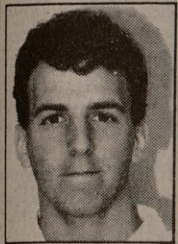


Monday, October 16, 1989

## 12th Man moved Ags to victory

Andre Ware was supposed to be the Pinball Wizard of Kyle Field. And why not? Ware has lighted up



Clay Rasmussen  
Sports Writer

scoreboards all around the South-west.

He has mastered Houston Coach Jack Pardee's collegiate version of the Run-and-Shoot and has been effective in leading the Cougars to some of the most lopsided victories in the nation.

How about some numbers? The Cougars were averaging 647 yards per game. They had outscored their opponents 236-24, with a game average of 59 points.

That's almost a point every minute.

All this, and Ware hadn't played more than three quarters in each of Houston's first four games.

So everyone around the Southwest Conference expected Ware to continue on, rolling through the Aggies and racking up record yardage.

Everyone except Aggie fans at Kyle Field.

## Noise confuses Ware

From Houston's first possession, the noise of 66,423 fans threw a wrench in Pardee's offensive show and forced Ware to walk up and down his offensive line, screaming out audibles and trying to use hand signals to guide his receivers.

More importantly though, is the fact that the fan noise never subsided.

Throughout the day, Ware was hindered by the crowd noise. Even when Houston made the big plays and sustained drives, the fans were on their feet, screaming.

Ware's ears probably are still ringing.

The Cougars refused to use the huddle and continued trying to call their plays at the line of scrimmage.

"If you huddle and use your time in the huddle, you still have to call out at the line of scrimmage and then all your time is gone," Pardee said.

Still, the time Ware spent walking up and down the offensive line screaming out the plays to his receivers ate up valuable time.

The Cougars were hit with several delay of game penalties and a few illegal motion penalties.

You see, Ware's receivers just couldn't hear the snap count.

## Defense gets pumped

It was the Texas A&M defense that spearheaded the victory for the Aggies, but it was quick to give some of the credit to its supportive fans.

"Once you hear the fans cheering for you like they did, it gets the blood flowing in you and you don't know what you can do," A&M linebacker Anthony Williams said. "You can conquer the world with that much adrenaline."

The Aggie defense, while occasionally giving up the big play, did a tremendous job of snuffing Houston's high-powered offense.

They came up with the big defensive plays that pumped up fans.

"We knew the Aggies would blitz," Pardee said. "You just have to burn them one time for a TD on a blitz and that would have been the difference in winning and losing, but we didn't get it done."

"We expect the crowd noise. That's a pretty good handicap."

It became a vicious cycle for the Cougars.

I guess Aaron Wallace summed up the unique relationship the Aggie defense had with the fans Saturday.

After sacking Ware late in the fourth quarter, Wallace came up with Ware's helmet in his hands. Like the gladiator enjoying the spoils of victory, Wallace held the helmet up and saluted the crowd.

# Blitzing Ags upset No. 8 UH blitzkrieg

## Houston's Run-and-Shoot runs out of bullets, falls short 17-13

By Alan Lehmann  
Of The Battalion Staff

In a classic case of "anything you can do, I can do better," Texas A&M beat the Houston Cougars 17-13 Saturday at Kyle Field.

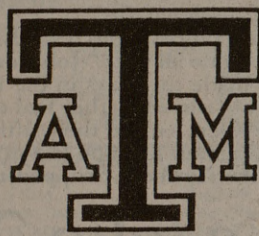
Led by junior quarterback Andre Ware, Houston came into the contest favored by nine points. The Cougars, who had been scoring on a point-per-minute pace, also had dominated on defense.

However, the Aggies outplayed the eighth-ranked Cougars on both sides of the ball Saturday.

Defensively, they sacked Ware six times, forced three interceptions and recovered one fumble.

On offense, the Aggies, not the explosive UH Run-and-Shoot, turned in all of the big plays.

Houston moved the ball with some success, but A&M stiffened whenever Houston got within scoring range. The Cougars penetrated



the A&M 35-yard line seven times, but came away with only two touchdowns.

Trailing 17-13 with under five minutes left to play, the Cougars had the ball at the A&M 32.

After an incomplete pass on first down, Weatherspoon rambled through the left side for seven yards, but the play was called back on a penalty.

On second and 15, Ware couldn't connect with wide receiver Brian Williams. On third down, Aaron Wallace sacked Ware for a nine yard loss.

