

# Sports

## Statistics tell story of Aggies' costly errors and bad breaks

By RICK STOLLE

**Battalion Staff**  
Many Aggies have to be wondering what is it going to take to win football games this year. It seems like everytime A&M gets going and gets a little momentum, something happens to snuff it out.

Most Aggie scoring threats have been turned away by turnovers and penalties. As it says in Murphy's Law, whatever can go wrong will, and that saying has never been more appropriate than it has for the Ags this year.

Inopportune fumbles, interceptions and penalties have plagued the Aggies all season. But for you trivia buffs, since the start of conference play for the Aggies, a great discrepancy has arisen in the turnover area.

A&M has committed 16 turnovers (eight apiece by fumble and interception) while the opposition has committed only 10. And that interesting statistic includes three "perfect" games where the opposition did not turn the ball over at all.

If one were to exclude the Texas Tech and Rice victories, where everything was fairly even, the turnover discrepancy would be even worse. A&M has 12 turnovers in those four games while the conference opposition has only two.

Yes, that's right, two. Both were in the Houston game where A&M recovered one fumble and had an interception. Baylor, SMU and Arkansas have all had "perfect" games against the Aggies.

In the 10-7 loss to Arkansas, A&M turned the ball over only once. But that one time was the fumble that deflated the Aggies' balloon, while the Hogs did not turn it over at all.

That one fumble was caused by Arkansas defensive end Billy Ray Smith when he sacked Aggie quarterback Gary Kubiak in the final moments of the game. The Aggies were driving for what could have been the game-winning score. It swung the momentum over to the Hogs, and they were able to hold on to the ball long enough to deny A&M a chance to win the game.

But at least the penalty situation went the Aggies' way against

Arkansas. The Aggies had only three penalties for 27 yards while the Hogs had five for 46. But without the 15-yard penalty on Hog coach Lou Holtz late in the game, it would have been virtually even.

In the early season games, the turnovers and penalties were fairly even. Against California, both the Aggies and Golden Bears committed two turnovers. California had 72 yards worth of penalties while A&M had only 15. In the next game, A&M committed four and Boston College five, and the penalties were nearly even at 53 and 54 yards respectively.

A&M had four turnovers and 107 yards in penalties. Against Houston, the turnovers were even, but the Cougars had no penalties to the Aggies seven for 77 yards.

Baylor's perfect game had the Ags turning the ball over four times, and the Bears' 30 yards in penalties were paltry compared to A&M's 80.

In the next game against Rice, for the first time, everything went the Aggies' way. Rice committed four turnovers to A&M's one and had 41 yards in penalties compared to the Aggies 72.

Then came two "perfect" games and two devastating losses for the Aggies. In two of the most critical games of the season, the opposition did not commit a single turnover. Against SMU, the four A&M turnovers loomed large, especially considering the fact that the Mustangs were flagged only three times for 23 yards. A&M had 9 penalties for 95 yards.

The Arkansas loss crushed Aggie hopes for a Cotton Bowl berth, and the team must rebound against TCU or all hopes for even a bowl game will be snuffed out.

Given half a chance or an even break with the breaks, A&M could be at least 7-2. And six points separate the Aggies 5-4 record from a very possible and respectable 8-1.

As it stands, with the 5-4 record, the Aggies will have to scramble to get a bowl berth and a winning record.

All season long, the Aggies have not had the breaks it takes for a team to win football games. They have the talent to win and win big but without the little things they don't even have a chance.

It defies imagination to understand how all the breaks in the most crucial conference games of the season can continually go to the Aggies' opposition. Not only do they get all the breaks, they even play fantastic football.

Aggie players and coaches have to start wondering what it will take for them to survive all the "perfect" games. They have played their hearts out game after game and have still lost.

Throughout all sports, the breaks usually even out. The law of averages states that simply. After 99 flips of the coin that turn up tails, that one hundredth time is nearly a sure bet for heads. If heads don't start turning up soon for the Aggies, A&M won't have a team or a coach left to put on the field. All of them will be in the hospital with ulcers and nervous breakdowns.

### Analysis

Louisiana Tech was a good game for the Aggies, in all departments. Not only did the Ags win big, they only had one turnover while Tech committed three. But Tech had only 78 yards in penalties to A&M's 94.

