

# Injuries making a shambles of Aggies' balanced attack

It's about time to hear that familiar old line around Aggieland again: "Wait 'til next year."

That line may yet be premature, but Lady Luck can't seem to find College Station, and Murphy's Law has already moved into the area.

In fact, the SMU catastrophe supports O'Toole's Corollary to Murphy's Law: Murphy was an optimist. Indeed, practically anything that could have gone wrong this season has gone wrong, and the really unfortunate events haven't been the Aggie football squad's fault.

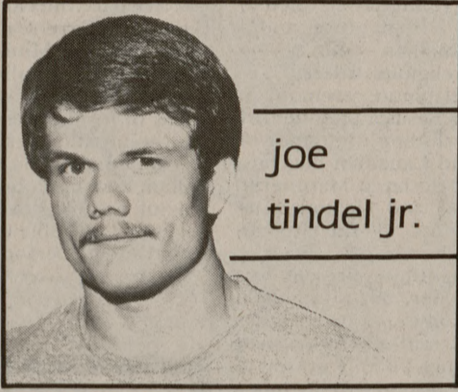
The season can be summed up in one word: injuries.

Before the season began, talk about the Aggies and their new coach centered around a balanced offensive attack that would make extensive use of junior tight end Mark Lewis. Lewis was heralded as the best tight end in the conference and one of the best in the nation.

As the Aggie commanders spoke of their plans, the "oohs" and "aahs" from the writers soon took the form of positive predictions about Texas A&M's season. Reinforcing their predictions was further enthusiastic talk about the balancing effect the running back tandem of Johnny Hector and Earnest Jackson would have.

Oh yes, and that Aggie defense was expected to resemble the Texas A&M defenses of the mid-'70s.

Exit writers, enter Boston College.



Joe Tindel Jr.

It took months of preparation for Jackie Sherrill to assemble his plans and his team for the fall. It took about two hours for a big chunk of those plans to disintegrate — just long enough for Lewis to fall victim to Murphy's Law.

The problem of what to do with those offensive plans that required Lewis to be effective was something to be worked on for the next few weeks.

One answer was more frequent use of Hector and Jackson as receivers. But Jackson left the field about the same time Lewis did. Hector followed one week later, and junior back Thomas Sanders hit the injury list soon afterward.

Meanwhile, the defense was wearing down while waiting for the offense to get

untracked. No injuries there, just this burden of having to keep the opposing offenses away from the end zones while their partners on offense were trying to figure out a way to use freshmen and second- and third-stringers.

The eventual return of Hector and Jackson helped things a little, but the damage had been done. The offense was rusty and the defense had lost a great deal of confidence.

And there was still no Mark Lewis. With the victories over Baylor and Rice, things began to look brighter, as the substitute game plan began to work. Gary Kubiak's passing was looking as sharp as ever, and a short passing game using the backs was an effective substitute for a running game that was practically non-existent.

Enter Russ Washington, exit Kubiak. Minutes into the SMU game, the Aggie quarterback made the wounded list. After Washington, the Mustangs' right defensive end, put Kubiak out of the game, hopes of a great upset began to fade faster than Sherrill's plans for Lewis.

Despite an impressive defensive performance by the Aggies against the Ponies, breaks just didn't come about for the Maroon and White.

True, the season's not over yet, but with what's happened thus far, a good country music writer could really turn out some big hits.

# Hawks blister Bullets

**United Press International**  
Four-star performances are nothing new to Dominique Wilkins, dubbed the "Human Highlight Film" while playing at Georgia.

"Dominique had a sensational game, he played about as well as possible for a player to play," Washington coach Gene Shue said Tuesday night after Wilkins scored 30 points to help the Atlanta Hawks to their first victory of the season — a 105-88 triumph over the Bullets.

Wilkins had 9 first-quarter points, 10 in the third quarter and 11 in the fourth. He hit his last nine shots from the field.

"The proudest I am about Dominique's game tonight was the defensive effort he put out there against a great player in (Greg) Ballard," said Atlanta coach Kevin Loughery. "He has the chance to be a very good defensive player with a lot of work, but he needs an awful lot of work."

Dan Roundfield finished with 23 points and Wes Matthews had 16 for the Hawks, 1-2. Roundfield and Tree Rollins had 9 rebounds each for Atlanta.

In other games, it was New Jersey 110, San Diego 100; Detroit 128, Cleveland 119; Kansas City 119, Milwaukee 112; Dallas 113, Houston 103; Seattle 120, Utah 92; and Phoenix 92, Portland 87.

