

the sports

Aggies outclass Memphis State

By DAVID BOGGAN
Battalion Sports Editor

Outclassed. That is the only way to describe what Texas A&M did to Memphis State in Saturday's 58-0 victory.

It was the kind of game that makes an ideal home opener before a crowd of 56,818. It was the kind of game that warms the maroon blood of the Aggie alumni. The nation's coaches, writers and pollsters sit up and take notice of this type of game. It's the kind of game that impresses Texas A&M coaches and players alike.

"If you get the idea that I'm proud of these young men, then you're absolutely right," Texas A&M head coach Emory Ballard said after the game. "These guys played all the way. I don't know how we could have played better. With the exception of one missed extra point, I think we played the best game we could have played."

"We had two or three penalties in offense that broke some drives for us, but we had lots and lots of pluses."

Pluses, indeed. Plus 523 yards rushing and plus 92 yards passing totaling a plus 615 yards total offense for the Aggies. Meanwhile, the Aggie defense held the Tigers to some pretty skimpy pluses—one rushing and 53 yards total offense.

"The offense appreciates us for doing that," said defensive end Bob Green, "and we appreciate the offense for scoring. That's the results you'll get when you play together."

And play together the Aggies did. The Aggie offense, both first and second team, could do almost no wrong. The Aggie defense showed mercy all afternoon and played the best game as a unit so far. But there was more to it than that, as Coach Carr explained.

"They (Memphis State) were tired," the sophomore linebacker said. "They didn't have that good offense and they just fell apart from the very start. And we were ready to go at home. We were fired up."

Defensive tackle Eugene Santoni, who led Texas A&M with seven unassisted tackles, agreed that the Tigers did not pose much of an offensive threat.

"They weren't as good as we thought they might be," the 268-pound lineman said. "They didn't impress me on the field like they did in the films."

"Our pass rush has been good for these past few games. (Lloyd) Patterson is a rolling quarterback. I



Battalion photo by Pat O'Malley

With Cody Risen leading the blocking, Curtis Dickey picks up part of his 167 yards Saturday.

don't think there is a quarterback in the nation who can stay in the pocket against us. Patterson did once this afternoon and he learned."

The Memphis State quarterback learned about the Aggie defense more than once, both in the pocket and scrambling out of the pocket. Texas A&M dropped Patterson and fellow Tiger quarterback Kevin

Betts for 93 yards worth of quarterback sacks.

Meanwhile, the Memphis State defense never got to quarterback Mike Mosley, who rushed for 45 yards and two touchdowns, completed five of nine passes for 70 yards and made a play that shows why he is a contender for Best Quarterback to Ever Run the Option

honors. On the Aggies' second possession of the game, Mosley ran right on third down. Near the sideline, he ran between two defenders and, at what must have been the last moment before he would be dragged down, Mosley pitched the ball to his trailing back, Curtis Dickey, who scampered down the sideline for a touchdown.

"Mike runs the option just about as good as you can run it," Ballard said. "He knows when to keep the ball, when to pitch it, when to hand it off and when to take it back. Plus that, he also has that extra bit of daring that it takes to be an effective option quarterback."

Dickey had a 167-yard afternoon rushing that was highlighted by a 65-yard touchdown run on the Aggies' first play from scrimmage.

"I kinda surprised my own self on that first play," the junior running back said of his touchdown that originated from the I-formation.

"I really don't have a preference for either the wishbone or the I," Dickey said. Statistics tend to bear this out, as Dickey rushed for 84 yards from the wishbone and 83 yards from the I. "I just know that running the I made me tougher because I have to know how to run inside. But both seem to be working."

Likewise, both the Aggie offense and the Aggie defense seem to be working. In years past, there have been times when the offense was there but the defense was lacking, or visa versa. At this point, both units are performing together to win games. This is important because Kansas, Boston College and Memphis State are past. The future holds a conference that, in the words of Coach Ballard, "has five teams that could be contenders for the championship and nine teams that could beat any of the other teams."

SCORING SUMMARY
Memphis St. 0 0 0 0—0
Texas A&M 14 20 10 14—58

A&M—Dickey 65 run (Franklin kick)
A&M—Dickey 31 run (Franklin kick)
A&M—Mosley 6 run (kick failed)
A&M—Brothers 7 run (Franklin kick)
A&M—Mosley 3 run (Franklin kick)
A&M—FG Franklin 41
A&M—Aday 1 run (Franklin kick)
A&M—Belcher 2 run (Franklin kick)
A&M—Simpson 10 pass from Beal (Franklin kick)

Official hospitalized

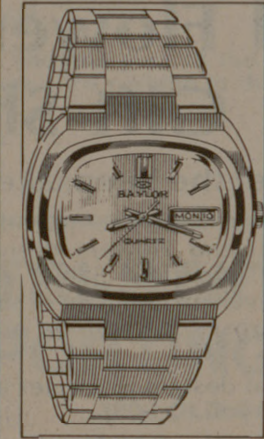
Back judge Pat McHugh, the official who collapsed in the second half of Saturday's Memphis State-Texas A&M game, was reported to be in satisfactory condition at St. Joseph's

Hospital in Bryan Sunday night. McHugh, who was taken from Kyle Field by ambulance, is a Southeast Conference official from Chattanooga, Tenn.



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Hunter fired

United Press International
DARLINGTON — Citing concern over the club's lackluster performance this year, the Texas Rangers today fired Manager Billy Hunter and replaced him with Pat Corrales, team's third base coach.

Executive Vice President Eddie Bonson said from Seattle, where the Rangers were playing a season-long series with the Mariners, "The reasons for the surprise firing included 'the performance of the team this year and the fact that we don't want to go into next year with the doubt.'"

The 50-year-old Hunter took over as Ranger manager in June 1977, leading the team to a 60-33 record. In his first season, the Rangers finished in play Sunday, the final day of the 1978 season, the Rangers tied for second in the American League Western Division at 75, five games behind Kansas

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TLS 6:45 A UNIVERSAL PICTURE TECHNICOLOR TO 7:15

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