

Aggies have known brighter times

By DAVID BOGGAN
Battalion Sports Editor

Prior to last Friday night, all of Curtis Dickey's trips to Austin's Memorial Stadium this year had been quite successful and consequently pleasant ventures.

Back in April Bryan's favorite son sped to victories in the 100-meter dash and in the 400-meter relay (along with three teammates) during the Texas Relays. When he returned to the 40 acres in May, Dickey repeated his April performance, helping the Aggies win the Southwest Conference track and field championship.

Unfortunately, only memories of that fruitful spring remained for Dickey on the windy autumn night that offered little success and even less pleasures for the Texas Aggies as the University of Texas defeated Texas A&M 22-7 in one of the nation's classic football rivalries.

Dickey, who rushed for a career-high 230 yards last week against TCU, was held to a career-low 11 yards by the leather-tough Longhorn defense. After irritating a groin muscle pulled in Thursday's practice, Dickey was constantly contained on anything going outside and managed a longest run of only 8 yards up the middle. He was also dropped for a

safety in the third quarter.

Curtis Dickey had an off night. And when Curtis has an off night, don't expect the rest of the offense to look like champions either.

"This was very similar to the Arkansas game," Aggie coach Tom Wilson said, referring to A&M's 42-yard rushing performance against the Horns. "Texas shut down our running game. They completely dominated the line of scrimmage. When you get whipped on the line of scrimmage it makes for a long night."

"It's the same old story. We weren't able to block," Wilson said he did not care to mention names or positions associated with missed blocking assignments.

The one bright spot in the Aggie offense was its passing performance. Texas A&M out-tossed Texas 170 yards to 88 yards. Gerald Carter caught seven passes for 89 yards.

"We were not moving the ball with the run," Wilson said. "We couldn't get anything established on the ground. We felt that passing was the only way we were going to move the ball."

Indeed, the ground attack was almost like no attack at all and nobody in the Aggie locker room was quite sure why.

"I don't know what the problem was," Dickey said. "Our line has

been blocking out of the wishbone for four years now and it's hard to make the adjustment (to the I-formation blocking assignments)."

Defensive tackle Eugene Sanders said, "The Longhorns did a great job of keeping our offense pinned down all the time. I guess if you had to pin-point one thing that would be it."

"For us to win our offense had to keep us on the bench. You can't expect to win the game when the defense is on the field 40 minutes."

It may have seemed to the Aggie defense that it was on the field 40

minutes but actually it was only out there for 28 minutes and 1 second. Surprisingly, the Aggie offense controlled the ball the other 31 minutes and 59 seconds.

Sanders, one of the 15 seniors on this year's squad, explained how he felt about the 1978 season.

"It's been disappointing," he said. "I really thought we had the best team in the Southwest Conference, both offense and defense. When you're winning you don't have to look ahead past the next game. But when you're losing you can't help but

look ahead and see disappointment coming.

"We've got great personnel here. There's just something in the system that's not working — I don't know."

SCORING SUMMARY
Texas A&M 0 0 7 0-7
Texas 7 3 9 3-22

UT—McBath 3 run (Erleben kick)
UT—Erleben FG 59
AM—Mosley 9 run (Franklin kick)
UT—Safety, Dickey tackled in end zone by Sholtz, Shankle and Jefferson
UT—Ham Jones 5 run
UT—Erleben FG 22

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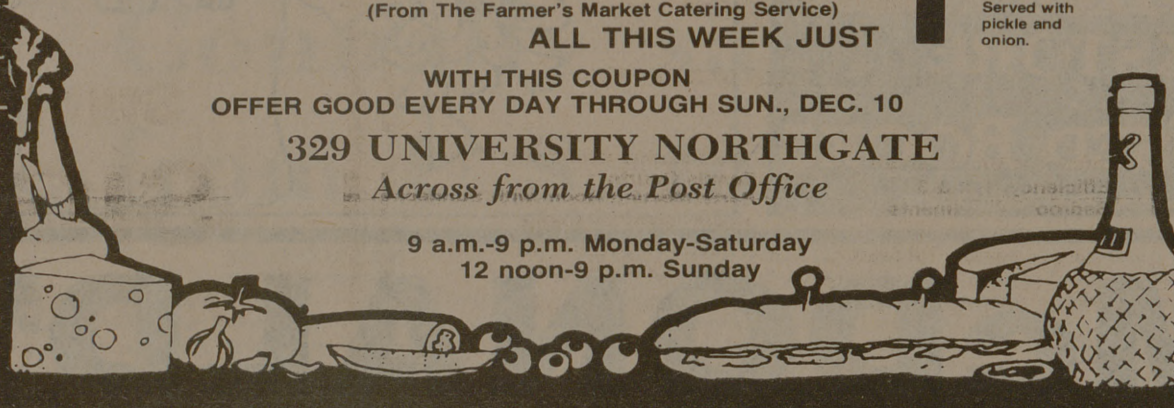
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No catch for Pearson in Cowboys' victory

United Press International
IRVING — In the 11th week of the 1974 season, during a game in which Dallas beat the Houston Oilers, 10-0, Drew Pearson did not catch a pass.

That did not happen again until Sunday in Texas Stadium when Pearson was shut out without a catch for the first time in 59 games.

"It upsets me that I was not able to catch a pass against New England's secondary," said Pearson, the free agent flanker who has made some of the most critical catches in Cowboys' history.

"They have a bunch of good athletes, but I don't consider them to be a good secondary."

Pearson has two passes thrown his way in the opening quarter of Dallas' 17-10 victory, but neither was close enough to catch.

"I didn't realize that he had not caught a pass until late in the game," said Coach Tom Landry. "It killed me when I realized it. But we could not risk throwing late in the game. It was a tough situation and I regret it."

Quarterback Roger Staubach said Pearson told him it was more important for the team to win than for him to risk having a pass thrown to him late in the game.

On a touchdown pass in the third quarter that tied the game, both Pearson and Tony Hill were open. But Hill was more open than Pearson and when Staubach first looked Pearson's way he saw Pearson pointing toward the opposite sidelines where Hill had escaped behind the Patriots' secondary.

Staubach threw the ball to Hill for the score.

Battered Oilers lose to battered Steelers

United Press International
HOUSTON — The Pittsburgh Steelers continued their current string of fine defensive games Sunday by earning a near-shutout of the Houston Oilers, 13-3, Sunday. A Steelers fumble handed Houston its only score.

Pittsburgh's defense caused four fumbles, intercepted three passes, held the Oilers to nine first downs and 163 total yards and generally reminded folks of the 1975 "Steel Curtain" team that went on to defeat Dallas in Super Bowl X.

The 1978 Steelers Sunday were strong enough to clinch the AFC Central Division title Sunday with two regular season games left.

For most of the game the Oilers were without rookie Earl Campbell, the NFL's leading rusher.

After gaining 41 yards on seven carries in the first quarter, Campbell

received a hard blow to the right side of his rib cage and he left the game for good.

In all, 11 players suffered injuries severe enough to cause their removal from the game. Pittsburgh's Lynn Swann suffered a rib bruise and a sprained wrist, but the injuries were not expected to sideline him. Oilers tight end Mike Barber, wide receiver Mike Renfro, cornerback Willie Alexander and linebacker Robert Brazile had serious injuries.

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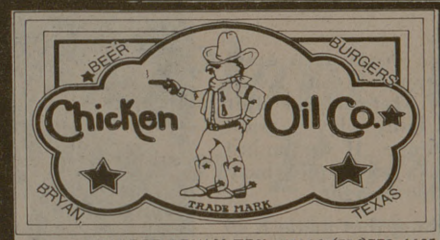
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