

# The Battalion Sports

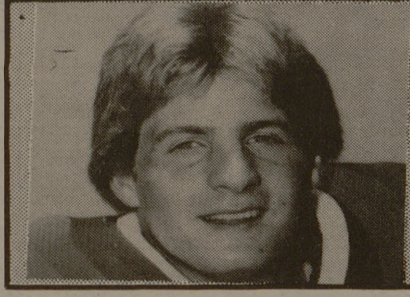
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Taylor says he's ready for Ags

## Has flu-bug really bit Hogs?

by Bob Caster

Battalion Staff



*'Everybody's had the virus this week. We had at least 15 people sick for about four days, but I think we're all over it. I feel fine.'* — Arkansas quarterback Brad Taylor on Saturday's game against Texas A&M.

takes not to make. If we don't give them any interceptions or cheap touchdowns, then we can win.

But the Aggies will be looking for interceptions, and touchdowns, and fumbles and anything else they can use to their advantage. And statistics say the Aggies have the personnel to make those kind of things happen.

The A&M defense has allowed just 36 points to conference foes so far this season and if they get their way this week, it will still be 36 points after Saturday. Taylor is aware of that.

"They are real good," Taylor said, sizing up the Aggie defense. "They are big, strong and quick and their secondary is real tough. They have some great defensive players like (Billy) Cannon and (Ray) Childress. We'll have to play one of the best games we've played all year to beat them because it will take a

total game to beat them — that means all 60 minutes."

There are a lot of areas where Taylor will have to pay attention to detail but he can sum up the key to an Aggie defeat in one word — "execution."

"The team that wins up front will win the game," he said. "If all six men on our offensive line can do their job and the backs hit the holes, then we can average four or five yards a carry. When we move the ball on the ground it really opens up the passing game and allows us to run more options and sweeps."

However, Taylor's strong arm and ability to get outside doesn't necessarily make Arkansas' ground game a prerequisite for going airborne.

Ironically, the Hogs, who demolished the Aggies 35-0 last

year in Little Rock, have had a season that closely parallels the Aggies'.

Both teams are young, sharing a shortage of upperclassmen, and both have had their ups and downs. The Hogs, who are a half game ahead of the Aggies in Southwest Conference action, fell to the Baylor Bears, losing the game by a field goal in the closing seconds of the game.

The Bears moved the ball a total of 543 yards against Arkansas — the most yards ever given up by a Lou Holtz football team.

"We did get beat but we're not placing any blames," Taylor said reflecting on the loss to the Bears. "We've had good games and bad games this year but we've come a long way from the first of the season and we're getting better each week. We were down after the Baylor game but

our seniors did a good job of bouncing us back."

Just how well the Hogs bounced back will not be determined until Saturday's game, but both teams are in the same boat and there is only one life jacket.

