

# Cowboys driven off by Eagles; Oilers drop to lowly Jets

IRVING (AP) — Randall Cunningham saved the Philadelphia Eagles' season on Sunday with a masterpiece of a drive that required every one of his considerable athletic skills.

Cunningham, working against the clock with a bruised hand and knee, took the Eagles 85 yards in 13 plays for a much-needed 21-20 victory over the Dallas Cowboys.

The playoff came on a 10-yard touchdown pass to Calvin Williams with 44 seconds left. Cunningham passed for 66 yards and scrambled for 10 more on the drive.

"This ranks right up there with the best of our comeback wins," Cunningham said. "This was a major gut check and we pulled it off."

"Our two minute drill worked great and our feeling in the huddle was we weren't concerned. We knew we could do it."

The Eagles, earning their first victory

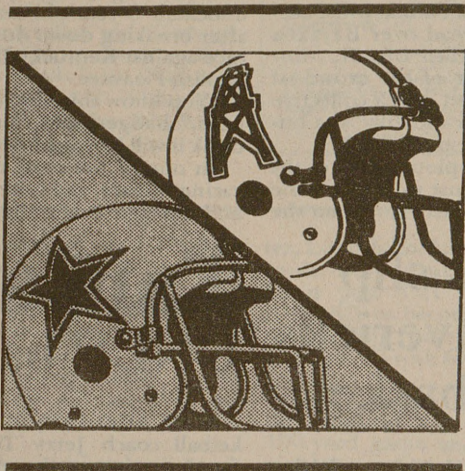
over an NFC Eastern Division foe in four tries, increased their record to 3-4 while the Cowboys dropped to 3-5 with their sixth straight loss to Philadelphia.

Cunningham, who also suffered a blow to the head during the game, said, "I was close to coming out of the game because my knee hurt so bad. But I stuck it out."

Cornerback Issiac Holt's blocked punt set up Emmitt Smith's 3-yard touchdown run with 4:02 to go and gave Dallas a 20-14 lead.

"It looked like the blocked punt was going to kill us but Randall put together one heck of a drive," Philadelphia coach Buddy Ryan said. "Dallas played a great game. We were very fortunate to pull it out at the end."

Then he added, "That's the way we seem to do things. It was a big game for us and our season."



HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Oilers and Warren Moon had the numbers while the New York Jets and Ken O'Brien got the victory Sunday.

The Oilers' run-and-shoot offense out-gained New York 425-229 in total yards, but O'Brien's 42-yard touchdown pass to Al Toon and rookie Darrell Davis' fumble recovery in the end zone lifted the Jets to a 17-12 victory.

The Jets (3-5) snapped a three-game losing streak and scored their first fourth-quarter touchdown of the season when Davis, a defensive end from Texas Christian, sacked Moon for a 6-yard loss and then recovered his fumble for a touchdown with 13:34 to play.

That gave the Jets a 14-12 lead and O'Brien's 28-yard pass to Toon helped set up Pat Leahy's 32-yard field goal with 44 seconds left in the game.

"It's taken awhile but we're all finally beginning to understand what it takes," Toon said. "We're all beginning to realize that it will work and we're gaining confidence each time out."

The Jets lost three games after leading in the fourth quarter this season and rookie head coach Bruce Coslet was beginning to wonder what it took to get a victory.

"We've been playing good football the past couple of weeks but this time we were fortunate to get in the win column," Coslet said. "Those guys are going to the playoffs."

The Oilers had 28 first downs to 13 for the Jets and the Oilers drove to the Jets 27-yard line in the final seconds. Coslet could see Jets' fourth quarter woes returning.

"It wasn't the way you planned, but we're not going to give it back," Coslet said.

# Record-setting Aggies steamroll Owls, 41-15

## A&M gears for remainder of SWC schedule

By DOUGLAS PILLS  
Of The Battalion Staff

One down, four to go.

Texas A&M moved one step closer toward a possible Cotton Bowl berth Saturday as they walloped the Rice Owls 41-15 on a record-breaking day.

The Aggies (5-2-1, 2-1-1) must beat Southern Methodist, Arkansas, Texas Christian and Texas and hope that Baylor, TCU and Texas finish the season with two conference losses.

While A&M head coach R.C. Slocum wouldn't declare that his team is in prime position in the Cotton Bowl race, he did say things are looking up.

"I wouldn't say we're in the middle of it," Slocum said. "I'd say we're in the picture. Right now we'll take it one game at a time."

