

**Alan Lehmann**  
Sports Writer

## Is yet another Aggie tradition in jeopardy?

With all the controversy surrounding the sacred traditions of bonfire and Elephant Walk, A&M's biggest tradition is in serious danger, and nobody seems to notice.

The traditional battle with Texas is in jeopardy of becoming an annual laughter.

Although another easy victory over the teasips would seem to do the Aggies good, it could have far-reaching negative implications. The other traditions are important to campus life, but where would we be without the annual grudge match against Texas?

The rivals from Austin give us a chance to join together, and put aside our Greek-Corps-Cowboy differences and unite against a common foe.

If the Aggies continue to pound the Horns, you've got to wonder how long before the Horns get frustrated and pull out of the conference.

Rumor has it that they've already gotten an offer to join the Southeastern Conference, and if they keep getting embarrassed by Southwest Conference opponents, who could blame them for leaving?

In years gone by, the annual gridiron meeting between our two schools always seemed to decide who would be going to the Cotton Bowl, and occasionally even decided who would top the national rankings.

Even though the Horns aren't a powerhouse, and have had only one winning season since 1985, they're still the biggest ticket draw in the SWC. They've led the conference in home attendance nine of the last ten years, and since the Horns are a big draw on the road, the SWC just can't afford to let the Horns go.

So, somebody needs to give the Horns a little confidence, and this would be a good year to drop one to the teasips. Not that anybody wants to lose to the invaders in orange, but as I said, the Aggies have almost gone too far in their mastery of the Horns.

The problem started in 1984, when Jackie Sherrill out-coached Fred Akers

See Rivalry/Page 11

# A&M, UT resume rivalry with pride on line

By Clay Rasmussen

Of The Battalion Staff

The last time Texas A&M battled Texas at Kyle Field, the Cotton Bowl and the Southwest Conference championship were up for grabs.

But things will be a little different when the two meet at 3 p.m. Saturday in College Station.

The SWC title won't be decided. Arkansas wrapped that up last week with a win

### Texas at A&M

- **Site:** Kyle Field (72,387 cap.)
- **Kickoff:** 3 p.m.
- **Ranking:** A&M (16th), Texas (—)
- **Records:** A&M (7-3), Texas (5-5)
- **TV/Radio:** The game will be nationally televised by ESPN; KTAM (AM 1240)

over the A&M, while Texas' 50-7 humiliation at the hands of Baylor sealed the championship for the Razorbacks.

At stake in this 96th meeting between the Aggies and the Longhorns is nothing more than pride. Perhaps more importantly, Texas Coach David McWilliams' job could be on the line.

McWilliams came under fire from UT Athletic Director DeLoss Dodds when he posted a losing record last year. The possibility of another losing season this year places McWilliams under more heat.

Dodds recommended a probe into McWilliams and his program after the Longhorns' loss last Saturday. Dodds said the probe will take place within 10 days of the A&M-Texas game.

For 16th-ranked A&M, another game awaits. The Aggies will take on the University of Pittsburgh Dec. 30 in the John Hancock Bowl in El Paso.

Texas' season will end this weekend. It is the second year in a row that the Longhorns have failed to secure a bowl bid.

Although the Aggies suffered an emotional 23-22 defeat at the hands of Arkansas last week, A&M coach R.C. Slocum doesn't think his team will have a difficult time getting ready for Texas.

"This team has a lot of character and (the Texas game) is a good test for us," Slocum said. "The Arkansas game took a lot out of us, but when you get that close, those are tougher to bounce back from."

"We thought we were going to win the game, even in the last seconds."

While Slocum expects his team to rebound from their loss to the Razorbacks, he expects the Longhorns to be out for blood after their embarrassing loss to Baylor.

"I guess people expect us to win 60-0," Slocum said. "But that's just not the case. I fully expect Texas to bounce back. If we're not careful, the Baylor game could hurt us more than them."

"We're playing our No. 1 rival and I've never seen Texas come out flat in this ballgame."

