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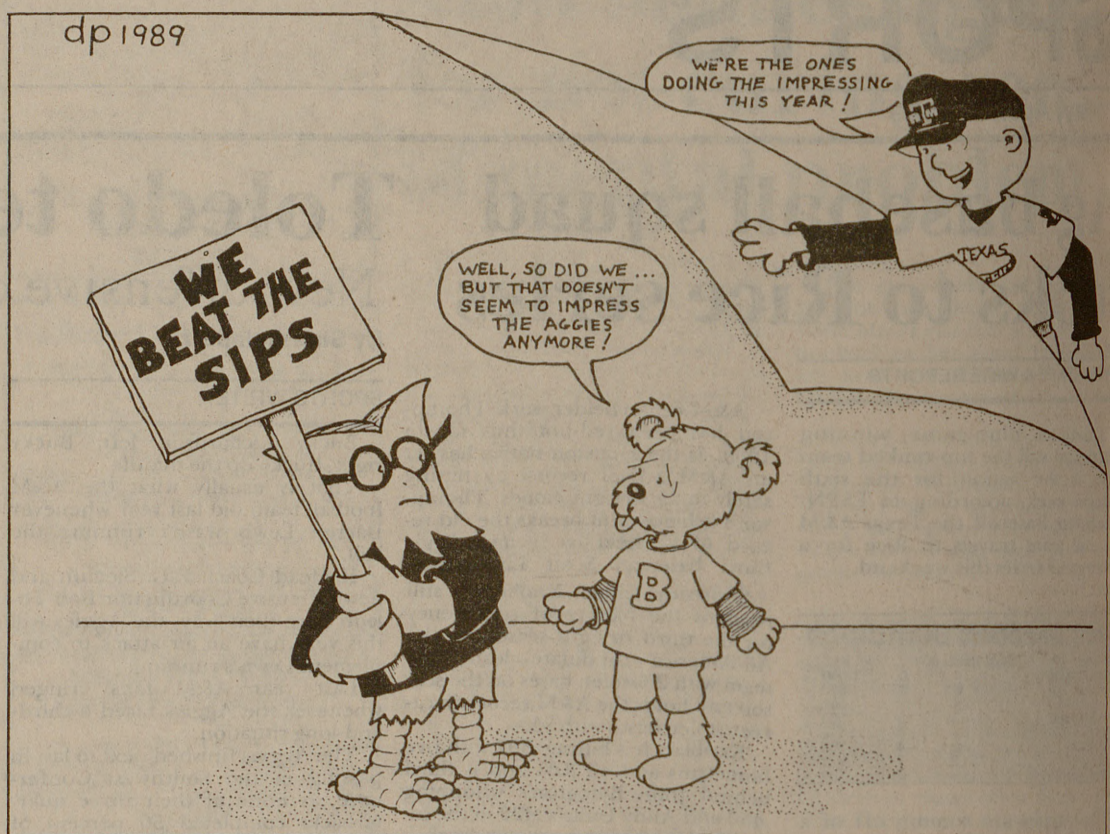
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 3) Follow signs to Winery



Aggie quarterbacks learning Toledo's new multiple offense

By Jerry Bolz

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

When the Texas A&M football team takes the field next fall, there are going to be some changes. For one thing, the air at Kyle Field will be more peaceful, with the first, and harshest, year of the Aggies' NCAA probation over.

But the most noticeable changes will be on the field — specifically, the Aggie offense.

Under the direction of new Head Coach R.C. Slocum, A&M went fishing in the offseason to fill several holes left by coaches of the Jackie Sherrill era.

One of the biggest catches is Offensive Coordinator Bob Toledo, a former Duck from the University of Oregon. Toledo has brought to Aggie an air as fresh as that of the Oregon coast — and just as brisk.

Watching Toledo taking charge of the offense at spring practice meetings, it's easy to see how he brought Oregon from a cellar-dweller to a team consistently near the top of the tough Pacific Ten Conference.

He works hard. But he's not the only one that does. His energy has been passed on to a talented group of quarterbacks.

What type of quarterback will it take to fit the bill for the multiple? Toledo said someone who "won't get us beat" is a top priority.

Right now Slocum, Toledo and the rest of the staff have decided on junior Lance Pavlas as the man.

