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Hall of Fame Bowl important to Ags

By SEAN PETTY Battalion Staff In the midst of all the studying and

cramming for finals, a lot of Texas A&M University students may have forgotten that the Aggie football team will be playing in the Hall of Fame Bowl Dec. 20. But before you forget and disre-

gard its importance, as so many have, think about the season and what the Aggies did to deserve a bowl invitation.

has been for the Aggies:

cessful season. Not many major football teams can boast a 7-4 record.

-No team in the country went through as much emotional strain as the Aggies did midway through the season, losing their head coach, Emory Bellard. The Aggies came out of the incident with a new coach in Tom Wilson and a new offensive look. The Aggie football team had to make major adjustments to both at a critical point in the season.

leaders in the Southwest Conference and the nation in both defense and offense at various times during the year

—Texas A&M also produced an all-America in kicker Tony Franklin. Franklin has 18 NCAA records in his four years at Texas A&M.

juries midway through the season in what head trainer Billy Pickard called, "the worst luck and most in-juries I've seen since 1969." All-conference halfback Curtis Dickey was hurt on and off all year. The offensive line was hit hardest by in-

been to four consecutive bowl games in the history of Texas A&M football. -Finally, you must remember that only 28 NCAA Division I teams go to post-season bowls and Texas A&M is one of the select few, no matter what bowl it is.

through, we are very glad to be going to a bowl game," Wilson said. "All of the guys are excited about going and really want to win the game and finish the season 8-4.

1. Duke (5-0) (33)	.563
2. Notre Dame (4-0) (4)	.533
3. Michigan St. (2-0) (2)	.460
4. Louisville (5-1)	.431
5. UCLA (3-1)	.389
6. Kentucky (3-0)	.336
7. No. Carolina St. (6-1)	.292
8. Kansas (4-1)	.265
9. Michigan (3-1)	.237
10. LSU (5-0)	.206
11. Syracuse (5-0)	.168
12. No. Carolina (4-1)	. 146
13. So. Carolina (3-0)	. 138
14. Marquette (4-0)	.103
15. Georgetown (5-0)	83
16. Indiana St. (6-0)	
17. Texas (4-2)	
18. Long Beach St. (4-0)	27
19. Illinois (6-0)	
20. Arkansas (2-0)	

BUOR RATALE

"You know, not everybody can go to the few major bowls but this bowl means a lot to us because I think that the guys worked hard all year and deserve the honor."

The Aggies will be playing a very tough Iowa State team that went 8-3 this year in the Big Eight Conference. The Cyclones have been hit hard recently as ten players lost the battle of the books and will be inelihard recently as ten players lost the battle of the books and will be ineli-gible to play in the game. Iowa St. is on a trimester system and when

grades came out after the first semester, ten players did not meet the scholastic requirements.

"They've obviously got a good team because they are in a bowl," Wilson said. "I really don't think that the players they lost will really affect them. A good team always has some good people to put in, so they are

Grant and of course, their halfback, Dexter Green, is outstanding. They have some receivers that can break

the game wide open. "Defensively, they are very big. They don't have any particular strength, just big. They have a very sound defensive unit," he said. Texas A&M doesn't have to worry

about players being ineligible for the game and for once, they don't have to worry about injuries going into the

"Curtis is well," Wilson said. "You know, he's had problems the last four or five weeks with groin pulls and other muscle problems and has not been full speed for a while. This layoff has helped the entire team get

well. Overall, we are healthy." The Aggies will once again show off the new uniforms they wore against Texas on national television. The game will be carried across the nation by the Mizlou network. Another fact that adds to the im-

portance of the game is that the Aggies must have a good showing in order to draw recruits to the school. Bowl games are an important aspect in the recruiting battle and if a team wins it makes the school more attractive

"Our recruiting is going very well right now," Wilson said. "I am very optimistic about the guys we have been in touch with. There is some outstanding talent around Texas. I am very pleased with the response

from our prospects. "I am looking forward to the ame but even more, I'm | forward to the spring when I plenty of time to implement want and get everyone toge Wilson said. "I just can't with

Wilson and the team are excited about next year. Bu more, they are thinking abo date with the Iowa St. Cyclor

