

**BATTALION FOOTBALL FORECAST**

	Hal Hammons Asst. Sports Ed.	Loyd Brumfield Sports Editor	Doug Hall Asst. Sports Ed.	Anthony Wilson Sports Writer	Tammy Hedgpeth Sports Writer	d.p. Cartoonist
Texas A&M vs. Arkansas	Aggies by 8	Aggies by 2	Aggies by 3	Aggies by 3	Aggies by 7	Aggies by 21
TCU at Texas	Frogs by 7	Horns by 1	Horns by 7	Frogs by 2	Horns by 1	Frogs by 14
Rice at Baylor	Bears by 13	Bears by 3	Bears by 10	Owls by 1	Bears by 6	Bears by 7
Houston at Temple	Cougars by 7	Owls by 6	Cougars by 13	Cougars by 4	Cougars by 9	Cougars by 7
Michigan at Illinois	Wolverines by 10	Wolverines by 1	Wolverines by 6	Wolverines by 10	Wolverines by 1	Wolverines by 7
Indiana at Michigan State	Spartans by 14	Spartans by 2	Spartans by 10	Spartans by 14	Spartans by 2	Spartans by 7
Iowa at Ohio State	Buckeyes by 2	Buckeyes by 3	Hawkeyes by 3	Hawkeyes by 1	Hawkeyes by 6	Buckeyes by 1
Penn State at Pitt	Nittany Lions by 1	Lions by 1	Panthers by 7	Panthers by 2	Lions by 2	Nittany Lions by 1
Auburn at Georgia	Bulldogs by 6	Tigers by 1	Bulldogs by 1	Bulldogs by 6	Bulldogs by 4	Bulldogs by 1
Alabama at Notre Dame	Tide by 3	Irish by 5	Irish by 1	Irish by 8	Irish by 10	Irish by 1
Houston Oilers at Pittsburgh	Oilers by 6	Oilers by 3	Oilers by 3	Oilers by 3	Steelers by 5	Oilers by 3
Dallas Cowboys at New England	Cowboys by 6	Patriots by 7	Cowboys by 6	Patriots by 3	Patriots by 7	Patriots by 3
Last Week's Record	8-3-1	6-5-1	7-4-1	5-6-1	5-6-1	7-4-1
Overall Record	81-34-4 (704)	78-38-4 (686)	78-38-4 (672)	76-40-4 (655)	76-40-4 (655)	74-41-4 (638)

**Red Raider fans avidly support Dykes despite average record**

LUBBOCK (AP) —There's nothing like a record cotton crop and a victory in Jones Stadium by a favorite son to send optimism blooming in the South Plains.

The Red Raiders' home football season is over, but Spike Dykes' debut offers much hope for the future.

Maybe no head football coach in Texas Tech's history has had Red Raider fans pulling for him on such a deep, emotional basis.

"Fans out here just love Spike," said Robert Walker, a longtime Red Raiders' backer. "It hurts them when Tech loses now just because Spike is like family. It's like a member of the family has taken a blow."

"If Tech wins, then it's grandmother's night out on the town because everybody is so happy. Spike's success makes the whole city happy."

William Taylor Dykes is an open-collar country boy who was born in Lubbock and waited 28 years to become a head football coach of a college team.

As the football gods would have it, Dykes got a job where his roots are — Lubbock.

"These are the kind of people out here you'd like to spend your whole life around," said Dykes, who was elevated from defensive coordinator to head coach when David McWilliams went to Texas. "It's a great university and a mighty fine part of the country."

The Red Raiders have defeated Colorado State, Lamar, Texas A&M, Rice, Tulsa and Texas Christian in Lubbock this year.

The only Jones Stadium downer was a 31-0 loss to Arkansas.

With a 6-4 record, the Red Raiders were expecting an Independence Bowl bid should they defeat the Houston Cougars in the Astrodome in two weeks.

The general impression is that Dykes did more than expected in his first year, knocking off the defending champion Texas Aggies. A victory over Houston would lift Tech to 4-3 in the conference and a first division finish.

