

Aggies tangle with problems

By MARK PATTERSON
Battalion Sports Staff

For the second week in a row, Texas A&M head coach Tom Wilson's press conference broke the a-look-at-last-week's-game, a-look-at-next-week's-game routine. In addition to talking about the Rice game and the upcoming SMU contest, Wilson talked about another controversy involving the Aggie football team.

Last week, the subject concerned Wilson and his status as head coach at Texas A&M. Questions revolved around a rumor that was circulating about an Aggie alumnus wanting to buy up Wilson's contract.

This week, the questions directed at Wilson concerned the story of someone giving out the game plans to Baylor and Texas Tech, the week before the Aggies were to play those teams. Wilson confirmed the story but denied knowing who might have given out the information.

"We delayed talking about it, but I came within five minutes of saying something about it after the Texas Tech game," Wilson said of the disclosures. "I didn't say anything because it may have sounded like sour grapes."

"As time went on, I thought it was better that I let it slide without say-

ing anything. But now it has come out in the open.

"I don't know who it was (giving out the information) but it definitely did happen. I don't know who would do such a thing."

Tech coach Rex Dockery and Baylor coach Grant Teaff said they received information in the mail on the Aggies' game plan but threw the letters away. Dockery said that the Tech athletic department had received phone calls the week of the A&M game. The caller would not identify himself but said that the Aggies were planning to flip-flop their tight end in some situations which the Ags did unsuccessfully.

"I don't know how I could find out who was giving out the information," Wilson said. "And if we did find out who was giving the information out, there's nothing we could do about it. It's nothing illegal it's just a low thing to do."

"We did visit with our team about the problem. Any leak about anything that we were doing from the team was a concern of ours. We've taken care of any leak on the team and we're more protective about who can come into practice."

The game plan information that was leaked wasn't extensive, Wilson said, but any information given out

would hurt the Aggies' immediate effectiveness.

"We lost the element of surprise," Wilson said. "If any information gets out, it gives the opposition time to prepare for the change. It's a lot easier to prepare for something when you can work on it in a

coaches' meeting a few days before the game instead of on the field during the game.

Aside from the controversy, Wilson was generally pleased with the team's performance against Rice and the ability to play all 60 players and rest the starting offense some more.

White, Sims leading Heisman race again

United Press International

MISSION, Kan. — The two principal 1979 Heisman Trophy candidates, Charles White of Southern Cal and Billy Sims of Oklahoma, continue building their cases in two different directions with White rolling up the yards and Sims the points.

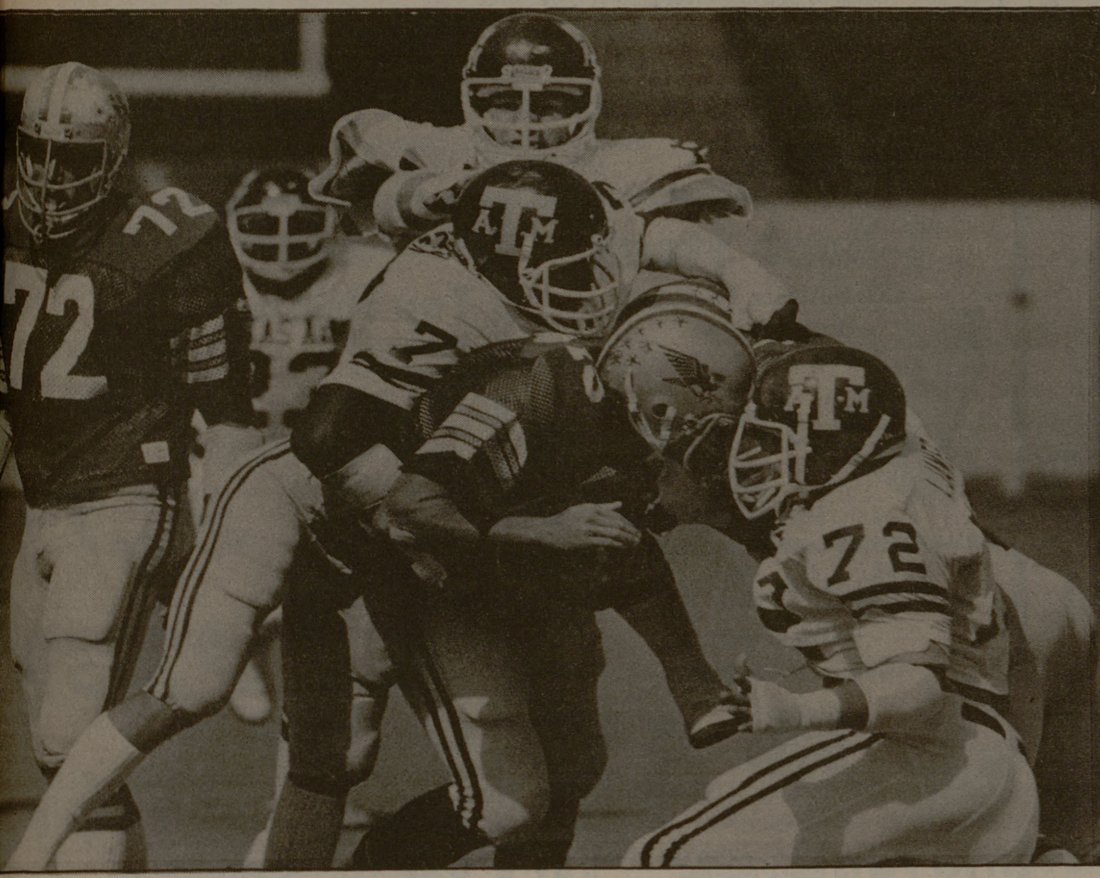
According to statistics released Tuesday, White is the NCAA Division-I rushing leader for the third straight week with 1,199 yards while 1978 Heisman winner Sims is atop the scoring chart for the fifth straight week with 96 points.

