

Sports

Aggies soar past Jayhawks, 28-14

By PAUL ARNETT
Battalion Sports Editor

In the heat of a late summer afternoon, a sporadic Aggie team defeated the Kansas Jayhawks, 28-14. "It was the hottest I have ever felt during a football game," coach Emory Ballard said. "It was just like a furnace out there on the field." On that field, 51,454 people

watched the Aggies play well at times and poorly at times. It wasn't a bad game though, considering it was the first of the season.

"I thought we played a good first game," Ballard said. "Up until that fumble in the third quarter, we played real consistent."

"We had a few mistakes on offense, but the big play gave us a lift

when we needed it."

Aided by two Kansas fumbles deep in its own territory and a 51-yard touchdown jaunt by George Woodard, A&M scored three of its touchdowns in a 4:34 span.

"I had something to prove today," Woodard said. "A lot of things have been said about my weight, but I proved today that I could still run."

Curtis Dickey proved he could run, too. His 48-yard touchdown run accounted for the Ags' other score.

"A big hole opened up for me on the right side of the line," Dickey said. "All I had to do was run through it."

Dickey almost had another

touchdown just before the half ended.

"I didn't think the guy would catch me," Dickey said. "Time and the field just ran out on me."

The Aggies threatened to run away and hide from Kansas in the first half. The offense scored 21 unanswered points, while the defense held Kansas to just 118 total yards.

"Our defense played a real fine first half," Ballard said. "They were aggressive throughout the game. Our biggest asset on defense is our quickness and our depth. We have 26 guys on our defense who have a lot of aggressiveness."

In the second half that aggres-

siveness hurt the defensive effort. A "razzle-dazzle" fullback pass resulted in an 80-yard touchdown. A perfect pass by Norris Banks and overcommitment by cornerback Greg Clark resulted in Kansas' first touchdown.

"We had some big defensive mistakes in the second half," Ballard said. "But they were all due to overcommitment. We can always correct those."

Another problem the Ags need to correct is in their punt coverage. A&M yielded 97 yards to free safety Leroy Irvin.

"We didn't do a good job of keeping him contained," Ballard said.

"Once a man gets to the outside we let him do, then you can't do good-bye."

This week Ballard's Bunch heads to the Blue Ridge Mountain, Virginia. They will face a Virginia Tech team that is very similar to Jayhawks.

The Gobblers run a wishbone offense, and have an odd man defensive line. Tech is a much bigger ball club and one which plays at home.

"Tech lines up in an odd man offense just like Kansas did," Ballard said. "They put a man up over center. Their offense is real solid. I will tell my guys that we're in for a tough football game."

Experience, precision could've helped Kansas

By JAMIE AITKEN
Battalion Editor

Shoulda, coulda, woulda. The general consensus in the Jayhawk locker room after a 28-14 loss to the Texas Aggies was that with a little more experience and a few less mistakes Saturday's outing might have ended differently.

Such is the post mortem expected from a club that admittedly is in the throes of rebuilding, having lost 21 lettermen from last season.

Junior Tackle Mike Beal, who led the Jayhawks defense with 13 tackles for the afternoon, summed it up for the squad.

"If it hadn't been for a couple of mistakes we would have been a lot closer. But we had some mental let-

downs. I'm really disappointed in our playing...we could have done better."

Kansas coach Bud Moore was a bit more pleased with the team he had said faced "extreme inexperience problems" during pre-season training.

"I think our team put in a good effort. Sure, we need a little more experience and a few more horses. But we played an outstanding football team. It's no disgrace to lose to a team like that."

The Jayhawks, under the unexpected leadership of second-string quarterback Brian Bethke, kept the final loss from entering the books as a romp with inspired third period play resulting in the two Kansas scores.

Bethke blamed his own inexperience for the absence of more Kansas touchdowns.

"I think I stunk, to be honest about it. I made a lot of mistakes I shouldn't have...it's something I have to work on. But I think if you took out the interceptions and fumbles, it would have been another story."