"Tech's team was very prepared for us and did a good job," said A&M Coach Jackie Sherrill. "It was an excellent coaching job."

Dykes' forte should be recruiting West Texas players where the Red Raiders have lost out recently.

"There are a lot of good kids out here," Dykes said. "And we've got to get them to survive."

Dykes has always survived nicely.

He was coaching in the Rio Grande Valley one day when Darrell Royal called and told him a job was available.

"We didn't talk salary," Dykes said. "If you want a salary, drive an 18-wheeler from Los Angeles to New York City."

Dykes has captured fans at the

weekly Red Raider luncheons with his homespun humor:

Examples collected by Sports Information Director Joe Hornaday include:

- On 5-3 Tyrone Thurman, "He's an overachiever and puts egg on your face."
- On defensive end Ricky Boy-saw, "If you are hanging over Niagara Falls on a rope and you've got one dime to make one call to get someone to pull you up, call Ricky."
- On linebacker Tony Durden, "He's as tough as the back end of a shooting gallery."

Dykes' Red Raiders are as rough as a Panhandle back road but they lack size. And he needs more of them.

"We've got to get some depth," Dykes said. "We don't have great numbers anywhere. The size of our team is a lot less than really good teams we play."

Asked to rate his 1987 performance, Dykes says, "Not too hot. We lost a game when we weren't ready to play (Arkansas) and that's the fault of the head coach."

"We lost poise in the third period of the Texas game and a head coach has control over those things."

"The Red Raider people have really rallied around this year and I just hope they are rewarded one of these days," he added.

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The MSC Opera and Performing Arts Society presents "Singin' in the Rain" at 8:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 17 in Rudder Auditorium.

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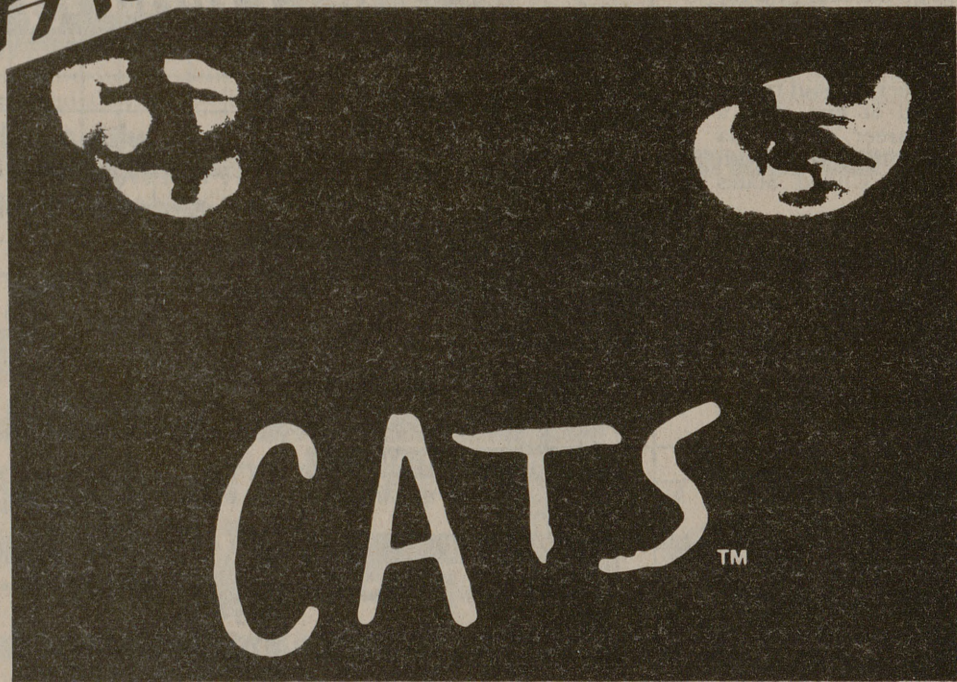
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