

Travel next to Kansas St.

Ags massacre Illini

By **TONY GALLUCCI**
Battalion Sports Editor

It has been one full year now since the Aggies were 3-0, ranked fourth nationally and made a fateful trip to Kansas. Two things are the same but most comparisons are different. The Ags are 3-0 again and traveling to Kansas, but it's not likely to be fatal this time.
This year the three wins are much more convincing, the Kansas trip is not being preceded by a letdown, the players are older and more importantly the team is older and the players have 11 more games under their belts and a loss on their minds.
Yes, the memory of last year's shocker at the hands of a team that finished 4-7 is still bright for many. The week dreaded omen for this weekend, though, luckily failed to materialize although it came close; that of the number four ranking. The Ags will leave town a better team with a lower ranking: sixth.
It's probably just as well, because the Ags will then be in the position of proving two things, that they are better than number six and that Kansas is not more feared than cholera.
And Saturday's Indian massacre in Kyle Field was a definite step in the right direction. Stomping on the fairly highly regarded Fighting Illini 43-13 on regional TV was convincing enough for poll-voters to move

time. The Illini had shown some mettle by holding the Ags twice at the goal line before surrendering.
Just before the half, David Shipman tossed the first pass from the wishbone to sub-split end Mike Floyd who found running room for 46 yards. Tight-end Richard Osborne made a superb catch on a Shipman pass the next play for a TD. The TD was Osborne's first in his college career and it comes not a bit too late as he is a senior. The 14 yards to the goal line also made him only the fifth Aggie ever to gain 1,000 career receiving yards.
A&M returned from the locker room 23-0 only to see the shutout fade four minutes into the half. Gene Phillips burst 46 yards outlasting a group of Aggie defenders who seemed to have him tackled and evading a last minute tackle by Mike Williams to score the first of the Illini's two touchdowns. Simonini blocked the extra point try by Dan Beaver. But alas as Illinois sensed momentum, all hope was dashed by Shipman & Co. as they scored an unanswered 20 points in two minutes flat.
Four plays after regaining the ball, Shipman took the option, and on a super block by Bean and the brilliant slowdown tactics of speedy Carl Roaches, dashed the 59 yards to football heaven.
The Illini managed five plays before QB Kurt Steger dropped the ball, and Robert Jackson recovered for the Maroon. On the first play of the resulting series, Bean countered to the right side of the line for the first time in the game and romped, untouched, smiling and waving, to the endzone. 74 yards away. If that wasn't doom itself, Steger then tossed a ball to the downstretched hands of Hayes who returned the ball 13 yards to set up yet another one-play drive. This time it was Skip Walker on the counter play to the other side of the

line that covered the 28 yards to the line and the final tally for the Ags.
In the fourth quarter, the Illini again, caught the Ags with their guard low, scoring a touchdown which mattered little but did set some hearts afire. The defense of Texas A&M was not one to be known to give up two touchdowns. They may never again.
"The defense did an excellent job," said Bellard. "They were a little bit lax after the start of the half." About whether or not the Illini surprised anyone on the field with tactics, Bellard said, "They played just about the way we expected." Simonini was not surprised, "No, not really. They were a pretty tough team, we just took the fight out of them early. They had size but not very much speed." Bujnoch's neck was sore and he rubbed it a bit noting, "they were physical." And Dennis Smelser said, "they didn't show us anything we didn't anticipate."
Osborne noted that the break open play, "forced them out of their basic defense." The Illinois defense started the game in a modified 4-4-3 which appeared more like an eight man front, but reverted to a more

depthful alignment.
Bellard was pleased with the work of the offensive line. Smelser, Bujnoch, and Osborne all said workouts had been vigorous but Bujnoch finished, "We can still get better, we can never be satisfied."
Bean had his own words for the line. "They just blew 'em off the line of scrimmage. Any back can run through holes like that." Bean showed his own flare for getting through those holes, though. "When I hit the hold (on the 74-yard TD run), I knew I was clean. You can usually count on one good clean block downfield."
Still responding to early criticism of the offense Bellard said the idea was to progress through the season at a predetermined pace so a peak can be reached when needed. "Pace it slow, play it into the season. It's not a question of them not wanting to work."
Bellard summed it up, "We're playing football now, more the way it ought to be. We're very complimented that people consider us part of the elite."

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1975 TEXAS A&M STATISTICS — Three Games (3-0)

TEAM STATISTICS		
Team Statistics	A&M	OPP
First Downs	47	25
Rushing	37	8
Passing	7	9
Penalty	3	8
Rushing Attempts	184	126
Net Yards Rushing	1059	290
Per Game	332.3	52.7
Passes Attempted	21	13
Percentage	.429	.294
Net Yards Passing	154	262
Per Game	51.3	87.3
Total Plays	205	177

Rushing	TC	YG	YL	NET	AVG	TD	LP	Scoring		
								TD	xp-1	xp-2
Bean	34	300	9	291	8.6	3	74	0	0	0
Shipman	36	218	30	188	5.2	3	59	0	0	0
Woodard	10	116	0	116	11.6	2	66	0	0	0
S. Walker	19	94	1	93	4.9	1	27	0	0	0
Sams	24	90	1	89	3.7	1	12	0	0	0
Hubby	26	80	0	80	3.1	1	12	0	0	0
Baker	10	63	11	52	5.2	0	22	0	0	0
Young	6	31	3	28	4.7	0	22	0	0	0
Armstrong	4	19	0	19	4.8	0	10	0	0	0
Hardin	4	12	0	12	3.0	0	5	0	0	0
Hartman	3	11	0	11	3.7	0	9	0	0	0
Jay	4	16	6	10	2.5	0	10	0	0	0
Craig	4	9	1	8	2.0	0	6	0	0	0

Receiving	No	Yds	Avg	TD	LP	Scoring	TD	xp-1	xp-2	FG	TP
S. Walker	2	49	24.5	0	44	Shipman	3	0	0	0	18
Floyd	1	41	41.0	0	41	Bean	3	0	0	0	18
Roaches	3	40	13.3	0	15	Franklin	0	9-12	0	2-4	15
Osborne	1	14	14.0	1	14	Woodard	2	0	0	0	12
Haack	1	9	9.0	0	9	Hubby	1	0	0	0	6
Sams	1	1	1.0	0	1	S. Walker	1	0	0	0	6
						Sams	1	0	0	0	6
						Osborne	1	0	0	0	6

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