

Horns

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little bit, but it was really a pretty good throw. I was just glad it came down so I could get it and get going."

"On their first drive," DeAyala said, "they (the Aggies) mixed it up well and had some success. But I knew it was just a matter of time before we settled down. And after we got ahead, it took them out of their game plan."

Clark said the pass play was definitely the turning point.

"I think that play made A&M realize that it was us who was going to win the game," he said.

And if that play wasn't convincing enough, the Aggies should have gotten the message soon after. The Longhorn onslaught was matched only by Texas A&M's bad breaks — both

real and imagined.

Bad field position plagued the Aggies throughout the game, but it was never more evident than in the first quarter, when Texas had two TD drives that started at the Aggie 35, and one drive that followed a 28-yard punt into the wind by Aggie punter Kyle Stuard.

The officials threw 28 flags in the contest, and although only 19 of the penalties were accepted, the Aggies appeared to get the better of the deal.

Texas A&M was penalized six times for 55 yards and the 'Horns were penalized 13 times for 106 yards. But like the rest of the afternoon, something that could have spelled trouble for the Longhorns turned out to read disaster for the Aggies. Texas A&M's penalties always

seemed to come at a time when they could least afford them, while Texas chugged along unharassed.

Longhorn coach Fred Akers was obviously pleased with his team's performance in the their tune-up to the Dec. 4 showdown with Arkansas in Austin. But Akers said the momentum turnaround in the first quarter changed the game completely.

"I think the impact of that one play (the pass to Walls) was certainly significant," Akers said.

"Anytime something big like that happens early in a football game, it's a shot in the arm for your team.

"I thought they (the Aggies) would be awfully high, and they were, but we just got the better of them."



Texas A&M runningback Johnny Hector tries to recover his own fumble in first quarter action of the Texas-Texas A&M football game on Thanksgiving day. Texas

defensive back Richard Peavy recovered Hector's fumble at the Texas 12 yard-line.

Once again it's 'next year'

by John P. Lopez

Battalion Staff
For the past few years instead of Grace, lots of Aggies have been saying "wait 'till next year" around their Thanksgiving tables. This year was probably no exception with the shellacking the Longhorns handed the Aggies Thursday, but perhaps next year the wishful thinking will begin to pay dividends.

With the Aggies losing this season's entire starting backfield to graduation, one would think next year would be just another fair to mediocre season for the Aggies. But with a strong recruiting year for Coach Jackie Sherrill and a productive spring training for this season's underclassmen, maybe more Aggies will be able to digest their food

next Thanksgiving.

So here goes a pre-season look at the 1983-84 Aggies.

On defense, the Aggies will have eight returning players, but the players that return need to have productive spring practices since the Aggies' defense finished dead last in the South-west Conference this year.

Key players should be Ray Childress and Keith Guthrie at tackle and Billy Cannon and Domingo Bryant at safety while the biggest question mark will be at defensive end where both starters Jon van Sant and Paul Pender are leaving.

On offense, the only hole to be filled on the line is at left tackle where Bryan Dausin is vacat-

ing the position he has held down for two years. Sophomore Nathan Steadman, who has some restricted playing time behind Dausin, will probably be Dausin's successor.

Naturally, quarterback C. Kubiak's departure will be a terrible blow to the Aggie offense this year. John Elkins, an USC transfer, will be anxiously waiting in the wings ready to strut their stuff. Runningbacks Johnny Hector and Earnest Jackson will have a handful of talented backs to replace them. The candidates are George Smith, Jimmy Hawkins and Ron Watkins.

Ags

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dary-wise and we've got to come up with some defensive ends that can run. This is a very critical year in recruiting."

Even if the Aggies are on their way to sunnier days, Sherrill said he's disappointed his team didn't have a better year since many Aggie supporters probably expected a better record for Texas A&M.

"I don't think they (fans) expected too much, but I'm sure they expected more than what happened," he said.

happened," he said.

"But I did too. And I think the players expected more of themselves too. There's a question, we had some young people who didn't know what being in the leadership was. And all of a sudden they were thrown into that position when they were still trying to learn how to play football and were not going to be able to do both."

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