The Aggies must also contend with some

See Game/Page 11

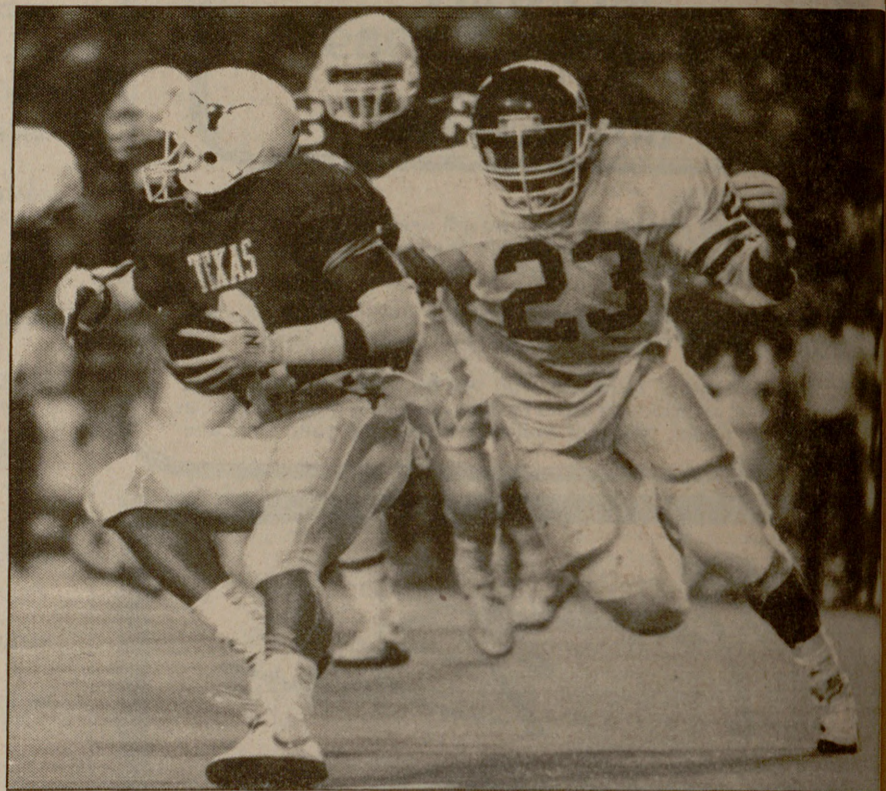


Photo by Scott D. Weaver

Aaron Wallace (23) will be looking for opportunities like this one last year when A&M meets Texas Saturday. Kickoff is set for 3 p.m. at Kyle Field.

## Hackemack's small-town values pay off in big way

By Alan Lehmann

Of The Battalion Staff

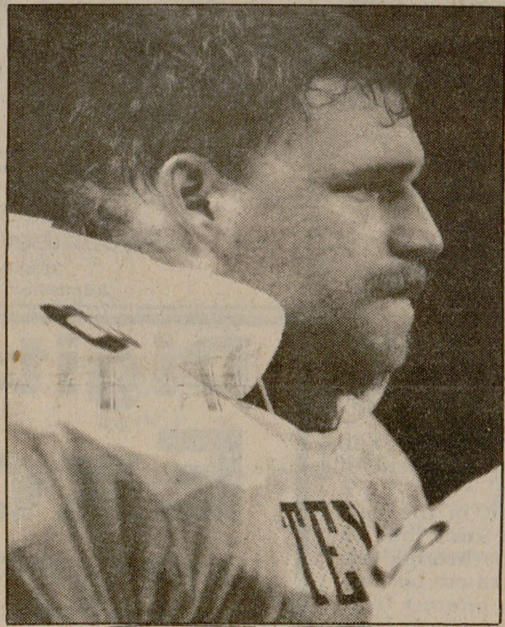


Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

Texas' Ken Hackemack looks on in Houston's 47-9 romp this year.

When the Texas Longhorn defense trots onto Kyle Field Saturday afternoon, even the folks in the cheap seats will be able to spot Ken Hackemack.

Standing 6-foot-10 inches tall and weighing 310 pounds, the senior defensive tackle is huge even by major college standards.

After sitting out the A&M-Texas games the last two years because of knee injuries, Hackemack is eager to finally get a shot at the Aggies.

"My main personal goal (this season) was to stay healthy enough to play in the A&M game," Hackemack said. "It bugs me a lot that we've never beaten A&M."

"There are a lot of Aggies back home, and I'd really like to win this one so I could go home and make them eat their words."

Injuries have cost Hackemack eight games over the last two years. After promising starts both seasons, his sophomore season ended with a medial collateral injury to his left knee in the TCU game.