**NETS 110, CLIPPERS 100** — At East Rutherford, N.J., Darryl Dawkins scored 20 points and Buck Williams added 17, enab-

ing the Nets to defeat the Clippers.

**PISTONS 128, CAVALIERS 119** — At Richfield, Ohio, Isiah Thomas tossed in 30 points and John Long added 29 to lead the Pistons, extending the Cavaliers'

record losing streak to 22 games over two seasons.

**KINGS 119, BUCKS 112** — At Kansas City, Mo., Eddie Johnson collected career highs of 34 points and 15 rebounds to lift the Kings.

## Amarillo Hometown Club Activities Meeting

### Wednesday — November 3

7:30 P.M. Heldenfels 111

# Hare wins racquetball tourney title

Mike Hare was a double winner in the Texas A&M Racquetball Club's Halloween Classic, held the past weekend.

Hare captured victories in the men's A division and the men's doubles competition. Other results include:


Men's A: Oscar Diaz, second; Cameron Walker, consolation  
Men's B: Bobby Warrington, first; Steve Searcy, second; Lee Carter, consolation  
Men's C: Allan Robinson, first; Nguyen Hanh Dung, second; Bill Schultheis, consolation

Women's A: Mary Bean, first; Kathleen Fairchild, second; Terri Smith, consolation  
Women's B: Lore McDowell, first; Lora Hurley, second; Chris Kleinhenz, consolation  
Women's Novice: Kris Marlatt, first; Kenda Ernst, second; Caroline Abbott, consolation

Men's doubles: Hare-Eric Sandt, first; David Segers-Gary Hale, second; Phil Mani-David Mays, consolation

Women's doubles: Lorie MacDowell-Kathleen Fairchild, first; Mary Bean-Cathy Langlotz, second; Kris Marlatt-Kenda Ernst, consolation

The Texas A&M Racquetball club is open to those who desire to play either recreational or competitive racquetball. Anyone interested should call David Mays at 696-3637 or Phil Mani at 693-9451.



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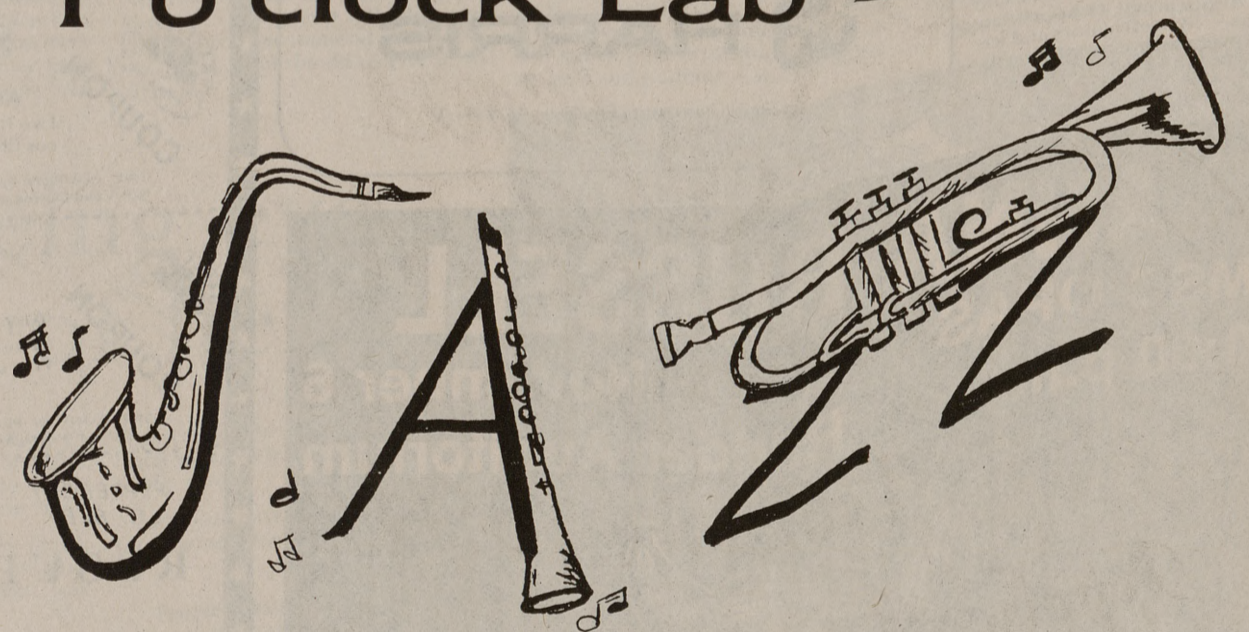
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