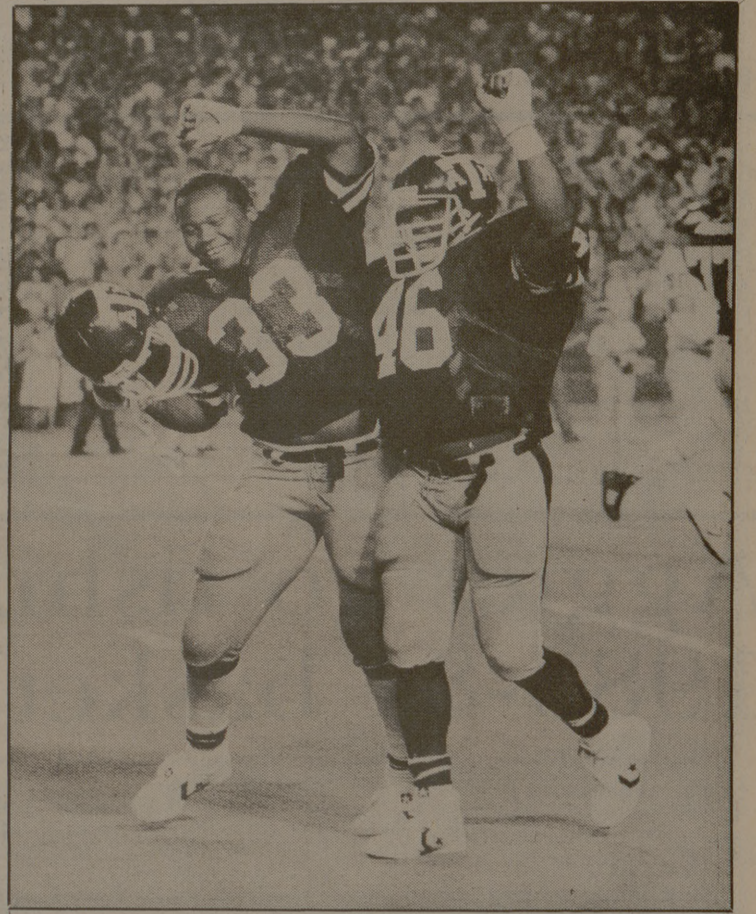
That is, both A&M and Arkansas have chances — slight chances — at receiving invitations to a bowl game. Arkansas is still in the running to receive bids from the Bluebonnet, Peach and Hall of Fame bowls while the Aggies have an outside chance at going to the Bluebonnet Bowl.

That situation will change after this weekend's game.

Not only is a bowl possibility motivation for the Aggies, but the Razorbacks have won the last six games and seniors on the Texas A&M team are hungry for a win.

Make that starving for a win.

You see, no member of the current A&M squad has ever celebrated a victory over the Hogs. In fact, the Aggies haven't defeated Arkansas in six years. Texas A&M feels like its time for a change.



Battalion photo

Texas A&M defenders Jerry Bullitt and Mike Ashley celebrate a big play earlier this year. Arkansas' Brad Taylor said he is well aware of Texas A&M's defensive strength.

## Hagler whips Duran in 15

United Press International  
 LAS VEGAS, Nev. — Marvin Hagler, using his first big money to showcase his talent, enraptured Roberto Duran's quest for history Thursday night, successfully defending his world lightweight title with a 15-1 unanimous decision. Duran was vilified as a traitor toward in his native Panama three years ago after quitting his eighth round of a title fight against Sugar Ray Bard, but he regained his status as a national hero when he defeated Davey Moore in the second round last June to win the World Boxing Association middleweight title.

head. Duran brought roars from the large number of Panamanians but he never hurt Hagler. Duran did raise a welt along Hagler's left eye and brought blood from at the end of the 12th round.

The scoring of the judges appeared much closer than the fight itself. Guy Jutras of Canada had it 144-142, Ove Oveson of Denmark had it 144-143 and Yasaku Yoshida of Japan had it 146-145, all for Hagler. UPI had it 145-142 Hagler.

The ring-wise Duran used every trick in his attempt to get at Hagler. Referee Stanley Christodoulou warned him at least seven times for low blows but did not deduct any points. He also warned Duran about a butt and at the end of the second round, Duran openly butted Hagler just after the bell.

After an opening round in which both fighters did almost nothing, Hagler began to open up a bit in the second, landing well with right hooks and catching Duran's long right hands on his gloves.

Duran took to the offensive in the third and fourth rounds. Hagler landed a good right uppercut but Duran stormed back with a left-right combination and backed Hagler into the ropes. Hagler, as he did throughout the fight, broke quickly in the fourth round and landed a four-punch combination but Duran backed him off with a counter right hand to the

head. Hagler was content to jab while Duran landed to his body.

It was in the sixth round that Hagler set the tone. From there, he continued to land combinations and evade most of Duran's

heavy bombs. Duran tried to get inside Hagler, who enjoyed an eight-inch reach advantage, but Hagler deftly tied him up or caught many of his punches on his elbows or gloves.

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