

Battalion Football Picks	Doug Walker Assistant Sports Editor	d.p. Cartoonist	Jerry Bolz Sports Writer	Cray Pixley Assistant Sports Editor	Hal L. Hammons Sports Editor	Reville Mascot	Anthony Wilson Opinion Page Editor
Rice at Texas A&M	Aggies by 21	Aggies by 24	Aggies by 21	Aggies by 14	Aggies by 17	Aggies by 88	Aggies by 10
Arkansas at Houston	Cougars by 7	Hogs by 1	Cougars by 7	Hogs by 6	Hogs by 4	Hogs by 24	Cougars by 6
Baylor at TCU	Frogs by 6	Bears by 7	Bears by 3	Bears by 1	Frogs by 1	Bears by 7	Frogs by 2
Penn State at Alabama	Tide by 4	Lions by 3	Lions by 3	Tide by 4	Tide by 10	Lions by 7	Tide by 7
UCLA at Arizona	Bruins by 10	Bruins by 14	Bruins by 12	Bruins by 10	Bruins by 11	Bruins by 3	Bruins by 14
Indiana at Michigan	Michigan by 3	Michigan by 1	Wolverines by 4	Michigan by 4	Hoosiers by 6	Michigan by 4	Michigan by 3
Air Force at Notre Dame	Irish by 14	Irish by 7	Irish by 10	Irish by 10	Irish by 24	Falcons by 1	Irish by 21
BC at West Virginia	UWV by 13	UWV by 7	UWV by 14	UWV by 6	UWV by 17	Eagles by 2	UWV by 10
Maryland at Duke	Devils by 3	Devils by 7	Devils by 6	Devils by 3	Terrapins by 3	Terps by 4	Devils by 1
Washington at Oregon	Huskies by 7	Huskies by 7	Huskies by 7	Ducks by 6	Huskies by 4	Huskies by 5	Huskies by 9
Cowboys at Eagles	Eagles by 10	Eagles by 7	Eagles by 7	Eagles by 1	Eagles by 10	Cowboys by 6	Eagles by 12
Oilers at Bengals	Oilers by 3	Bengals by 7	Bengals by 6	Bengals by 3	Oilers by 3	Oilers by 9	Oilers by 4
Record	9-2-1 (.818)	9-2-1 (.818)	10-1-1 (.910)	10-1-1 (.909)	8-3-1 (.720)	8-3-1 (.727)	9-2-1 (.818)
Overall	66-17-1 (.786)	62-21-1 (.756)	62-21-1 (.747)	59-24-1 (.708)	53-30-1 (.636)	48-35-1 (.578)	9-2-1 (.818)

Dodgers

(Continued from page 9)
 ing in 1972 and ending with a five-game victory over Los Angeles in 1974.
 The Dodgers are 5-13 overall in World Series play, including 5-4 since moving to Los Angeles.

The awkward Hatcher, again in the lineup for Gibson, continued to lead a damaged life. He homered in the first inning after Frankin Stubbs' single and put Los Angeles ahead for the 10th time in 12 postseason games.

Hatcher's home run was his second of the series; he hit only one in 191 at-bats during the season. Hatcher later singled, making him 4-for-4 with two home runs against Davis this week after previously going 2-for-14 in his career against him.

Davis, signed as a free agent last December after being released by the Athletics, made his former club pay in the fourth. Hatcher led off with an infield single, diving headfirst to beat third baseman Carney Lansford's throw, before the next two batters struck out.

On a 3-0 count, manager Tom Lasorda gave the sign to hit instead of take, and Davis did. The Dodgers' designated hitter, who had only two home runs during the season, sent a deep drive into the right-field seats for a 4-1 lead.

Oakland's best opportunity came in the third. Lansford and Tony Phillips opened with singles and finally got the crowd going. Walt Weiss, the ninth-place batter, sacrificed the runners into scoring position and Stan Javier scored

Lansford with a sacrifice fly that made it 2-1.

Hershiser then walked Dave Henderson, bringing up Jose Canseco. This was the Athletics' chance, and everyone seemed to know it.

But baseball's most dominant pitcher was better than the game's top hitter, and Canseco grounded into a forceout. It was Canseco's 16th straight at-bat without a hit since his grand slam in Game 1, including six futile tries against Hershiser.

Rick Dempsey, subbing for the hurt Scioscia, doubled home another insurance run in the sixth. Not that Hershiser needed it, though. Oakland needed five runs to win at that point, and that was more than Hershiser had allowed in his last 97 innings.

12th Man

(Continued from page 9)
 against Texas' Eric Metcalf in the critical prelude to the Cotton Bowl.
 Questions were asked. It was wondered if the 12th Man would be a feature of the Aggie football team for much longer after such a dismal season.

There was a last word from the long suffering 1987 12th Man during the Cotton Bowl. It was Warren Barhorst who nipped the Heisman Trophy winner's towel and dashed off the field causing an uproar.

"So what?" the 12th Man said. They may have pulled against Texas but Sherrill had the confidence to leave them in for Tim Brown.

The 12th Man is most probably here to stay — problems or not.

"The 12th Man will be here for as long as I'm here," Sherrill says. "I'm very pleased with what they have done so far this year."

But wait. There is no need to speculate about the team and its problems because the athletes will be the first to say that 1987 was not a vintage year. There is no hiding the fact, and the guys have no need or intention to shove aside the sad truth.

They know about last year. Several of them played through last season's foibles and failures.

