

the sports

# Aggies 'whipped everywhere' by UH

**WE DID THE BEST WE COULD ... DO YOU THINK ANYONE NOTICED THAT OUR REGULAR TEAM MISSED THE BUS?**



By DAVID BOGGAN  
Battalion Sports Editor  
To err is human, to forgive divine.  
--Alexander Pope

Saturday night in the Astrodome Texas A&M played a very human game and the University of Houston certainly forgave the Aggies' shortcomings as the Cougars played divinely and won the Southwest Conference contest 33-0.

The Aggies did not play like the sixth best team in the land. They did not perform like the nation's No. 3 team in total offense nor the No. 2 team in total defense. They did not live up to their SWC superlative ratings in either offensive or defensive categories. Houston played up to its Aggie-given nickname. The Cougars were high.

Texas A&M's erroneous first half gave the Cougars all the momentum--and the points they needed to upset the Aggies. Texas A&M's seven possessions of the first half ended in a lost fumble, a lost punt, a punt, a turnover on downs, an interception, a lost fumble and a punt. Houston capitalized on everything but the punts, bringing about the 33-0 halftime score that would become final two quarters later.

Against Texas Tech last week, the Aggies committed early turnovers. The difference between Houston and Tech was that the Cougars took full advantage of the Aggies' crucial mistakes and left the men from College Station in that most unenviable of positions.

"We were in a catch-up position the whole ball game," Texas A&M head coach Emory Ballard said. "It was a very simple case of one football team outplaying another football team."

That point could be clearly determined by looking at the rockets-red-glare-and-bombs-bursting-in-air Astrodome scoreboard. What the 52,156 people in the Dome wanted to know was, why? The answer in the Aggie locker room was simple. "They just kicked the dog out of us right from the start," Aggie defensive coordinator Melvin Robertson said. "They whipped us

everywhere."

It was trying to understand why the Aggies had been whipped everywhere that was not so simple. "We just couldn't ever get it going," Aggie quarterback Mike Mosley said. "We made mistakes and they capitalized on them like any great team would. They were ready to play and we looked like we weren't."

Make no mistake about it. The Cougars were ready to play. Holding Aggie running back Curtis Dickey to 25 yards on 14 carries and pressuring Mosley, giving him minus 16 yards rushing, were key factors to Houston's success in shutting out Texas A&M.

In their first possession of the second half, the Aggies showed some signs of life as they moved the ball down to the Houston 2-yard line. But again Mosley fumbled and the Cougars recovered. Aside from that and a fourth quarter Cougar fumble that Aggie linebacker Randy Harvey recovered in the A&M endzone, the second half consisted on what Frank Broyles calls the Tango

offense--1, 2, 3, kick. "We just had a bad game," Aggie defensive end Jacob Green said after the Cougars had totaled 331 yards offense against the nation's No. 2 defense. "We had good pressure on them it seemed like. We just broke down in spots."

"I feel like we made it tough for ourselves. I'd rather take the blame than give it to our offense. We gave up 33 points. If we hadn't given up those points, it would still be 0-0."

Perhaps Texas A&M cornerback Darrell Smith said it best when he offered no explanation, just a simple reality. "They just beat us and nothing else can be said," he said, adding a very human cliché, "It was just one of those days."

**SCORING SUMMARY**  
Texas A&M 0 0 0 0-0  
Houston 14 19 0 0-33

UH--Adams, 10 pass from Davis (Hatfield kick)  
UH--Love, 1 run (Hatfield kick)  
UH--Love, 16 run (Hatfield kick)  
UH--Herring, 44 pass from Davis (kick failed)  
UH--King, 12 run (pass failed)

## Cougars explode in Astrodome

By SEAN PETTY  
Battalion Staff

Explosive was the word Texas A&M head football coach Emory Ballard used to describe the Houston Cougars before Saturday's game.

That was an understatement, to say the least.

Houston had more the effect of an atomic bomb on the Aggies as Houston completely devastated their visitors by scoring 33 points in the first half alone and allowing the Aggies to score only one point.