Ware's helmet came off in Wallace's hands, and the crowd of 66,423 went wild.

The punt by Simon Rodriguez went into the endzone with 3:54 left in the game, and A&M began to grind out the clock.

The Cougars lived by the big play on both sides of the ball this season, fueling their blowouts with turnovers to get the ball, and connecting on long passes to score.

They led the nation in turnover margin (4.0 per game) and scoring (59 per game).

The Aggies turned the ball over six times, twice more than the Cougars, but survived their mistakes.

Ahead 14-7 early in the fourth quarter, the Aggies were backed up to their own seven yard line. After a five-yard pickup by fullback Robert Wilson, quarterback Lance Pavlas handed to running back Darren Lewis on a plunge into the line.

Finding the left side of the line re-



Texas A&M fullback Robert Wilson (20) stiff arms Houston's Chris Ellison (39) to break free on his 41-yard touchdown

run in the second quarter. Wilson finished with 115 yards rushing in the Aggies' 17-13 win over the No. 8 Cougars.

When I jumped into the hole, it was wide open. I was just trying to get the first down and took advantage of the hole."

The 84-yard run was the longest one from scrimmage this year in the SWC. It also was the longest run of Lewis' career.

However, Lewis said he was disappointed by his failure to score.

"When I ran down the side, I thought I had it and raised my hand, but it seemed that the goal got farther and farther away," he said. "It's very frustrating to run that far and not get into the endzone."

But Wilson, who ran 22 times for 115 yards, did find the endzone on a

third-quarter run.

After Derrick Richey intercepted a Ware pass in the third quarter and returned it to the A&M 36-yard line, Pavlas hit Percy Waddle on a 17-yard pass to the Houston 47.

On first down, Wilson went six yards off the right tackle. On the next play, Wilson went up the middle on a draw, and broke three tackles on his way to a 41-yard touchdown run.

"Houston has an aggressive front four," Wilson said. "We practiced on the trap all week."

"(The touchdown) was a draw-trap, and we called it because we thought they were going to come

hard. The middle was wide open. I just had to sprint to the endzone."

Although Pavlas didn't have stellar numbers, the junior played well enough to win.

Pavlas was 13 of 24 for 163 yards. He had one touchdown and three interceptions.

"Basically, we stopped ourselves with turnovers," Pavlas said. "I blame myself for those."

It wasn't all his fault. The Cougars put pressure on him most of the afternoon.

The UH defense had intimidated opponents all season, often taking it

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## Pavlas spins magic of his own, leads Ags to win over Cougars

By Richard Tijerina  
Of The Battalion Staff

Call him the Magic Man.

Texas A&M junior quarterback Lance Pavlas, who had to sit through listening to week-long hype about Houston quarterback Andre Ware's mystic right arm, put on a little magic act of his own in Saturday's 17-13 win over UH.

Pavlas evaded pressure from the Cougars' pass rush all afternoon, and burned UH several times on long passes. The only thing the Cougars found more elusive than catching Pavlas on Saturday was leaving Kyle Field with a win.

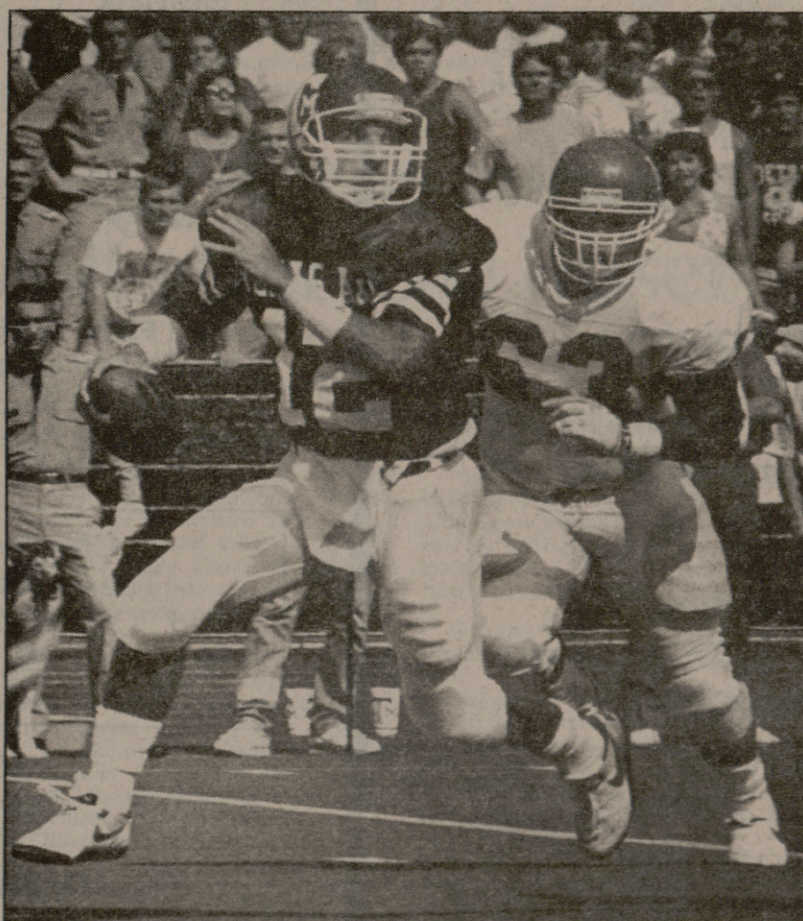
Pavlas completed 13 of 24 passes for 163 yards and one touchdown. Ware, considered a Heisman Trophy candidate after posting up impressive numbers in the Cougars' first four games, completed 28 of 52 for 247 yards and one touchdown. Both quarterbacks suffered three interceptions.