Both players have comfortable leads over the competition. White's 171.3 yards per game are almost 33 yards better than runner-up

Freeman McNeil of UCLA and Sims' 96 points are 12 more than No. 2 Mark Bornholdt of Ball State.

In other categories, Brian Broomell of Temple remains the passing leader with 177.3 rating points based primarily upon a 59 percent completion rate and a nation-leading 16 touchdown passes and Rick Beasley of Appalachian State is the leading receiver for the seventh straight week with 50 catches for 846 yards.

Also, quarterback Marc Wilson of unbeaten Brigham Young leads the nation in total offense with an average of 331.6 yards per game. Mike Ford of SMU won that category last season with an average of only 268.8 yards per game.



One Owl sack lunch to go

Rice quarterback Randy Hertel is enveloped by Texas A&M's Jacob Green and makes a little eye-to-eye contact with A&M's Arlis James (72). Meanwhile, Rice's Bryan Philips (72) lets Hertel fend for himself. Battalion photo by Pat O'Malley

Women play tough tour

By CAROLYN BLOSSER
Battalion Sports Staff

The Texas A&M women's golf team winds up its fall season this weekend in Gainesville, Fla. where the Aggies will compete in the University of Florida's Lady Gator Invitational.

A&M will play a practice round Thursday before beginning play in the three-day tournament starting Friday.

The Aggies played in the Lady Gator Invitational last year and it was their best tournament overall of the season, A&M coach Kitty Holley said.

Competing for A&M will be seniors Rita Aguilar and Carol Bequer, juniors Kim Bauer and Andrea Welch, sophomore Monica Welsh and freshmen Jackie Bertram and Sheila Oldfield.

Bauer has been the team's No. 1 player the last two years and was named to the Texas Collegiate Coaches All-State Team last year. Sophomore Shirley Furlong, one of last year's top players, is out this

fall with a back injury, but Holley said she hopes she'll be ready again in spring.

Last week A&M fared poorly against very tough competition in the 15-team Nancy Lopez Invitational in Tulsa. Competing in the tournament were twelve of the nation's top 15 teams, and A&M was not one of them.

The Aggies finished 15th with a combined team score of 1012. Tulsa University, as expected, won the tournament with 926.

"Tulsa is in a class all by themselves," Holley said. "Everyone else plays for second."

Arizona State finished second (951) and Georgia third (952). Southern Methodist University, the defending national champion, placed eighth with 974.

"It was a very difficult course full of sand and water," Holley said.

"Overall, the scores were excessively high for this caliber of golf."

In their other two tournaments this fall, the Aggies finished 13th out of 21 teams at the Susie Maxwell Bering All-College Classic in Oklahoma, and 17th out of 20 teams in a tournament three weeks ago in Albuquerque.

By their own choice, the Aggies have confined their schedule to play only in the big tournaments which draw the nation's top teams.

"It's not where you finish but who you beat," Holley said. "I know of a lot of junior college tournaments we could enter and win easily, but we choose to play it this way."

After the Lady Gator Invitational, the Aggies will resume their season March 2 when they host the Texas A&M Invitational Tournament at the Briarcrest Country Club in Bryan.

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Too Tall ready to fight

United Press International
LAS CRUCES, N.M. — Former football star Ed "Too Tall" Jones said Tuesday he is "comfortable, relaxed and super strong" in anticipation of his professional boxing debut Saturday.

Jones, who left his defensive end spot with the Dallas Cowboys for the ring, will meet Mexico's Jesus "Taqui" Meneses in his first heavyweight bout as a professional. The 6-9 Jones has trimmed down from his football playing weight of 235 pounds and expects to step into the ring at around 245 pounds. He has scaled down his workouts since arriving in Las Cruces last Friday.

"All I can tell you is that I feel comfortable, relaxed and super strong," Jones said in a telephone interview.

Jones has been working on conditioning drills at his Las Cruces camp recent days, running six to seven miles a day. He plans to resume training sessions later this week.

David Wolf, Jones' manager, said the decision to limit workouts to conditioning and running was based on the fact Jones has gone through a rigorous three-month training session in preparation for his boxing debut.

Holmes to fight

United Press International
HOUSTON — Former Pittsburgh Steelers defensive lineman Ernie Holmes Tuesday announced he was launching a pro boxing career but had not arranged his first fight yet.

Holmes said his weight had increased to 296 since his retirement from pro football last year but that he would slim down to 270 for his debut. He said he was influenced to enter boxing when former Dallas Cowboys' defensive end Ed "Too Tall" Jones quit football to box. "I would love to fight Too Tall," Holmes said. "I don't think it's possible the way the promoters have it set up."

Except for street fighting, I've had some experience boxing but professionally or collegiately," Holmes said.

The eight-year NFL veteran, who played on two Super Bowl champion teams, said his age was 29 but that it was not too late to begin a boxing career.