"My feeling is you decide on a guy and go with him until he proves he can't," Toledo said. "Lance is the man right now."

No one is working harder than Pavlas now while he has the task of learning the intricate system.

But at the end of the third week of spring practice, Pavlas said he is still cramming to learn the multiple set.

"It's all new for everybody," Pavlas said. "We're starting from scratch and there's a whole new terminology."

Pavlas summed up his opinion of the offense with a hearty "I love it!"

And he's not the only one. Freshman redshirt quarterback Kent Petty said: "I like the new offense. I like throwing the ball — I came here to throw the ball."

Perhaps the quarterback who is least excited over the multiple is junior Bucky Richardson. He's not displeased with the new game plan at all, it's just that any offense is alright with him — he just wants to play.

Richardson, a daring runner known for choosing to dash rather than pass, may be healed of a knee injury in time to see some action this year. He said the offense is good for all of A&M's quarterbacks, and all have accepted the challenge of learning and conforming to it.

With Richardson, though, accepting the challenge of it somehow doesn't seem to negate his aggressive style of play.

"My personality hasn't changed at all (because of the injury)," he said. "I don't think my game is going to change. I'll do things that were successful my first two years."

Richardson said some little style changes might take place, like avoiding linebackers rather than flipping over them.

Pavlas should have a lot more time to develop under Toledo than he did the past two years. Toledo said it doesn't help a quarterback to always be looking over his shoulder when he gets pulled out after every little mistake.

There's no doubt Pavlas is thrilled to have a chance to throw the ball after two years of sporadic use and little opportunity to really "let go" with a passing game.

"We saw how effective the offense was at Oregon," Pavlas said. "We think it can do the same thing here. It's a great opportunity — I'll work hard to maintain the position."

Senior QB Chris Osgood, who got most of the passing opportunities for A&M last year, said he has to be optimistic and live with the fact that Pavlas is now the starter. But he is positive Pavlas can handle the duties.

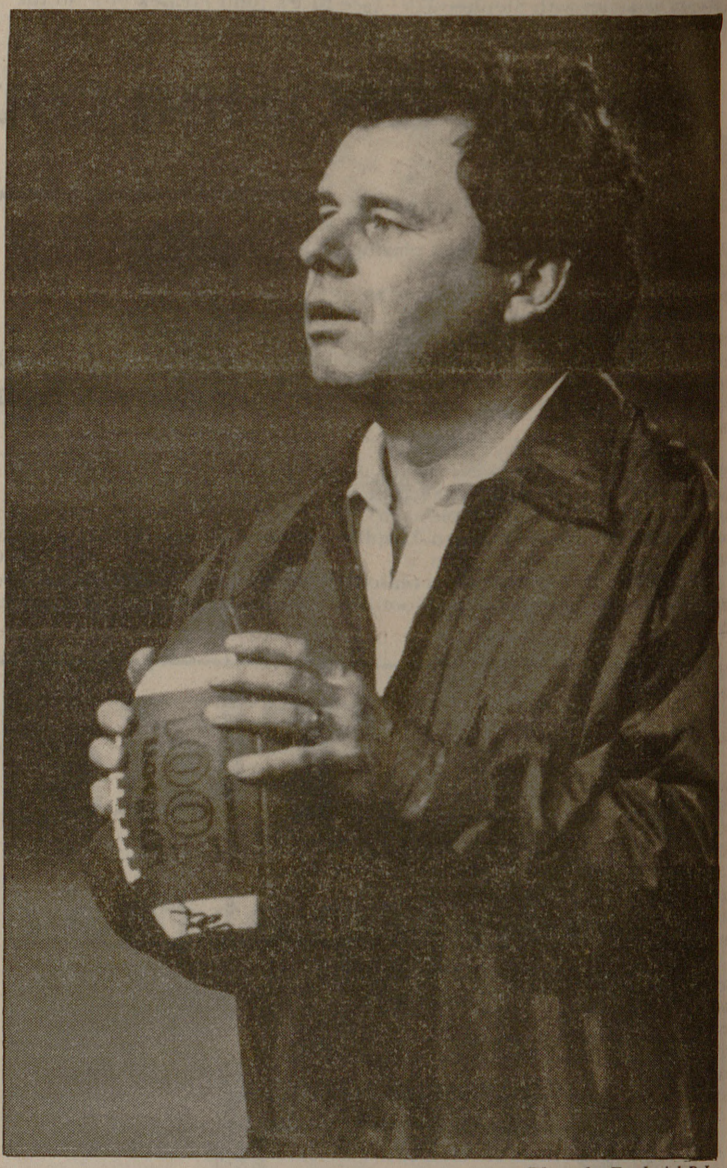


Photo by Frederick D. Joe

A&M Offensive Coordinator Bob Toledo

Offense

(Continued from page 11)

Lewis led the SWC in rushing last year and averaged 153 yards per game.