In the first conference game, all three departments were completely even. Both Texas Tech and

## THE ART SHOPPE

"One Step To A More Beautiful Apartment!"

- Wildlife Prints • Posters Perfect For Decorating
- The Original "Aggie Armadillo"
- Custom Print and Diploma Framing

10% Student Discount on Art Supplies

2200 S. College

822-5130

DEAR OLD AG,  
WE WERE SO DISAPPOINTED TO SEE SO MANY OF YOU LEAVING BEFORE THE END OF THE FOOTBALL GAME ON SATURDAY. WE ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT AGGIE SPIRIT LASTED FOREVER! HOW SURPRISED WE WERE TO FIND IT DIES SO SOON AFTER ONE GRADUATES. WE REALIZE YOU CAN DO ANYTHING YOU WANT, BUT WE HOPE YOU WILL TRY TO RESURRECT YOUR AGGIE SPIRIT. IF YOU HAD STAYED ON SATURDAY YOU WOULD HAVE SEEN AN AGGIE TEAM THAT DIDN'T QUIT AND AN AGGIE STUDENT BODY THAT DIDN'T QUIT! IN FACT, WE STAYED AFTER THE GAME FOR YELL PRACTICE!

TAKE A LOOK AT YOUR AGGIE RING NEXT TIME... AND REMEMBER... 10, 20, MAYBE 50 YEARS AGO... CAN YOU LEAVE US THEN? WE HOPE NOT.

LOVE FROM  
THE CLASSES OF  
'82, '83, '84, '85

P.S. FROM THE LEFTOVER CLASS OF '81 TOO!

HEY AGS!  
CLIP THIS  
AND SEND IT  
TO SOMEONE  
WHO NEEDS IT  
GIG'EM!



# I WANT YOU!

## FOR THE MSC VARIETY SHOW

INTERESTED?  
STOP BY OUR TABLE  
DISPLAY AT THE MSC  
11 A.M.-2 P.M.

Nov. 16<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup>  
Nov. 30<sup>th</sup>-Dec. 1

BUY, SELL, TRADE OR RENT THROUGH THE  
**CLASSIFIED ADS**



# McDONALD'S<sup>®</sup> INTRAMURAL HIGHLIGHTS

At University Drive

Now on S. Texas Ave.

At Manor East Mall



### IM Game Plan

**WORKOUTS:** Wheelchair workouts are scheduled twice this week, Monday and Friday from 3 to 5 p.m. in Room 304 East Kyle. All handicapped and non-handicapped persons are welcome. For more information call the IM-REC Sports Office or stop by 159 East Kyle.

**BASKETBALL:** Entries for basketball competition next semester begin November 30 and end December 8. Start organizing a team now to compete in one of 10 divisions: Men's and Women's Dorm A & B, Men's and Women's Independent A & B, Men's and Women's C, CoRec A, B, and C, and Men's and Women's Super League.

**MEETING:** There will be an Extramural Sports Club Monthly meeting Tuesday, November 17 at 6:30 p.m. in Room 162 East Kyle. All sports clubs must have a member present.

**TURKEY TROT:** The 12th Annual Aggie Turkey Trot will be held Thanksgiving Day. There is no better way to warm-up for the Texas game than a brisk run.

### Acknowledgements

McDonald's<sup>®</sup> Intramural Highlights is sponsored each Monday in the Battalion by your local McDonald's<sup>®</sup> Restaurants at University Drive, Manor East Mall and Texas Ave. Stories by John Bramblett; photos by David Einsel and Bob Sebree.



All-University handball champion Jeff Bronson, right, jokingly throttles his opponent, Coke Smith.

### Aggie Turkey Trot Set For Thanksgiving

The Texas game, the Bonfire, and the Turkey Trot. Yes, the annual Aggie Turkey Trot has become another one of A&M's Thanksgiving traditions.

The 12th Annual Turkey Trot will be a 3.2 mile run, jog, or walk (depending upon the individual's condition and personal preference) starting at 8 a.m. Thursday, November 25, "rain or shine". Starting at G. Rollie White Coliseum, runners will follow a course to Jersey Street, Texas Avenue, East Main Drive, and past Krueger-Dunn Hall back to the coliseum.

In the Aggie spirit, everyone, regardless of age or Alma Mater, is welcome to participate. Families are especially encouraged to come out. Visitors to

Bryan-College Station can trot along with the rest of us. There is no entry fee and no need to preregister.

