

Sports

A&M defense dogs hapless Huskies Pavlas, Woodside lead A&M offensive attack

By Loyd Brumfield
Sports Editor

Red-shirt freshman quarterback Lance Pavlas may have a promising future ahead of him, but it was the 11 players on defense who were the real Supermen in Texas A&M's 29-12 romp over 10th-ranked Washington Saturday at Kyle Field.

Give the defense credit for A&M's surprisingly easy win over the previously unbeaten Huskies. Washington dropped to 2-1 with the loss while A&M improved to 1-1.

All the defense did was fold, spindle and mutilate Heisman Trophy-hopeful Chris Chandler, the Washington quarterback. Chandler finished the day completing only 11 of 31 passes, including only two in the second half. He was sacked four times, twice as many times as he was caught during the entire 1986 season.

Texas A&M safety Chet Brooks said, "(LSU's) Hodson had more poise in the pocket. 'Chandler, if you give him pressure, gets a little rattled. He doesn't have that poise... you can't win the Heisman on your back.'

Indeed, Chandler's chances for the Heisman may also have been sacked Saturday. He finished with only 120 passing yards to his credit, the worst outing of his career. The Huskies finished with a lowly 173 total yards.

A&M's blitz destroyed the Husky offense. Linebackers John Roper and Aaron Wallace were in the Washington backfield more than the Huskies were.

Brooks, safety Kip Corrington and linebacker Dana Batiste led the way defensively with eight tackles each.

Actually, the offense could have stayed home and watched the game on ESPN. It struggled for the second game in a row, although it did improve from a terrible 229-yard effort against LSU to a not-quite-astounding 265-yard output against Washington.

The defense caused four Husky fumbles (three of which A&M recovered), so the offense never had to go far for its scores, with the exception of its second possession of the game.

On that series, tailback Keith Woodside took a pitch from starting

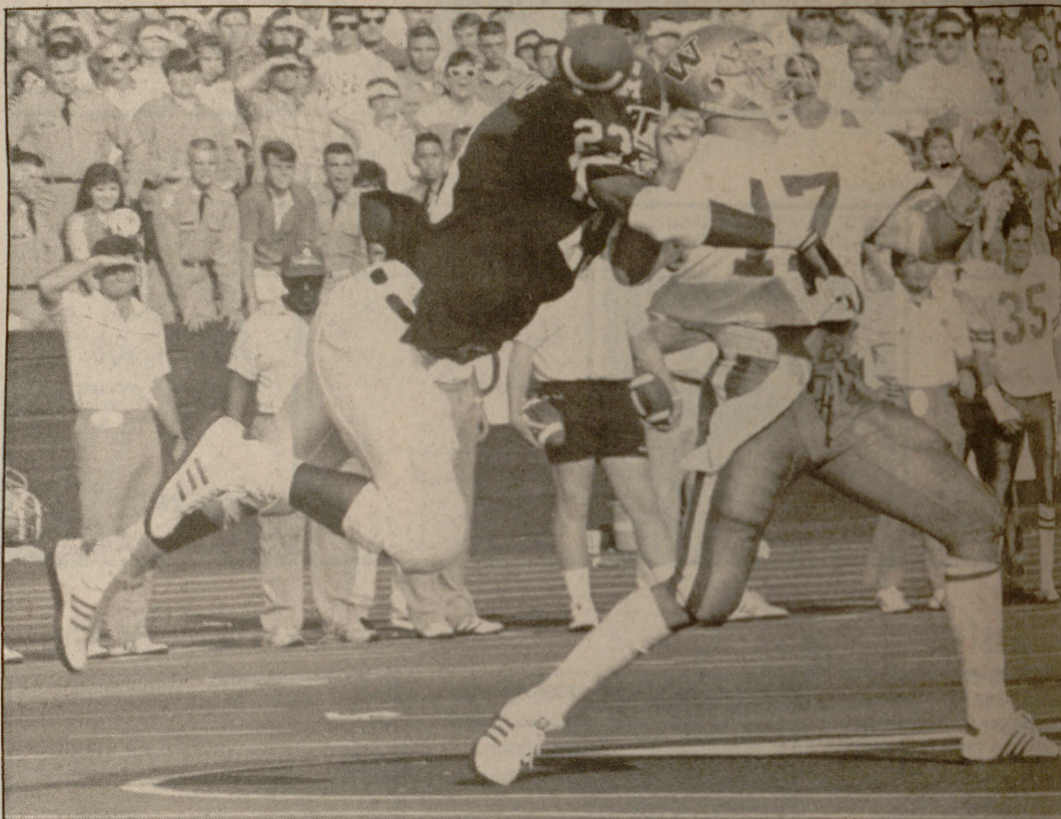


Photo by Jerry...

