



# Sportfolio

By PAUL McGRATH  
Battalion Sports Editor

The Aggies of Coach Emory Bellard are healthy, ready and have a hunger that only cotton will satisfy. The A&M offense was one of the key factors in the Texas contest, killing the Horns with time-consuming, ball-hogging drives. The Farmer offense had been raked over the coals in the early part of the season, but has come into its own in the past few games.

This is undoubtedly the greatest Aggie team ever to wear the Maroon and White. Now, before anyone starts screaming about the 1939 team or any of the other former Aggie squads, compare the size, speed and strength of the present players to those of the past. Football has advanced quite a ways since the glory days of John Kimbrough. Offenses are more complex and there is a high degree of technicality about the entire sport. With so many teams burning yardage like calories, it is a remarkable achievement for the A&M defense to surrender only an average of 175.5 yards per outing.

For Arkansas to knock the Aggies out of the top spot defensively in the SWC, they will have to gain a mere 1,537 yards. The Hogs can also devour the A&M stats for stopping the run if they gather 1,213 yards afoot. Both figures are more than the Aggies have allowed in total offense all year.

Impressive, isn't it. That is just one of the reasons this group of athletes is the finest to don the pads for A&M. Their steady improvement under Bellard cannot be overlooked what with 3-8, 5-6, 8-3 and at present, 10-0 seasons in Emory's four years at Aggieland. If the Aggies win Saturday, Bellard will become only the second Texas coach ever to win a high school championship and the Southwest Conference title.

The Cotton Bowl committee has to be rooting for the Ags, because it will do the game's sagging reputation good to host a national championship contender. Also, 11-0 and No. 2 in the nation would be a better draw than 9-2 and No. 18.

Anyway, to lose to Arkansas after whipping Texas would be the cruelest Aggie joke of all.

## Mike Jay will miss shootout with Hogs

Senior Mike Jay, who had the finest moments of his career in the first half against Texas last week, will not play Saturday in Texas A&M's Southwest Conference showdown with Arkansas because of a back injury.

Coach Emory Bellard announced the loss of his starting quarterback Tuesday, saying "The doctors are still not certain what is wrong. There is a possible hairline fracture of a vertebra in the lower back but even the X-rays are not conclusive."

Jay, who played only 90 seconds last year, became the A&M starter three weeks ago when junior David Shipman of Odessa suffered a knee injury.

## Cowboys' kicking game drops below average

DALLAS — The Dallas Cowboy kicking game has dropped so low that quarterback Roger Staubach asked assistant coach Ernie Allen the other day: "Do Mitch Hoopes' passes count against mine in the statistics?"

Hoopes is the Cowboy punter and has been forced to pass three times and run for his life on another occasion when he thought the blocking had broken down. Hoopes has had one punt blocked and averages less than 40 yards per kick.

Kicking specialist Toni Fritsch has made only 19 of 32 field goal attempts and missed two extra points. He blooped a 35-yard field goal try against the New York Giants Sunday that barely trickled into the end zone.

Fritsch's kickoffs have been so weak that the opponent usually starts with the ball on his own 35 yard line.

Punt return specialist Golden Richards has a 10-yard average on returns, including a 54-yard touchdown romp, but cost Dallas one game with a fumble and misjudged a punt Sunday that hit at the 50 and rolled deep into Dallas territory.

Dallas Coach Tom Landry took note of the kicking game Tuesday and said, "It's not something that can't be corrected."

Landry said it in such a firm voice that you got the impression the Cowboys were working on it that very minute.

Dallas plays in St. Louis Sunday for the National Conference Eastern Division leadership and Landry said the kicking game would be one of the keys.

"Jim Bakken of St. Louis is one of the finest field goal kickers in the country, but you can never tell about

kickers," said Landry. "Look what happened to Minnesota."

Minnesota's Fred Cox missed two field goals and an extra point last Sunday against Washington and the Vikings tumbled from the ranks of the unbeaten 31-30.

"Mitch had to pass against the

Giants because someone missed an assignment," said Landry. "We'll get that fixed."

With that Landry dismissed talking about the kicking game at his weekly press conference. Obviously, the Cowboy players would hear about it until kickoff Sunday.

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## Sailing sweeps regatta

The Texas A&M Sailing Team swept the Intercollegiate Class at the Houston Yacht Club's Turkey Day Regatta.

With the club boats entered, the team emerged with a convincing 1-2-3 finish. Winning first place despite an unplanned exit from her craft was Terry Gough, aided by the expert crewing of Chris Solomon. Skipper Carlos Chiappori and Crew Chris Askew brought home second place, while Tom Klingler and Miles Maybe sewed up the regatta for A&M with a third.

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