The Aggies looked like they were on top at the whole night. It appeared that the Houston Cougars came to the Astrodome to play football and the Aggies came to get kicked out of town.

Cougar offensive tackle, Melvin Kela, summed the game up in one sentence: "We surprised them."

Coach (Bill) Yeoman always told the team who makes the most mistakes will win the game, "I guess the outcome of this game kind of showed that."

"I think that they (the Aggies) were thinking about Memphis State last week and thought they could move the ball on us since we lost to Memphis State."

We just decided to take it to them. We kept hitting them and hitting them hard and they just never came back."

Mistakes were the major factor in the game. Aggie quarterback Mike

Mosley had a bad case of slick fingers and bad decisions as he fumbled four times and threw one interception to aid the Cougars' effort. Mosley was the hero of last year's game with Houston but reversed roles this year as he never got on track and appeared confused and shook, running from Cougar line men all night.

The game meant a lot to the Cougars as they prepared for the Aggies.

"I got to admit, I was looking beyond Baylor to A&M," backup quarterback Delrick Brown said. The Cougars rallied late to defeat Baylor two weeks ago.

"There was a totally different atmosphere around school this week," wide receiver Eric Herring said. "The whole school was fired up and we knew we had to win."

"A lot of things changed this week," he said pointing to his shaven head. "We were going to shave our heads anyway, not just for A&M. It's sort of a way of telling ourselves, 'Hey, I'm gonna work just a little harder and concentrate on football.'"

The Cougars surprised themselves by capitalizing on each of Texas A&M's five turnovers in the first half, turning all of them into scores.

"You can't expect to be 33 points up on A&M at halftime," Cougar head coach Bill Yeoman said. "You

feel good to score 14 points against the Aggies."

Everything seemed to jell for the Cougs as they played practically error-free football for 60 minutes.

"Our people had a good week of work," Yeoman said. "The concentration was excellent. They played hard and well and this is really the first time the kids came together."

"They know they can play, but they do not understand how young they are and how much there is to learn."

The Cougars had varied responses on their evaluation of the team they had so completely dominated from the opening kickoff.

"I think they quit," Brown said of the Aggies. "After they saw Mosley running out of bounds and being sacked, they started to give up. Another thing that hurt them was seeing Curtis Dickey get hurt about every other play. They had to be discouraged."

"I knew they were through early. Our defense frustrated them and their offense's inability to move the ball just got to them."

Cougar quarterback Danny Davis said, "The only time I knew we had won was when the game was over. Sure they were down at halftime but you can't gauge a team like A&M. We just wanted to come back in the second half and keep our cool."

"I think one of the final blows to the Aggies was when they fumbled on the one yard line and didn't

score. I still think they have one of the best defenses in the country. We just took advantage of their offensive mistakes."

The Cougars are 2-0 in the conference now and look ahead to the showdown with SMU in Dallas next week. The Cougars have not fared well against the pass this season and will be concerned with SMU's aerial attack.

But for this week, the Cougars are on top and will be hard to stop if they continue to attack teams the way they went after Texas A&M.

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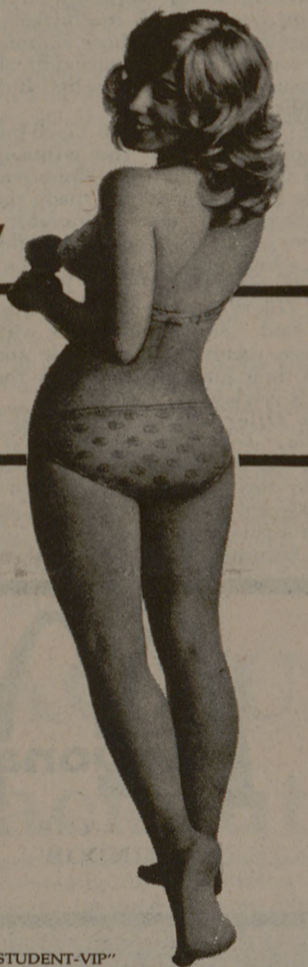
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