A&M linebacker Aaron Wallace forces Washington's Chris Chandler to commit one of four Husky turnovers. Chandler was sacked four times by Aggie defenders and completed only 11 of 31 passes in A&M's 29-12 victory.

quarterback Craig Stump and ran 77 yards with it before he was brought down at the Washington 3-yard line by cornerback Art Malone. A&M Fullback Matt Gurley scored two plays later when he dove over the goal line.

The Huskies came back on a 47-yard field goal by SMU transfer Brandy Brownlee, who would provide Washington with its only method of scoring for the entire game.

Stump had a terrible day in his second start of the season. He finished the day with an 0-for-3 passing performance, all three of which were way off target. Pavlas replaced him at the beginning of the second quarter and went the rest of the way, completing 13-of-19 for 83 yards and one interception.

Pavlas threw his first touchdown

pass of the season late in the second quarter when he hit freshman receiver Percy Waddle, who made a leaping catch in intense coverage for Pavlas' 7-yard toss. It was also Waddle's first collegiate touchdown, and it topped the Aggies' lead to 14-6.

The longest A&M scoring drive following the first one was 12 yards. Besides causing the fumbles, the defense partially blocked a Brownlee punt, and played a big part in messing up another.

In the third quarter, with A&M defenders swarming all over him, Brownlee punted into the back of Husky fullback Aaron Jenkins. A&M safety Lafayette Turner scooped up the ball and ran into the end zone to increase A&M's lead to 21-12.

Woodside finished with 90 yards on the day and was also A&M's lead-

ing receiver with five catches for 100 yards. Overall, the offense showed signs of coming around, but the quarterback controversy was greater than ever after the game, though Sherrill denied it.

"You guys (the press) don't know how to be hung up on who wins," Brooks said. "It's not that big of a deal." Pavlas showed he could do the job, however.

"Give the defense credit," Brooks said. "They gave us great field position. 'We played well,' Brooks said. 'We clutched the game ball.' The best defense I've played. Compared to the 1985 defense, one's matured faster."

When asked why he liked the game ball, Brooks replied, "It is for the whole defense... or 16 guys." How fitting.

SWC goes 5-1, improves on tarnished stature

From Staff and Wire Reports

The Southwest Conference has regained some lost face, and, after two humiliating weeks, the league has something to boast about.

Texas A&M mastered a Top Ten team by blasting Washington 29-12. Arkansas ripped Tulsa 30-15, Texas Christian stunned Brigham Young 33-12, Texas Tech bashed Lamar University 43-19, and Baylor survived Nevada-Las Vegas 21-14.

In the SWC's only loss Saturday, Louisiana State downed Rice 49-16.

The league is now 9-10 against outside competition.

The Aggies' victory over Washington was the SWC's first victory in five tries over a Top Ten club.

The A&M defense throttled Washington quarterback Chris Chandler, sacking him four times and keeping him off balance with a constant blitz.

"We beat a great team," said Texas A&M Coach Jackie Sherrill. "We beat a team that could be in the Rose Bowl this year."

Sherrill said "the defense played extremely well. We used our quickness to defeat their size. I didn't



think we would get to Chandler like we did. I believe that's the worst he's ever done."

Chandler was only sacked twice all of the 1986 season and hadn't been sacked in victories over Purdue and Stanford.

Redshirt freshman quarterback Lance Pavlas of Tomball completed 13 of 19 passes for 83 yards and a touchdown as the Aggies dominated the Huskies at the line of scrimmage. "Craig Stump wasn't on target and that's why I took him out," Sher-

rill said. "Lance is a young man with a lot of talent."

Arkansas remained the SWC's only unbeaten team by coasting to victory over Tulsa.

The Razorbacks can also bolster the SWC's image when they play powerful Miami in Little Rock on national television (ESPN) at 3 p.m. on Saturday.

"Miami's defense is awesome" said Arkansas Coach Ken Hatfield. "It should be really exciting. It will be a great opportunity for our football team."

Texas A&M will play Southern Mississippi in Jackson, Miss., at 1 p.m. Texas Tech and Baylor open the SWC regular season when the Bears host the Red Raiders at noon (Raycom TV) on Saturday at Baylor Stadium.

In other games, Southwest Texas State is at Rice 6 p.m., Houston hosts Sam Houston State at 7 p.m., and Oregon State is at Texas at 7 p.m. TCU is idle.

Tony Jeffery rushed for 207

yards on 19 carries as TCU put out 504 yards, the second best land game in the school's history.

The TCU defense held Baylor to only 39 yards rushing.

"I've never had a defense that well since I've been here," TCU Coach Jim Wacker said. "It was one of the best wins I've ever had in my life."

BYU Coach LaVell Edwards impressed with TCU. "TCU did what we feared would do and used speed with some long plays," Edwards said. "They executed very well and showed patience. They won our running game."

Wacker said his program is looking for two weeks off for the holidays.

"The next two weeks are going to be a lot more fun than the last two," Wacker said. "We have some good players in Arkansas. They are one of the better teams in the nation and we can play with confidence. Our kids proved that

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