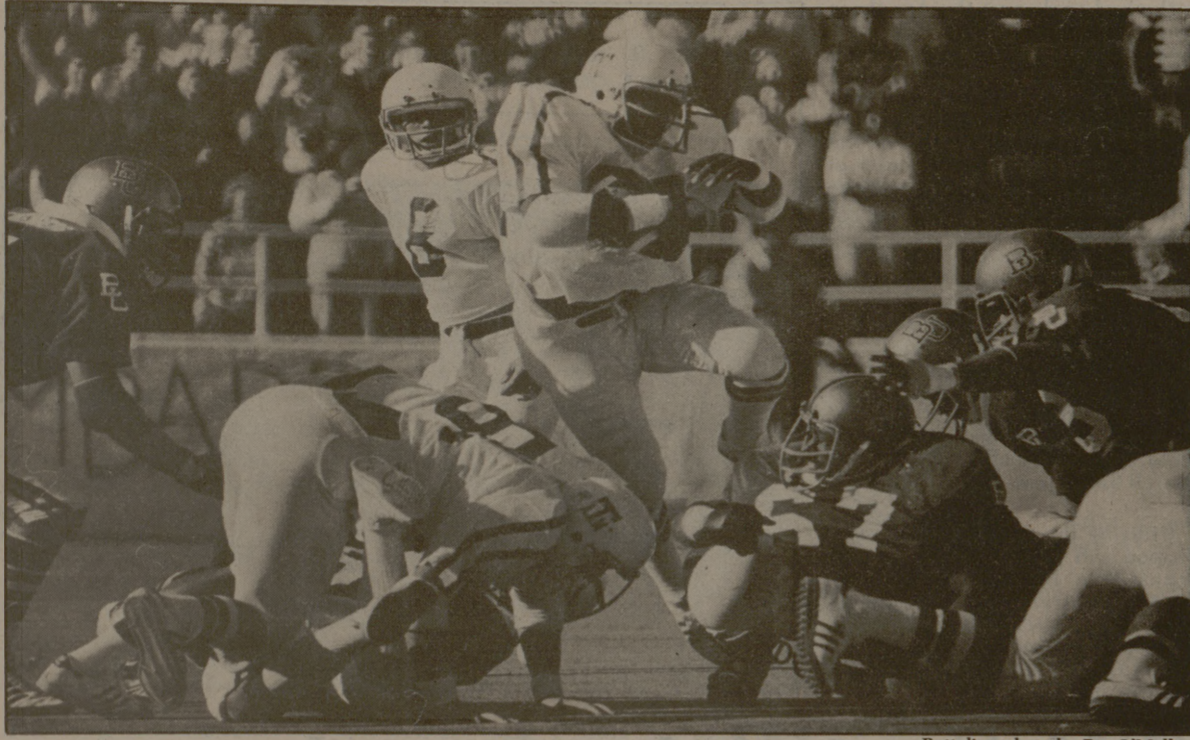


# Bear comeback just short

By MARK PATTERSON  
Battalion Staff

For the first half of Saturday's game the Aggies played like a team and watched their lead slip to the inspired Bears. The Aggies were outscored 17-3 in the second half and it took a Kenneth Stone interception in the final two minutes to assure the Aggies of a victory.



David Brothers broke through the middle of the Baylor line for a five-yard gain. Brothers had the best game of his career gaining 103 yards on nine carries.

Although they came away with a victory, Baylor was not impressed with the Aggies. Baylor defensive coordinator Allen Stone felt the Aggie offense was overrated.

"A&M wasn't as awesome on offense as they were built up to be," said Stone. "We (defensive line) were winning the game at the line of scrimmage. We were controlling the game."

Our game plan worked like we wanted it to. We planned on giving them yardage up the middle, as Michigan did. We were willing to give up short yardage to Woodard if he could stop the outside runs. It worked except for the long run that Brothers broke.

