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Sportfolio

By PAUL McGRATH

Ho hum. Another routine win. If you believe that I've also got some operty in Florida you can buy.

As far as the consequences are concerned, the game with Texas was the biggest in these parts since Gene Stallings took a trip to Dallas in 1967. But it was what was at stake (a possible Southwest Conference Sure, seeing Darrell Royal's boys going back to Austin with their tails between their legs is fine and dandy. But unless the Aggies tend to esent matters, the win over the Longhorns won't amount to a hill of

Arkansas has been out of the Cotton Bowl arena even longer than the Aggies have, thus the Hogs will have a good deal of incentive. Plus, there is the possibility of an emotional lag by A&M after finally finding earth as the cloud nine effects wear off.

Razorback coach Frank Broyles is correct when he tabs football a game of emotion. Have no doubts, the spirits are flying high in Ozark

Here is where experience comes into play. With nine four-year starters and 21 three-year lettermen the Aggies have shown the poise to withstand the pressures of major college football. The Aggies may ave to call deep into their reservoir to find the necessary poise for this week's gut-twister.

Again the pressure cooker will be at its highest intensity as the SWC champion will be determined in the 60 minutes of gridiron action on the Little Rock turf. The if-they-do-this-then-we-get-to-go-there nes are over. There will be no second chances after this one.

The Hogs boast the league's most devastating offense in the rushing partment, a category which the Aggies have manhandled defenely all season long. However, the Razorback go-cart has lost a couple of its wheels because of injuries to star running backs Ike Forte and Jerry Eckwood. The pair is listed as doubtful for the upcoming show-

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 four groups.

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

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

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 champion-ship 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 in-

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

Sailing sweeps regatta

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

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Cowboys' kicking game drops below average

DALLAS — The Dallas Cowboy kicking game has dropped so low that quarterback Roger Staubach asked assistant coack Ermal 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

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 mis-judged a punt Sunday that hit at the 50 and rolled deep into Dallas territ-

ory.
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

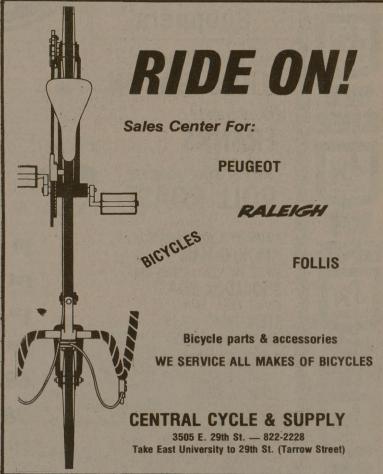
Ďallas plays in St. Louis Sunday for the National Conference Eastern Division leadership and Landry said the kicking game would be one of the

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

the unbeaten 31-30. "Mitch had to pass against the

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 laster 21 20. the Cowboy players would hear about it until kickoff Sunday.



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place, while Tom Klingler and Miles Maybe sewed up the regatta for A&M with a third. 303 COLLEGE AVE. **NEXT TO SKAGGS** DEC. 4-5-6

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