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Ag football games keep KAMU-TV personnel busy

By TOM TAGLIABUE Reporter

When the final seconds tick off of the clock at a Texas A&M football game, most people will call it a night and go home. But for several em-ployees of KAMU-TV (Channel 15), the game's end means their job is

KAMU-TV, the local public tele-vision station (PBS), produces the *Jackie Sherrill Show*, a highlight and interview program. The show is sent via satellite early Sunday morning to 13 Texas television stations, including Home Sports Entertainment and the San Antonio Sports Channel.

The show is picked up by SPN, the Satellite Programming Network, which distributes the show to 175 cable companies nationwide. Mel Chastain, KAMU-TV general

manager, is the executive producer of the Jackie Sherrill Show, as well as three other football-oriented productions.

Chastain's crew ranges from eight to 18 workers, depending on whether A&M is being televised by a major network.

Rodney Zent, KAMU-TV station manager, is the video tape editor for the Sherrill show. He said the pro-gram takes from eight to 10 hours to edit before being sent out by satellite.

"Some of the editing we do during the game." Zent said. "In particular, after the first quarter, I edit those highlights and keep just about a quarter ahead. That way, when the game is over, I have about a quarter left to do."

Zent said the crew finishes the Sherrill show about 6 or 7 a.m. Sun-

day morning. KAMU-TV also produces another highlight show called *Sunday Night* Football, hosted, produced and edited by A&M senior Rusty Roberts. Roberts said he puts in about 25 hours a week on the one hour show,

Aggie lineup forth vely set with Alkion es position and Sm The Nos. 3-7 spo most of which is spent in production. Sunday Night Football was orig-nally a re-telecast of an entire A&M Mark Smith, Dea football game, but the show took on Vos, Dean Goldfire a new look this season as just an hour

long highlights show.

Kent said, the No. be Alkio-Vos, Gold d Smith-Simmon

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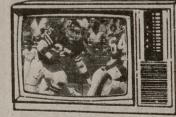
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Roberts said he works with the KAMU-TV production crew as a chyron (graphics) operator during the game, as well as taking notes on key plays in the game and picking out particular shots for his show.

Roberts, a former sportscaster for 15 News, said he normally comes in Sunday morning after the game to edit his show. He said it takes about six hours to edit and produce Sun-day Night Football by himself. Chastain said Sunday Night Foot-ball changed format this season be-

cause there was already a glut of televised football.

There is so much football on from Thursday through Saturday



night and then repeats on a lot of the cable netwoks, plus all of the profes-sional football on Sunday," Chastain said. "We really felt that, by Sunday night, there was such a glut of tele vised football that we were really trying to strike a balance between peo-ple who love to watch the Aggies

'We found from research that a lot of the viewers are people who go to the games. They want to go home and see it again. So we thought a one hour version still provides the excite-ment of the main excitement of the main scoring drives and

ment of the main scoring drives and the key things that happen during the game. We simply cut out the parts of the game that don't directly affect the outcome of the game." In addition to Sunday Night Foot-ball and the Sherrill show, Chastain and his crew also will put together a specially configured highlight tape for the A&M Association of Former Students. Students.

"They want to see all of the plays, none of the huddles and time-outs and (they want to see) all of the (Ag-gie) Band," Chastain said.

The newest football production for KAMU-TV is the Video Year-book, a behind-the-scenes diary of the 1985 Aggie football team from the 1985 Aggie football team from the beginning of two-a-day workouts to the end of the season. The video tape, which sells for \$49.95, was cre-ated jointly by KAMU-TV and the A&M Athletic Department. "It's a lot different than just a bunch of highlights," Chastain said. "We pretty much chase the team around with a camera and video tape recorder and have been since

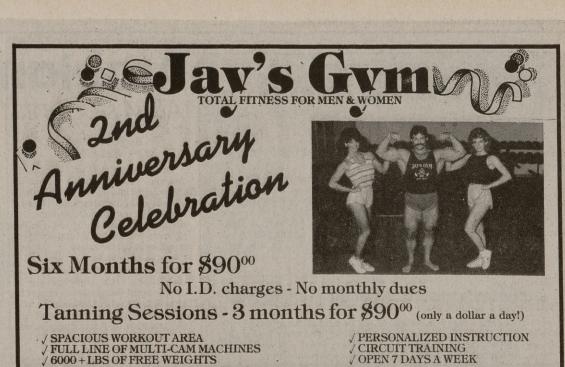
tape recorder and have been since the season started — clear back to two-a-days, Coach Sherrill's first speeches to the new incoming freshmen, the walk-ons and the varsity players.

"We've been over in Cain Hall where been over in Cam Hain with them. Plus we go to the locker room with them before, during and after the game. We're the only folks that are in there when he (Sherrill) is all of Coach Sherrill's speeches on vi-deo tape — some of them make it to the coaches' show, some of them we're saving for the video yearbook. So it compute to be nextly read?

So, it ought to be pretty good." Alan Jones, A&M's assistant ath-letic director for operations and pro-motions, said the initial response to the Video Yearbook was promising. Jones said 25 to 30 tapes have been sold already. He said the depart-ment already has an ad for the tape during the Sherrill show and plans to use mail-outs so people can order the tape the tape.

Jones, who works with the Sherrill show, said the program reaches all over the country, which is good for the department. Jones said Sherrill wants his show, which costs roughly \$250,000 a year to produce, to be in-formative formative.

Brazos Valley residents can see the Sherrill show on Bryan's KBTX-TV (Ch. 3) and Houston's KHTV-TV (Ch. 39) Sundays at 10 p.m. Sunday Night Football appears exclu-sively on KAMU-TV Sunday at 8 p.m.



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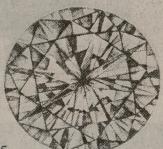


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