His 1988 season ended when he suffered the same injury in the Arkansas game.

Still, Hackemack doesn't cry over his bad luck.

"I don't really feel cheated by all the injuries, just disappointed," Hackemack said. "I never have asked, 'Why Me?' I always fig-

ured that if it's meant to be, then it's going to happen."

If some things are meant to happen, Hackemack playing football is one of them. He had the size to be a star even when he was a high school standout for Bellville, a town of about 3,000 located about 60 miles west of Houston.

"Being from a small town is different," he said. "I think that being from a small town, made me want to try harder to succeed in football... and school."

Hackemack had to work even harder to come back from the devastating knee injury. However, he not only came back, but according to Texas Coach David McWilliams, he has improved his pass rush.

But Hackemack hasn't seen enough improvement to suit him.

"I knew that I'd have to work on my pass rush, and it hasn't been good so far," he said. "I've improved, but we've played a lot of teams that have used the three-step drop, and I haven't been getting to the quarterback."

Hackemack said that his other goal was to lead the line in tackles. He's managed to succeed in that category, racking up 47 tackles (22 unassisted).

Texas had hopes of going to the Cotton Bowl after promising upsets over Oklahoma and Arkansas.

However, the Horns blew their role as conference leaders when they suffered

drubbings to Houston (47-9) and Baylor (50-7).

"It's pretty hard to get over it, because you keep wondering what happened," he said. "Still, the practices this week have been really relaxed and that's helped ease the memory."

Now facing the final game of his college career against A&M, a team that Texas hasn't beaten since he was a junior in high school, Hackemack sees the game as a challenge.

"The A&M offense is great, they use a lot of tricks and influences," he said. "We're going to have a tough time stopping them because they've got a great offensive line."

Although he will never realize his dream goal of playing in the Cotton Bowl, Hackemack's hope of continuing his career in the National Football League is still within reach.

"I'd love to play in the NFL," he said. "I've got a shot at it. I've been healthy a year, but bad games against Tech and Houston will hurt my chances."

Although Texas won't play in a bowl this year, he doesn't think the loss of exposure will hurt his chances with the NFL.

"There are always the senior bowls," said Hackemack, who'll be attending the Japan Bowl. "I'm really excited about going to Japan."

And if the A&M spectators are impressed by his size, just imagine how he'll look to the Japanese.



## Zips '90

It's your turn...

Yearbook pictures are being taken at

AR PHOTOGRAPHY  
707 Texas Ave, Suite 120B  
Mon-Fri, 9am-5pm

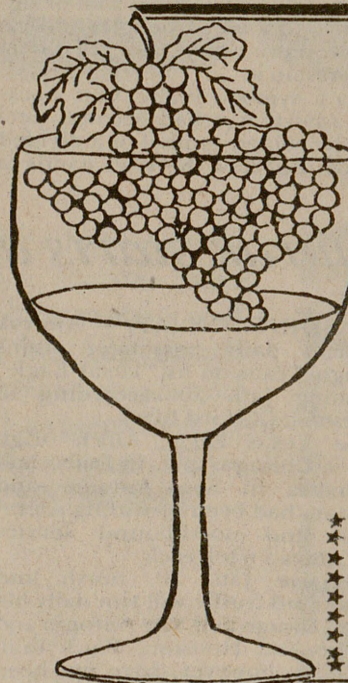
Juniors, Vets, Meds, & Grads are welcome through Friday, Dec. 1!

## Ferreri's Italian Cuisine

Come take a whirlwind tour of Italy without leaving Brazos County. Food from the northern part of Italy to Sicily.

693-0054

1804 Valley View  
Across the K-Mart Parking Lot  
in College Station



Stroll through the vineyard and taste the award winning wines of

## Messina Hof Wine Cellars

Tours Saturday, December 2  
Sunday, December 3  
By Reservation

Retail Hours: Mon-Fri 8-4:30  
Saturday 10-5  
Sunday 12-4

- \*\*\*\*\*
- \* Directions to Winery \*
- \* 1) Exit Hwy 6 at Hwy 21 \*
- \* 2) Travel east 2mi. to Walls Rd. \*
- \* 3) Follow Signs to Winery \*
- \*\*\*\*\*

778-9463

Paul and Merrill Bonarrigo '75