This is a non-competitive event designed to promote individual and family physical fitness, so all participants will receive certificates. T-shirt transfers will be on sale for \$1.00.

The turkey trot is sponsored by the Health and Physical Education Department and Intramural-Recreational Sports. Anyone wishing further information should contact Dr. John Chevrette in the P.E. Department of Barbara Aiken in the IM-REC Sports Office.

Don't miss this chance to head off those Thanksgiving dinner calories!

### Ask Us!

What do you want to know about intramurals?  
How to sign up a team?  
Where to enter an individual sport?  
What to do when it rains?  
How to reserve a handball/racquetball court?  
Where is the pool? When is it open?  
How to reschedule a racquetball match?

What is Class C?  
These are just a few of the questions people ask all the time. If YOU have a question, please ASK US. Write down your questions, put them in an envelope addressed to: "ASK US", Intramural Office, 159 East Kyle, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843 and either mail it, drop it by the IM office, or ask your IM Chairman

or Athletic Corporal to drop it off.

Questions received by Wednesday will be answered the following Monday's McDonald's Highlights.

Suggestions and constructive criticism are always welcome, so let us know your thoughts and ideas concerning any aspect of the IM-REC Sports Program.

### Winter Pool Hours

Effective TODAY, November 16, the pools will be open for recreational swimming during the following hours:

Outdoor Pool	
Monday & Wednesday	12-1:30 p.m.
Indoor Pool	
Monday & Wednesday	6-7 p.m.
Tuesday & Thursday	6-10 p.m.
Friday	6:30-9:00 p.m.
Saturday & Sunday	1:00-5:00 p.m.

A valid student ID or recreational ID is still required to enter the pool and DeWare Fieldhouse.

### Handball Wrap-Up

Handball Singles action ended this week.

In Divisional play, Jeff Davidson from D-1 captured first place in Corps A, and Coke Smith won Men's Independent Class A. The Class A Faculty-Staff-Grad winner, Jeff Bronson, defeated Coke Smith in the All-University Finals to win a championship T-shirt.

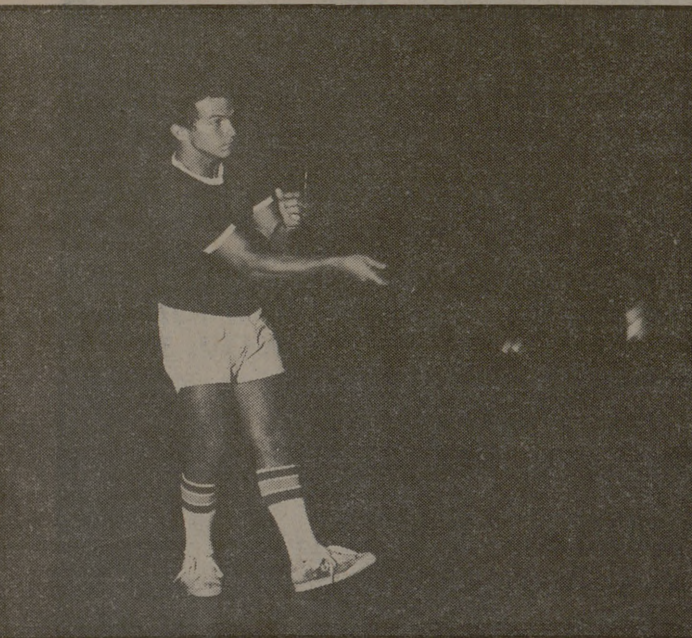
In Class B action, Barbara Davidson of Neeley won the Women's

All-University crown after a had fought final match against Terri Miller. Dan Coolidge of Cater-2 won the Corps B Division.

Ray Trimmer won the Independent B division, while Bill Moore of Walton Hall won the Dorm B finals. Ray and Bill battled for the Class B All-University Championship last Wednesday. After 2 strenuous games, Bill Moore was victorious.



Partners Judy Denman and Jimmy Wilson won their table tennis match, shown here, and earned a spot in the table tennis finals.



Badminton ace Craig Janek is our McDonald's<sup>®</sup> "Be Our Guest" winner this week. Craig can pick up his B.O.C. card, good for a free McDonald's<sup>®</sup> meal, in the Intramural Office.