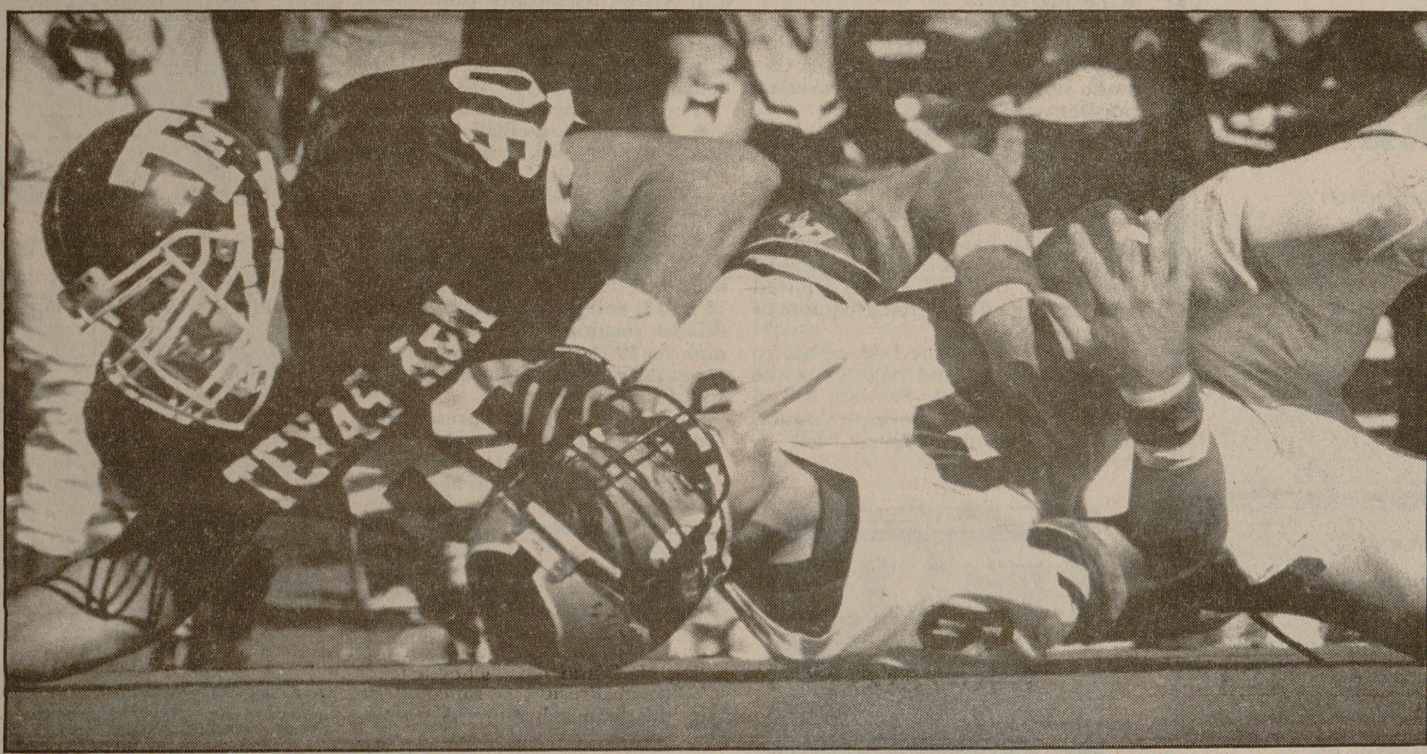
The win brought the Aggies out of a four game slide, which saw the team go 1-2-1 and fall out of the national polls. Slocum, who said he never really felt the team was in a slump, said the win puts A&M back on the right track.

"Winning always takes care of a lot of ailments," he said. "If we had a slump, it's because we weren't emotionally charged."

"If we kick the field goal against Baylor and make a play here or there against Houston and we're number six in the nation (not Houston) and nobody would have ever heard of a slump."

Slocum expressed a bit of ill feelings about those who declared the Aggies overrated and in trouble over the last couple of weeks.

"It's irritating to me when you go



JAY JANNER/The Battalion

A&M defensive lineman Kevin Tucker (90) brings down Rice quarterback Donald Hollas for a loss in the Aggies' 41-15 romp of the Owls Saturday at Kyle Field. The victory brings A&M's hopes of a Southwest Conference championship closer.

and play Houston in one great football game," he said, "then come back and play against a good Baylor team and have some people start saying we're in a slump. I don't see us having any major problems."

Visions of keeping A&M in a "slump" surely danced through the minds of the Owls (3-5, 1-4 in Southwest Conference) Saturday as they jumped out to a 12-7 first quarter lead. However, A&M would not cooperate as they exploded for 24 second-quarter points.

The Aggies opened the game with a flash as Randy Simmons returned the opening kickoff 53 yards to the Rice 35. Simmons and fellow

tailback Keith McAfee replaced wide receivers Shane Garrett and Cornelius Patterson as kickoff returners. Simmons responded by taking four returns for 130 yards.

Four plays later, after quarterback Bucky Richardson had already run once for 30 yards, the senior starter kept on the option for a two-yard touchdown run. An extra point by Layne Talbot made the score 7-0 with only 1:45 elapsed in the game.

The Owls came right back with a 12-play, 72-yard drive capped off on a one yard sneak by quarterback Donald Hollas. Three A&M penalties yielded two first downs that aided

the drive. However, similar to how the Aggies opened last week's game with Baylor, linebacker William Thomas blocked Clint Parsons' extra point to make the score 7-6.

