

Sports

A&M-OSU matchup set for 7:30 Saturday night

Wilson, Aggies out to declare Independence

By FRANK L. CHRISTLIEB
Battalion Staff
It's been 59 years since the exas Aggies played in their first owl game.

Under legendary coach Dana X. Aible, Texas A&M defeated Centre College 22-14 in the Dixie Classic, held Jan. 2, 1922, in Dallas' Fair Park Stadium. Not only did that game start the Aggies' owl career, but it also began the Aggie Twelfth Man tradition so strong at Texas A&M today.

Many aspects of Texas A&M football have changed since that season, when the Aggies finished with a 6-1-2 after ending the regular season by tying the University of Texas 0-0. Many coaching changes, player changes, and the advent of new offensive and defensive strategies have occurred during the years between that first bowl game and the 1981 season.

Saturday's Independence Bowl, the first of several to be played during the next few weeks, will be the 13th bowl game for Texas A&M. During the past six decades Texas A&M has played in the Cotton Bowl three times, and the Sugar Bowl, Presidential Cup, Gator Bowl, Orange Bowl, Liberty Bowl, Sun Bowl, Bluebonnet Bowl and Hall of Fame Bowl once each.

Bowl No. 13 finds Texas A&M, which has been declared the home team, a slight favorite over the Oklahoma State Cowboys. In their last bowl appearance, the Aggies defeated Iowa State 28-12 in 1978 under new head coach Tom Wilson. After taking over for Emory Bellard in midseason of that year, Wilson has guided the team through the past three and a half seasons, compiling a 20-19 record.

The Aggies' 6-5 season has been classified as mediocre by some followers, while others have called it an above-average year. However, the Aggie players feel that since the regular season has ended, only a win over OSU will satisfy them. Leading the way for Texas A&M against the Cowboys will be junior quarterback Gary Kubiak, who says he's ready to play after sustaining a bruised right shoulder three weeks ago in the Aggies' 37-7 win over Texas Christian University. Even though Kubiak's status was questionable when he re-injured the shoulder five days later against UT, he said he feels confident about Saturday's game.



Ernest Anderson

"I've never felt better," Kubiak said. "It's completely healed. I've never passed better — I'm ready to go."
Kubiak said the Aggies have a great deal of respect for the Cow-

boys, who finished the season with a 7-4 record after losing 27-3 to the University of Oklahoma in their final game of the season.
Fullback Ernest Anderson and tailback Shawn Jones have led the Cowboy offense this season, while OSU's Rusty Hilger and John Doerner have split the quarterback duties.
Jones has gained 788 yards, while Anderson totaled 678 yards for the season. Doerner and Hilger have combined for 1,531 passing yards on 130 completions in 247 attempts.
Noseguard Gary Lewis anchors the Cowboy defensive line, and Aggie senior center David Bandy knows he'll have a tough assignment blocking the 6-5, 250-pounder.
"He's real quick," Bandy said. "He's big and he can move — it'll be a big challenge. He has the size and quickness of a typical noseguard. They find the biggest and strongest people and throw them in that position. He even gave (Nebraska center, Outland Trophy winner) Dave Rimington problems (when OSU lost 54-7)."
In fact, Bandy cites the entire OSU defense as a strong unit which will give the Aggie line all it can handle.

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Aggie Ladies lost third straight as OU romps, 83-5

By GAYE DENLEY
Battalion Staff
The University of Oklahoma women's basketball team bombed a struggling Texas A&M squad 83-55 Thursday night in Norman, Okla., handing the Aggies their third loss in a week.
Assistant coach Cindy Gough said the Aggies went to Oklahoma ready to play, but they fell behind 28-4 and never recovered. By the end of the first half, the Sooners had connected on 55 percent of their field goals, compared to Texas A&M's 32 percent, for a 48-20 lead.

seven of 17 field goal attempts. Coach Cherri Rapp said that the guards had a good game, including Sullivan, Sheril Clark, Jenni Edgar, duRae Gill and Romy Gandy, but they couldn't stop McGuire.

The Aggie defense could not contain Oklahoma's Molly McGuire, who pulled down nine rebounds and hit eight of eight field goal attempts and four of six free throws for 20 points.

The loss, along with two other this week to UT-San Antonio, Stephen F. Austin, drops the Aggies to 3-3 for the season. Both coaches say they plan to shift the lineup for Saturday's game with Oklahoma State in Stillwater starting four guards in hopes of shutting down OSU's running game.

Razorbacks' offense sputters in workout

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — The Arkansas Razorbacks moved their Gator Bowl preparations to their grass practice field Thursday and worked on the offensive and defensive schemes of bowl opponent North Carolina.
"It wasn't a very good offensive practice," coach Lou Holtz said. "The grass makes a difference in the timing and rhythm. We're having trouble getting consistency on the offense. We can't run many consistent plays without fouling up."
Holtz said freshman quarterback Brad Taylor, apparently set to start against the 9th-ranked Tar

Heels, did not throw well Thursday and speculated that Taylor's shoulder might have been causing problems. Taylor likely will start in the place of junior Tom Jones, who injured a knee during workouts Wednesday.
Holtz praised the play of the safety Ronald Metheny and cornerback Nathan Jones. He said both might start in the Gator Bowl if they continue to improve.
Offensively, Holtz praised the leadership of the receivers. He said converted quarterback Pierce would have to be considered the first-team fullback. Senior back James Tolbert has good practices this week.

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