Stone recovered a David Walker fumble in the third quarter and returned the ball to the A&M 3-yard line to set up the Bears' fourth touchdown. Stone was as surprised as anyone else on his recovery.

The ball just popped up into my hands. I had no choice but to catch it," said Stone. "It was the first time we run with a ball since junior high school. I just saw the goal line and went all out to score. I was just a little short."

While Stone and the rest of the Baylor defense were trying to control the Aggie attack, Baylor center Dan Barnes and the Bear offense were challenging the A&M defense.

"We made a lot of offense mistakes," said Barnes, "but that comes with our youth." (Baylor started one freshman, four sophomores, four juniors and two seniors on offense.)

"I can see us improving each week. We're really beginning to think and play like winners."

Barnes was another Bear that wasn't impressed with the Aggie performance.

"The A&M defense didn't impress me at all," said Barnes. "They weren't nearly as strong as Houston last week. Houston relies more on their personnel at the position whereas A&M relies on speed and quickness."

And A&M mouths a lot when they play," added Barnes. "They talk to you and try to break your concentration. They really didn't affect me."

Scott Smith, the freshman quarterback who started the game for Baylor, took the loss hard.

"I really feel bad about this loss," Smith said. "What really gets me is that the seniors (on the offense) have never beat A&M. The defensive team played good enough to win this ball game. And our offensive line was super."

It really us when I threw the interception (in the final minutes of the game). When a team works so hard and comes back so great like we did, and then your quarterback

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throws an interception, it just takes the wind out of you."

Baylor head coach Grant Teaff stuck with his freshman quarterback and his original game plan even though the Aggies mounted a 28 point lead.

"We didn't do anything drastically different in the second half. We got behind because they broke a couple of long plays on us."

"I felt we made a pretty good comeback. They only scored three points on us in the second half. I think that speaks well of us," said Teaff. "Smith did a good job for us at quarterback. He obviously made some mistakes but he executed the running plays well. It was our passing that killed us."

Baylor rushed for 226-yards but was nine of 23 passing for 82-yards and three interceptions.

A&M passed 10 times in the game for 94-yards. Of their 4 completions, 3 went for touchdowns.

"I wasn't surprised at A&M's passing," Teaff said. "It really hurt us in the first half. We had a breakdown on the Darrell Smith bomb (of 61-yards). Our cornerback triggered in on the run on an option play and our safety didn't come across (to cover Smith)."

"I'm proud of our young men the way we came back," said Teaff. "Even though we were down 28 points at half time we really felt like we could win it."

"And we almost did."