"Darren might not get as many carries as last year, but I think his yards per carry will increase," Toledo said. "I would like to see him catch the ball in the flats. In the open field he could be deadly."

"I like to isolate the backs in the flats and let them run, because they are usually your fastest people. If we can get Lewis in our passing game, other teams won't be able to key on him as much when he runs."

One aspect of passing that many fans don't realize is the difference

"All it will take is for us to do it once to prove we can and then there should be no stopping us."

— Bob Toledo

between run blocking and pass blocking.

Toledo says that in spite of A&M's run-oriented offenses of the recent past, and the loss of two starting line-

up change. "He should do quite well," Osgood said. "Any quarterback who gets on it and likes to pass should do quite well."

Another question facing Toledo is where to fit in an extremely talented running back like All-SWC Darren Lewis on a passing offense.

The question doesn't pose a problem for Toledo, however. He feels his offense must run effectively to open up the type of passing game he wants.

If Lewis stays healthy, Toledo said, he will gain over 1,000 yards on the ground again this season, as well as catching more passes out of the backfield. Toledo also plans to keep Lewis in for plays inside the opponent's 5-yard line, a situation where he was pulled last season.

The multiple questions about the multiple offense will only have definite answers as the coming season opens. For now, the speculation is sufficient for the Aggie football team. They have been rejuvenated by fresh air brought in by a new coach and a new offense.

man, A&M should have few problems with the blocking assignments in the new offense.

"When you run block you are the one being aggressive and attacking the defender," Toledo said. "In pass blocking it's just the opposite."

"So far the lineman have been picking up the new offense pretty well and I don't see any problems."

As with anything that is new it will take time to see just how good it works. Toledo says fans shouldn't panic if A&M stumbles out of the gate.

"All it will take is for us to do it once to prove we can and then there should be no stopping us," Toledo said.

AHA TAMU

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AUGUSTA, Ga. — Trevino left the Master's dog and bitter, and day the life of the p...

Trevino, who h... well at Augusta Na... shot an opening r... par and his best r... appearances.

"If a man came morning and offer... couldn't break 76... have taken one qu... I'm a betting man."

He was not alone... several dozen follo... Jose Marie Olazaba... off, but by the time... front nine at 4 unde... ing had swelled to ar...

A year ago, Trev... 83, missed the cut, a... reporters who saw... him say he hoped he... back.

But his on-a... relationship with th... fused to play in 197... his later regret — ch...

When he got this... he said, he "return... day."

Trevino, who st...

Prep

FLORESVILLE... mowing down high... Floresville High Sch... Flores pretends his... leaguers.

"I act like every... pitching in the Wor... said. "I get ahead o... just want to strike th...

But never in his... tion did Flores belie... in a performance li... masterpiece March...

struck out 21 San A... ters in a 4-3, seven-i...

Only two SA Co... outs where they ma... the ball. There are... seven innings, bu... reached base on p... strikeouts.

The victory over... fifth straight after a... the Tigers' first gam...

Flores' ERA for t... 1.84 after the gam... strikeouts and 24... mings, allowing the... 15 hits.

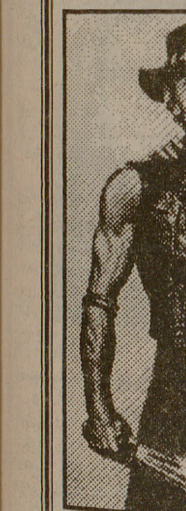
"I just went o... pitched," Flores sai... performance, which rai... total for the year to... ning games.

As amazing as I... performance is the... also a right-handed... on the days when he...

When Flores is... right-handed throw... man or center field... hitters this year, h... righthanded, althou... cannot throw nearl... as he can left-hande...

"We like to take s...

AGG



Frida

