The Battalion Sports

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A&M's muffed opportunities costly Hart's poise on offense key to Raiders' victory

by Frank L. Christlieb

Gary Kubiak sat beside his cker, seemingly dazed by the rents of the past three hours. Quietly pulling on his socks ad lacing up his shoes, the ies' senior quarterback ost didn't have the strength he energy to comment on his n's 24-15 Southwest Conferopening loss to Texas

motionally and physically ined, Kubiak tried not to let frustration show.

But it did. 'My only disappointment is it's my senior year and I it want us to fall in the 6-5 gory," he said. "We're a bet-team than that. I don't think will, because we still have en games left to improve. ou can't let this one affect all the way down the line. have to get ready for

les, the Aggies, now 2-2, have ather up their gear, grit and nption and transport it all to Astrodome for Saturday's ne with the Houston Igars. And Houston, coming a 21-21 tie with the Baylor rs, will be doing its best to ly a knockout punch to ch Jackie Sherrill and his in--infested squad.

After performing like a mbling band of masked rauders in the first half, the xas Tech players spent the and half entertaining themes as if Kyle Field were an sement park.

But the rides in this amusent park weren't the scary d that bring goosebumps to queamish or willies to the k-of-Hart.

he Red Raiders weren't k of Hart in this unexpected ory. In fact, quarterback Jim s leadership contributed a deal to Texas Tech's first ference victory since the



Texas A&M

Jackie Sherrill's team must regroup to face Houston

ninth game of the 1980 season, when the Red Raiders shut out

the SMU Mustangs, 14-0. The Aggies' 8-0 halftime lead evaporated during an incredibly long third quarter, when Texas Tech scored 21 points, ran 28 offensive plays and compiled 197 yards. In contrast, Texas A&M scored 0 points, ran six

plays and came up with 23 yards. Hart led his offense, which featured the 132-yard rushing effort of I-back Anthony Hutchison, to third-quarter touch-down drives of 80, 60 and 57

yards. At halftime, Hart had completed 2 of 6 passes for 8 yards and one interception. By the end of the third quarter, Hart had completed 7 of 13 passes for 57 yards and three touchdowns.

That's the story. There's not much more to tell. Three of Hart's seven passes — for 5, 11 end zone. and 3 yards — went for touch- Guthrie downs in the Aggies' disastrous third quarter.

Sherrill said the Aggies' ina-bility to stop crucial third-andtheir doom.

played well enough to put some points on the board," Sherrill said. "In the third quarter ... they (the Red Raiders) went 80 yards on a drive and scored. We took it, had three plays and punted.

"They they took the ball and went downfield and scored. Gary (Kubiak) did a great job hanging in there under pressure. He did an outstanding job running the ball downfield late in the game. He threw it in, but they got the tipped ball and the interception.

Texas Tech's Wayne Dawson intercepted a pass intended for Aggie flanker Jimmie Williams with 45 seconds left, putting an end to Kubiak's last-gasp attempt to lead his team into the end rone. end zone.

Kubiak completed 25 of 40 passes for 252 yards and one touchdown to increase his SWC-leading total to 1,002 yards. But Sherrill said the Aggie offense simply didn't take advantage of the opportunities presented to it by the defense in the first half.

For example, Texas A&M free safety Domingo Bryant recovered a Hutchison fumble at the 11:09 mark of the first quar-ter. Kubiak guided the Aggies to the Texas Tech 18-yard line during the next 5:37, but a fourth and one try over right fourth-and-one try over right guard by Mike Marshall fell

short for no gain. In the second quarter, Hart faced a third-and-13 at his own 11-yard line. When Aggie tackle Keith Guthrie chased him back toward the goalline, Hart lost the ball and it bounded into the

Guthrie and tackle Fred Caldwell scrambled in an attempt to recover the ball for a touchdown, but after Caldwell had it in his hands, Guthrie knocked it long situations partly spelled away - and out of the end zone - for a safety.

"There's no question that in When weakside linebacker the first half defensively, we Jeff Fuller intercepted a Hart When weakside linebacker of 14 extra points.

After escaping a last-ditch lunge by Aggie defensive tackle Keith Guthrie, Texas Tech quarterback Jim Hart gains seven yards during the first half of the Red Raiders' 24-15 victory Saturday in

pass at with 9:35 left in the second quarter, the Aggies had to settle for a 52-yard field goal another Hardy field goal — this from David Hardy. Through

the first four games, Hardy has been successful on 10 of 13 fieldgoal attempts and has kicked 14 the Red Raider 35.

Later in the second quarter, time from 48 yards, after linebacker Bobby Strogen recovered a Texas Tech fumble at

Right cornerback Greg Wil-

liams, who nearly intercepted a can't afford to get down about Hart pass in A&M territory with this game," he said. "The pain 11:43 left in the game, said the Aggies will have to put the defeat behind them with Houston

inside the players from this loss will give them give them confidence and make them ready to play. We have to really get after it and fly around the ball. The

staff photo by David Fisher

Kyle Field. Hart threw three touchdown passes and the Aggies' Guthrie recorded 11 unassisted tackles and four assists during three quarters of play before leaving the game with a muscle spasm in his neck.

ahead.

'The team will realize that loss should really help us a lot in this is conference play and we the long run."

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