerned with holding the ball that they lose their needed aggressiveness to win.

Going back to last year's LSU game one can see the results of aggressive action. The Aggies fumbled the pigskin half a dozen times, but still gained 417 yards on the ground. The reason for this was that the squad did not let the mistakes bother them, but took the game to the Tigers each time they had the ball, daring the Bayou Bengals to stop them. For their efforts the entire offensive line was named as Player of

The same fire was there in the Texas Tech game as the Cadets blew the Red Raiders off the welcome mat before a national television audience.

But thereafter the offense went into hibernation and the fires needed to awaken it are yet to be lit.

There is no problem with the attitudes of the defense. Aggressiveness seems to be an inherent trait of each of them. The blood-in-the-eye Aggie defense is usually disappointed by not sending at least one opponent off the field under somebody else's care.

Bellard would probably sell Kyle Field to purchase the pill to solve his offensive problems. There is no such pill, but if there was it would certainly contain an ingredient to create aggressiveness. It is a commodity that generally makes up for

Let us not be too hasty to judge the Aggie offense. There is a lot of talent and potential just waiting to be kindled. One

The mark of a good team is to be able to play badly and yet still win. You can talk about statistics all you want, but statistics are for losers. Until recently, most Aggies would have been satisfied with any kind of a victory. My, how soon we forget.

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Sportfolio join strike

The National Football League's shaky labor relations fell apart Tuesday, with the Washington Redskins and New York Jets joining the New England Patriots on strike in noves which a league spokesman said placed "the regular season in

Attitudes hardened on both sides as the NFL, beset by legal problems and unrest among its players, suddenly was presented with what could be its most serious labor problem oly five days before the regular season is scheduled to open. In a power play aimed at forcing owners to make a labor contract offer acceptable to the players' union, the Patriots rejected a six-point management proposal which offered to let them return to work without penalty for their four-day-old strike and which promised the players a new contract offer by Sept. 25.

Although the Patriots rejected the proposal, they offered to resume practicing. Management said no and locked the club out of team facilities. At the same time, the Jets and Redskins voted to stop working.

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huddled in New York. Terry Bledsoe, spokesman for the NFL Management Council, which made the six-point proposal, emerged from meetings Tuesday night to say, "I would have to say the regular season is in jeopardy. We have three clubs which have voted not to strike and three clubs which voted to strike and the rest are floating someplace

Bledsoe said the owners endorsed the six-point proposal and voiced their confidence in the management council and its six-member committee of owners, who represent the league in labor negotia-

Asked the mood of the owners, Bledsoe said, "Unified. More unified than they have ever been. They are willing to do what they have to do to protect the integrity of the game." Bledsoe, who spoke as other teams reportedly were considering taking strike votes, said the six owners on the council's executive committee retain the right to cancel any regular season game and "theoretically, the authority to cancel the whole season.

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