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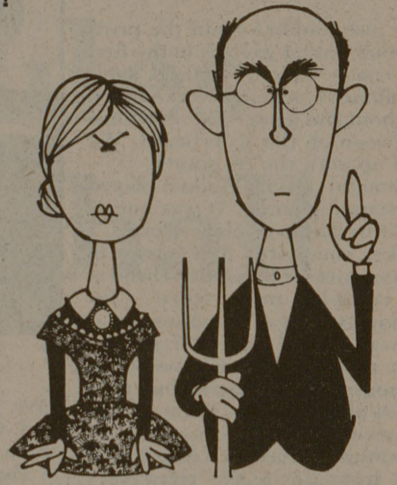
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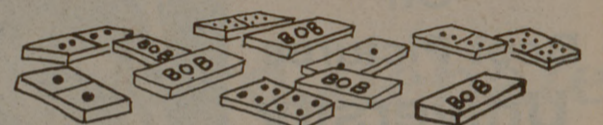
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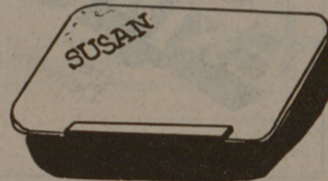
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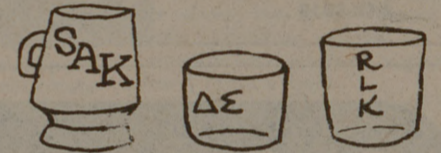
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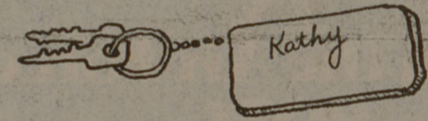
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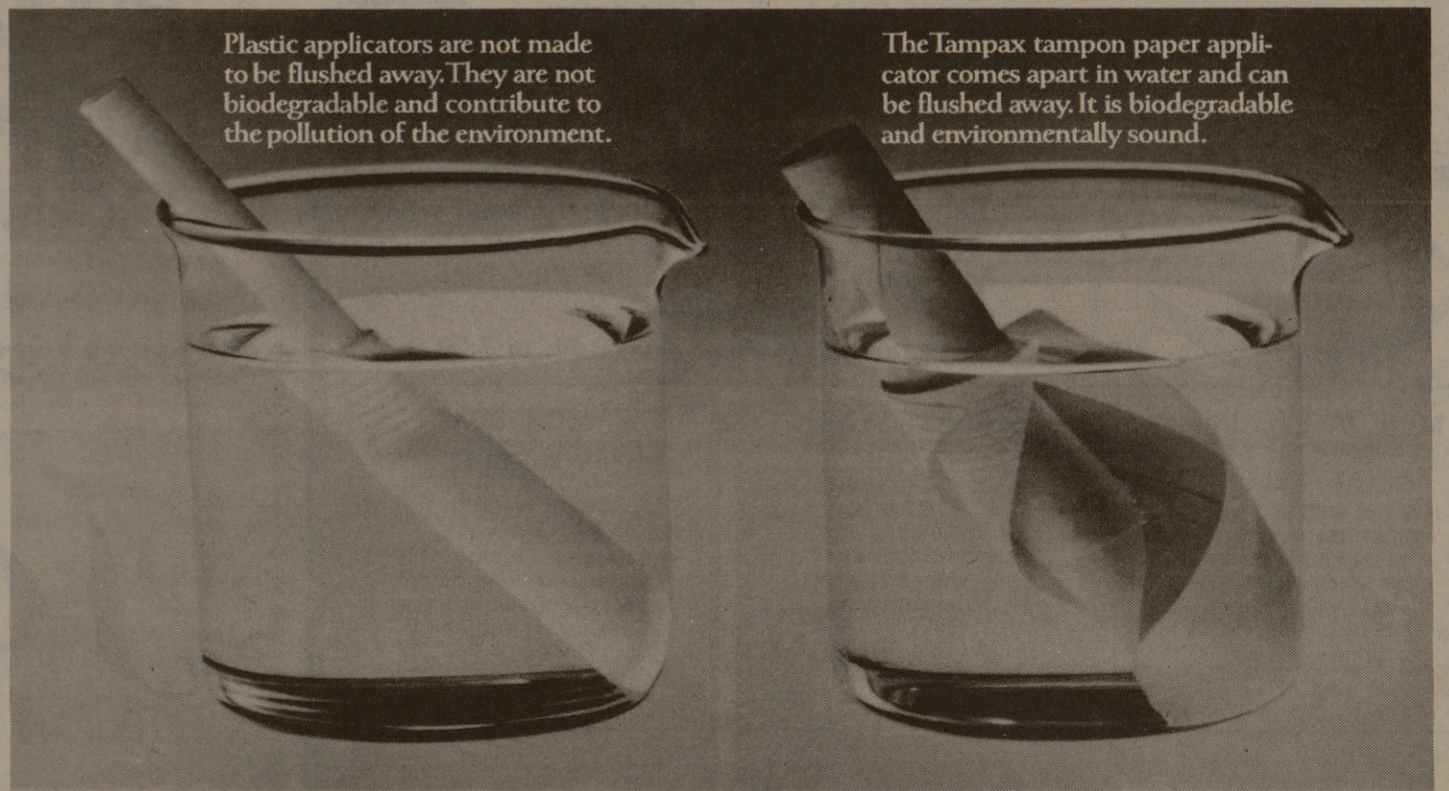


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