"If you took out the 28 on the Aggie scoreboard and replaced it with 0, Kansas would have gone home happier, too. It's a point the Jayhawks well understood."

"I know it sounds like we're bad losers," Beal admitted. "But everyone could have done better."

Beal agreed any match against a deep Aggie club would be a fight, but he sang few praises of Saturday's

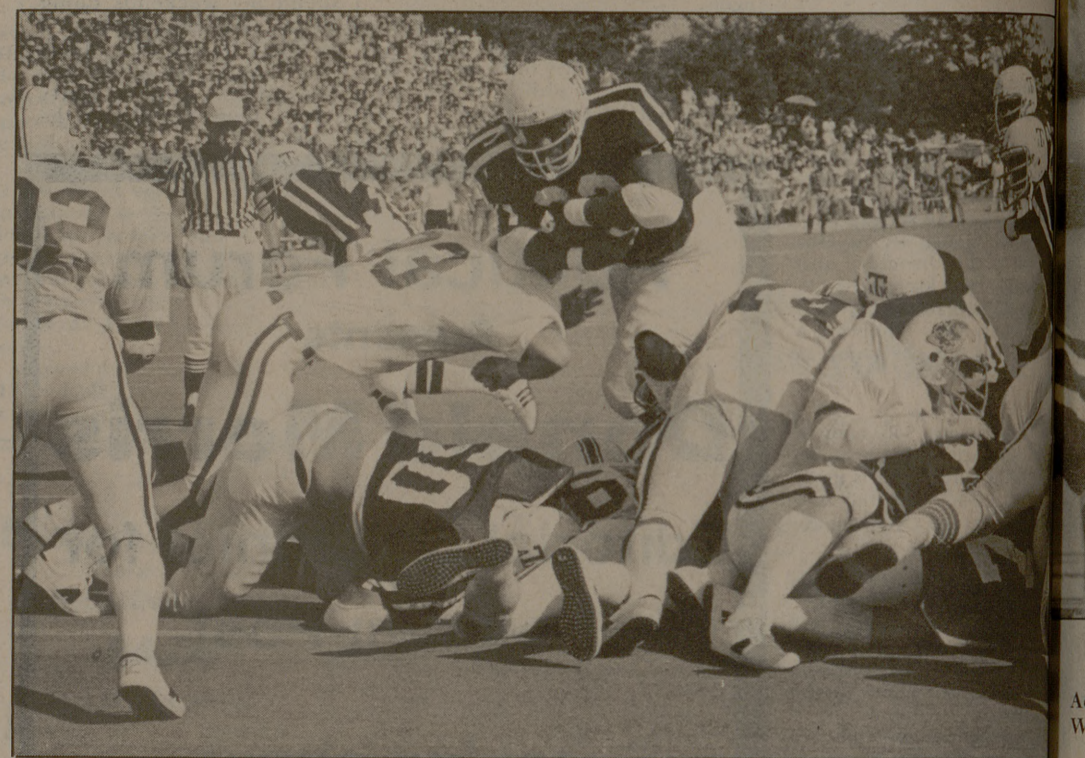
Aggie offense.

"I don't think they put together anything steady. That 51-yard (touchdown) run by Woodard...that's not what I'd call a sustained drive."

"I bounced off Woodard a couple of times. He's not that tough but he's big and hard to bring down. I think (halfback Curtis) Dickey was the better runner. He'd just as soon run over you."

"They did everything we expected them to," Bethke said of the Aggie game strategy. "We came back fighting in the second half after we got our senses together. If we had had another quarter it might have been a different score."

Shoulda, coulda, woulda. Hindsight is always 20-20.



George Woodard, all 280 pounds of him, scored three touchdowns and rushed for 150 yards. The junior runningback was taken

out in the fourth quarter, when he suffered a bruised neck. The Ags defeated Kansas 28-14.

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A&M women gymnasts prepare for first meet

By MARTHA MANIORD

Why would the Texas A&M women's Gymnastics Team be working out five days a week, three hours each day now when their first meet is not until the end of October?