"The three interceptions were on bad plays, and my fault," Pavlas said. "The coaches just kept telling me to move on to the next play."

"Fortunately, the turnovers didn't come back to haunt us in the end."

Pavlas' biggest play came in the first quarter. A&M faced a third-and-one situation at its own 14 yard line. Pavlas sidestepped the Cougar blitz and eventually ended up in the endzone with defensive end Craig Veasey hanging on his legs.

But Pavlas broke free, stutter-stepped into free space and found a wide-open Percy Waddle for a 48-yard pass. It was the longest pass



Magic Man

Lance Pavlas eludes pass rush from UH's Craig Veasey.

## Oilers shock Bears

CHICAGO (AP) — Coach Mike Ditka ripped his Chicago Bears as a team in disarray Sunday and said "I don't know if this team can win another football game."

Ditka's tirade came after a 33-28 loss to the Houston Oilers in a game in which the Bears held a 28-19 lead with less than five minutes to play despite six turnovers.

Warren Moon directed a 61-yard drive and scored on a 1-yard run with 3:38 left, and Allen Pinkett ripped off a 60-yard gain to set up a 12-yard run by Lorenzo White for the winning touchdown with 1:46 to play.

"We had the game won, we had it won with six turnovers," said Ditka. "None of those turnovers came after we had the lead. Therefore, if we had the lead, how come we can't hold a nine-point lead?"

Ditka answered his own question by saying: "We're just not playing aggressive football. We looked scared out there. It's frustrating."

It was the second straight loss for the Bears and only the second time since 1984 that they had lost two in a row. The other consecutive losses came in 1987 to San Francisco and Seattle.

Houston Coach Jerry Glanville, asked if it was his biggest win, said: "It ranks right up on top. When you beat a good Chicago team and a good Chicago coach, it's a big win."

It all unfolded in the last five minutes with the Bears leading without any pressure on Moon.

"I had a lot of time," said Moon, who completed 16 of 26 for 317 yards including touch-

down passes of 42 yards to Drew Hill and 45 yards to Haywood Jeffries to come within 21-19 in the closing minute of the third quarter.

Bear quarterback Mike Tomczak, despite three interceptions at the time (he threw another when the Bears fell behind in the fourth quarter), had offset the interceptions with three touchdown passes.

Tomczak, who completed 20 of 29 passes for 247 yards, connected with Neal Anderson for 6-yard scoring pass in the second quarter, completed a 79-yarder to Dennis Gentry in the third quarter, and appeared to clinch the game with a 7-yard scoring pass to James Thornton with 4:55 left in the game.

"We should have won," said Tomczak. "I still have all the confidence in the world in this team. But this is hard to swallow, you want to hang your head."

The Oilers had a total of 457 net yards, one reason that Ditka said: "It's a little embarrassing week after week to have the same things happen and to condone them. If you don't put pressure on the passer, you have to cover. We didn't do either. I don't know what happened but I'll find out and make changes."

Despite Ditka's tirade, the Oilers considered it a big win against a great team.

"The Bears never gave up," said Pinkett. "But the important thing for us is we never gave up either."

We came together. It showed on the last drive."