But in the tradition of optimists and winners, "That was then — this is now."

The 12th Man athletes know they have ground to make up and are dy-

"We want to be the best kickoff team in the Southwest Conference. That is our goal for the season."

Bubba Hillje
Two-year starter

ing for a chance to show that they are new and improved.

After all, they had been waiting quite a while before getting their premiere against Texas Tech.

This year the 12th Man have a goal — just ask them.

"We want to be the best kickoff team in the Southwest Conference," two-year starter Bubba Hillje says. "That is our goal for the season."

Third year 12th Man and two-year starter Garry Sorrell agrees that being the best in the SWC is in their sights.

"We needed something to focus on instead of just running down the field trying to hit someone. We needed to believe that we could have the best return average in the conference."

This may sound ambitious for students-turned-athletes, but coming from these gung-ho guys it all sounds possible.

Sherrill says the goal of being the best in the conference is one set by the 12th Man, but he says he thinks the players could see the realization of that goal.

"We have some determined and confident young men out there this year," he says. "They've held on average 12-yard returns per game so they seem headed for success."

Jim Hughes, graduate assistant to

the 12th Man, says the team members are out to prove themselves and show that they can play with finesse.

"There are those people who say he (Sherrill) doesn't have confidence in the 12th Man if he calls for the ball to be kicked away from a certain receiver. He is the boss, and I definitely believe he has confidence in the guys," Hughes says.

"Coach Sherrill called the squib kick and the pooch kick against Tech. We are trying to make things

"These guys are playing for pride. They are not scholarship players, and the time they sacrifice for 12th Man may be cutting into school, work and other activities. They work as hard as the scholarship players, and their enthusiasm makes them a special part of the Aggie football team. Being a part of the 12th Man is a big commitment."

Jim Hughes
Graduate assistant to the 12th Man

happen out there and do the unexpected," he says. "We would like to get down the field and maybe cause a fumble."

Hughes says the 12th Man is playing about seven players who had never gone down before the Tech game but that the team is a strong group.

"These guys are playing for pride," he says. "They are not scholarship players, and the time they sacrifice for 12th Man may be cutting into school, work and other activities. They work as hard as the scholarship players, and their enthusiasm makes them a special part of the Aggie football team. Being a part of the 12th Man is a big commitment."

Being a part of the team is what most the 12th Man players see as a privilege and bonus to their college experience. It is a balancing act between grades and football.

Sorrell, who was a walk-on defensive back before becoming a 12th Man member, relishes his position on the team.

"I would rather be on the 12th Man than a walk-on," he says. "Being a 12th Man has prestige around campus because most everyone can identify with us. They know we are out there because we want to be — scholarship or not."

Second-year starter Brian Edwards agrees with his teammate.

"I don't have a future in football," he says. "I'm out there to do a good job and contribute, and students can relate to that. I don't think the 12th Man have that football attitude that intimidate some people."

"I'm a student and then an athlete. My education is number one, but I do want to be out covering kickoffs," Edwards says.

The 12th Man is a self-described unit within the football unit. The

players help out by running drills with the scholarship athletes or being a part of a scout team, but they do have their own separate identity.

"We are a close group of guys within the A&M football family," Sorrell says. "We don't always go around with the scholarship guys, but we do have good interaction with them."

"We study, hunt, fish and just hang out together. The 12th Man guys are all pretty close, and we enjoy getting together off the field."

But most agree that the excitement comes when they take the field.

"I get a thrill just being out on Kyle Field when 60,000 people are screaming," Brian Carpenter says.

Carpenter is a third year 12th Man who hadn't played football in high school.

"The 12th Man was a totally new experience for me. I'm nervous and excited every game whether I play or not," he says.

Hillje, a former walk-on, says playing for the 12th Man was a personal goal.

"I come from a small town, Cotulla, where people said I would never see any playing time at a Division I college. Now I get to play on the 12th Man."

"When I was out on Kyle Field and heard my name over the loud speaker, I knew I'd finally made it," he says. "It was a relief to see some action."

For some of the 12th Man players, time on Kyle Field is nerve-racking as well as exciting.

"I wasn't waving my towel very much against Texas Tech, and some of the guys gave me a hard time about it," second year 12th Man Kirk Pierce says. "I guess I was a little nervous when I got onto the field. After the first kickoff, I settled down."

Sorrell says some of the players who have been on 12th Man for a while try to help out the new players Kyle Field jitters.

"I'm nervous myself, but I have some experience and try to get everybody to concentrate on the job instead of nerves once we are out

"We have some determined and confident young men out there this year. They've held on average 12-yard returns per game so they seem headed for success."

Jackie Sherrill

there. We know we only have a certain number of plays to shine, he says.

"The kickoff is our specialty and we must do it well."

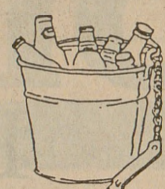
So nerves and performance pressures weigh down, but the 12th Man Kick-off Team is ready for a challenge. The players are out there for the entire Aggie audience as a symbol of student participation in what has become an important feature of Aggieland.

Sorrell sums it up best.

"We are out there for everyone. We wave that towel on game day for everyone — not just for ourselves."

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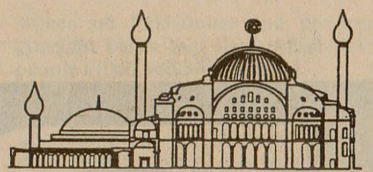
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