According to Jan Fambro, the team's coach, the outlook for the women's gymnastics team is great for this year.

"This is the first year we have a chance to send one gymnast, maybe two, or maybe even the whole team to nationals," Fambro said enthusiastically. "Our Class I team should win state this year without any problem."

Previous to this year, Texas A&M gymnasts competed in class levels I, II, and III in competition, however this year, Fambro said, Texas A&M women gymnasts will com-

pete in only the top two levels of competition, Classes I and II.

"We're pushing for an upper level team this year," Fambro asserted, explaining that several of their meets would be out of state. The team will compete in two meets in Oklahoma this year, one in Kansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, and Arkansas.

"The more we get out of state and the better our team is known, the better gymnasts we'll attract," Fambro said.

There are nine gymnasts competing for the women's team this year. Women competing on the Class I team are: Tanya Hrabal, Tina Martin, Kathy Pruett, and Patti Sloat. Competing on the Class II team are: Courtney Bonniwell, Cindy Gremlion, Debra Hernandez, Candy Rasmussen, and Barbara Spiller.

Four of these gymnasts are on a full scholarship. She added she has seen much improvement during her three years of coaching Texas A&M. "The first year here we didn't win anything, year our Class II and III teams state and Tina Martin, our Class I girl last year placed first at state," Fambro explained.

The biggest problem, according to Fambro is the facilities. She works out at a private gym at College Station three days a week. All meets they host are held at High School in Bryan.

"It also makes it hard to get top gymnasts when we have facilities," Fambro said, "they go elsewhere. She said that the meets were in Bryan, Texas, and attendance was low.

The team will start their season October 27 when they meet with Southwest Texas here at Bryan High School gym for Class I and II optional routines.

Weekend scores

- Arkansas 53 N. M. St. 10
- Ark.-Mont. 13 Ark.-Pine Bluff 7
- Cameron 24 S. F. Austin 7
- East. N. Mex. 22 New Mex. High 14
- Lamar 21 NE Louisiana 7
- Louisiana Tech 56 Cal.-Sacramento 17
- McNeese St. 25 Indiana St. 17
- Oklahoma 25 Vanderbilt 23
- Oklahoma St. 34 Tulsa 17
- Northeastern (Okla.) 14 So. Ark. 10
- N. Texas St. 41 Tex.-El Paso 10
- Northwestern (Okla.) 31 Ft. Hays 10
- Ouachita 14 McMurry 0

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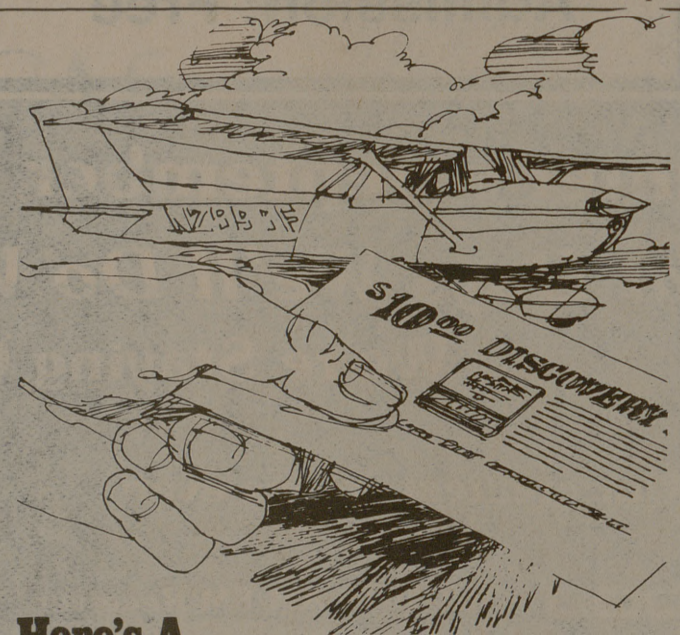
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