

Stump

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So the question asked most of Sherrill and his coaching staff during this week's preparations for Tech is not can Stump play, but can he handle the pressure of a SWC game?

"Having played some already can be a plus or minus situation for Stump," Sherrill said. "He's been around Kevin (Murray), so he's not going to get rattled easily. I think he's taken enough snaps. It's probably more of a plus because the players have responded well around him."

Stump echoed Sherrill's feelings about his early season playing time.

"It will help a lot," Stump said. "The only difference now will be that I'm taking the first snap of the game instead of the fiftieth."

Stump said he doesn't expect to prepare any differently now that he's become A&M's No. 1 quarterback.

"All the quarterbacks here prepare the same for each game," Stump said. "The only pressure put on me will be what I put on myself to do good. As a backup, you have to prepare yourself for any situation. You never know when you're going in."

Despite the fact the Aggies have lost to the Red Raiders the previous two seasons, 3-0 in '83 and 24-15 in '82, Stump isn't bothered by this week's starting assignment.

"Starting is starting," Stump said. "You just go out there to win. They (Tech) have beaten us two years in a row, but I can't think of a better game to start in."

Stump admitted the Aggies' intensity level during the last three games hasn't been up to par with a 3-0 team.

"Everybody on the team really wants to win," he said. "We're 3-0 and that's all anybody really cares about. The intensity level should be a lot higher this week because it's the first conference game."

When asked to compare himself with Murray, Stump said the differences between them were slight.

"Kevin (Murray) has a stronger arm than I do," he said. "He's a little quicker, but we're basically the same type of quarterbacks for this style of offense."

If Stump has any weaknesses, the most apparent one that could reappear against Tech are miscues in taking the snap from center.

On the winning touchdown pass against Arkansas State, Stump bobbled the ball momentarily coming out from under the center. Then, while in the grasp of an Indian defender, he rifled the ball to Teal in the left corner of the endzone.

Twice against Iowa State, Stump dropped the ball on the artificial turf on the center exchange. Fortunately for A&M, Stump covered both fumbles.

"I think it (Stump's snap problem) was just the lack of work with (starting center) Matt (Darwin)," Stump said. "During practice, I don't take a lot of snaps from the first team centers. All centers are different."

Sherrill agreed with Stump's reasoning for the fumbled snaps.

"Those things happen when you pull out (from under center)," Sherrill said. "That can certainly be corrected. He's (Stump) worked more with (second team center) Matt Wilson than with Matt Darwin."

With Murray lost for the remainder of the season, the A&M quarterback situation has been thrown into disarray.

A&M's depth chart for the Tech game lists senior John Mazur and sophomore Paul Casper as Stump's backups. Sherrill said that freshman Mark Motley, an All-State performer at Ore City High School, would probably be redshirted this season.

Should injuries continue to haunt the A&M quarterback stable, Sherrill said senior John Elkins, who replaced an injured Gary Kubiak during the Aggies' 47-9 loss to Southern Methodist in 1982, would be moved from his current linebacker position back to quarterback.

A&M rifle team topples Miners

By TONY CORNETT
Sports Writer

The Texas A&M Rifle Team squinted down its sights at the "enemy" last Saturday and squeezed off the shots needed to nail down a victory over Texas-El Paso.

The Ags avenged their only defeat of 1983 by shooting past the Miners 1423-1380.

The members of the winning Aggie team are Kevin Schabacker, Carter Stone, Chris Fedun, Eric Abbott and Dana Osborne.

The match was a .177-caliber air rifle competition and took place at the rifle range in the basement of the Military Science Building.

The rifle team has won the Southwest Conference Championship the last two years in a row and is currently ranked 13th in the nation.

The Ags also sent eight shooters to the Olympic Trials last season.

It is not commonly known that shooting is a varsity sport at A&M and that competition is overseen by NCAA rules.

The shooting team is composed of 12 members and the membership is split evenly between cadets and civilians.

The team's season runs through next April with the Ags competing in some 22 matches, including shooting matches every weekend between now and the A&M Christmas break.

The Ags travel to Austin next weekend to begin conference competition at the University of Texas Invitational.

The A&M team will be led by All-Southwest Conference shooter Schabacker and A&M's All-American candidate David Edmondson.

Aggies need a few good men

By SUZY FISK
Sports Writer

The Texas A&M Field Hockey club has mostly women on the team but Phoebe Davol, the team's advisor, hopes more men will join in order to set up two separate teams.

The club has been playing for several years and Davol, a graduate student in soil science, is very optimistic about this year.

"We have been invited to Colorado to play in the Rocky Mountain Field Hockey Invitational at the Olympic Training Center," Davol said.

This will be the club's fifth year to go to the tourney. However, they are only allowed to take two men along with their required 13 women.

Field hockey has been traditionally a woman's sport in the United States and this is one of the reasons the club has so few men. Davol says she would like to see more men come out and join the club.

"We are trying to start a men's team," she said. "We're trying to make extra money so we can make it appealing to them."

In Europe, field hockey is primar-

ily a men's sport which explains why the United States Olympic team doesn't do as well when competing, said team member Mary Wilson.

The club will attend three tournaments this year with funds provided by the Texas A&M Extramural Sports Club Association.

The club earns money by sponsoring car washes, working at the Texas Triathlon and by receiving \$20 semester dues from each member. The club works from a budget set by Davol.

The Aggies will hold their 2nd Invitational Field Hockey Tournament Oct. 13-14. The club will compete against nine women's teams during the tourney which begins at 8:30 a.m. on the main drillfield.

Since many of the opposing team members are students from preparatory schools, Davol believes the tournament is a good for recruiting prospective players.

"It gives them (students) a chance to see the campus," Davol said.

Wilson, a graduate of Texas A&M, said the private schools are "highly competitive" with A&M's team. Those schools practice at least two to three hours a day.

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