After a Darren Lewis fumble halted A&M's second drive, Rice drove 79 yards in just six plays to take a 12-7 lead after a missed two-point conversion. The Owls would not score again until there was only 1:43 remaining in the fourth quarter.

Behind the arm of Lance Pavlas, who alternated every two series with Richardson, and

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## Lewis puts mark into books after stellar show

By NADJA SABAWALA  
Of The Battalion Staff

Some people wish upon stars for their dreams to come true. Others' dreams come true and they become the stars.

Saturday was Darren Lewis' day to shine. In Texas A&M's 41-15 romping of Rice, the senior running back became the Southwest Conference's all-time leading rusher with 4,453 career yards — 176 came while rushing against the Owls.

"It takes a lot of hard work to get there," Lewis said. "You've got to really lay it on the line to get where you're going in life. That's one of the things that I've done while here at A&M, to really work hard and concentrate on helping my team."

Lewis, at 6-0 and 213 pounds, has reached the top of conference records with four games remaining in the regular season and a chance to post enough yardage to let his record stand for some time to come.

Averaging 141.5 yards per game, Lewis has a chance to seal his record well, but he said it's not his top priority to run up the numbers.

"I'm not really concerned about the yardage to try and put it out of reach because records are made to be broken," Lewis said. "I feel like I'm a competitor and I'm not going to say that I'm better than anybody."

Lewis' yards Saturday put him past the list's No. 2 Earl Campbell of Texas and No. 1 Eric Dickerson of Southern Methodist. Campbell rushed for 4,443 yards during his



Lewis

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## Staley drops in second round

Lynn Staley, of the Texas A&M women's tennis team, was defeated Friday by Kansas' Eveline Hamers, 2-6, 6-4, 6-2, in second round action of the Riviera All-American Championships.

Staley beat Hamers, ranked ninth in the tournament, earlier this season at the Long-

horn All-American Classic.

"It was a hard-fought match," A&M coach Bobby Kleinecke said. "We had our chances, but Hamers was hitting the ball extremely well today."

The loss marked Staley's first of the fall season.

## Coleman netted New Jersey pick signs five-year, \$15 million deal

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Derrick Coleman apologized Sunday and so did Willis Reed and other New Jersey Nets' executives.

The welcome party for the NBA's No. 1 draft pick was anything but a party with less than a week to go before the Nets' season opener.

Derrick Coleman was late and no one was happy, particularly the Nets, who are going to need a lot of help to avoid being the worst team in the league again.

Coleman was going to be part of the solution. Instead, he's become part of the problem.

The NCAA's all-time leading rebounder missed training camp and said he won't be at full speed for two to three weeks. That might be a little late for the Nets.

"I never thought it would take this long, but I'm glad it's over," Coleman said Sunday after signing a five-year deal that will pay him at least \$15 million.

"Sure, we're a little disappointed," said Bob Casciola, the Nets' chief operating officer. "We wanted very badly to get this done

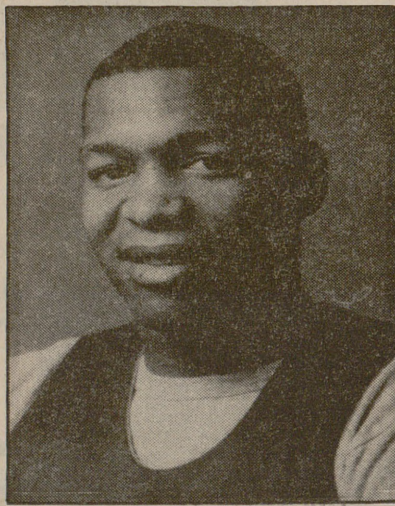
sooner. But it just didn't work out."

It didn't work out because the Nets and Coleman's agent, Harold MacDonald, were far apart at the start of negotiations.

"When this thing began there was a large difference between us," Nets owner Alan Aufzien said. "But the final contract is a good compromise for everyone."

Coleman, the 6-foot-10 forward who set all the scoring and rebounding records at Syracuse, reportedly will receive about \$2.5 million this season. He also will get a \$1 million signing bonus and his contract is laced with incentives for making the all-rookie team, being named rookie of the year and being ranked in the top five in scoring and rebounding.

The deal to sign Coleman was completed Wednesday but the Nets had to wait until Sunday to fit him into



Coleman

their salary cap. Nets spokesman John Mertz said the team would announce several player moves by Monday.

The first four years of the contact are reportedly guaranteed. The Nets have the option to pick up the fifth year.

## Mudd captures Nabisco crown after playoff hole

HOUSTON (AP) — Jodie Mudd lodged one shot between a photographer's stomach and his belt, hit another ball out of bounds and still went on to win the biggest prize in American golf.

"I'm bewildered how I can play a front side like that and win the golf tournament," Mudd said Sunday after his one-hole playoff victory over Billy Mayfair in the Nabisco Championships.

"Remarkable," he said, and shook his head. "There was all kinds of garbage going on."

Mudd, however, put his various front nine adventures out of his mind and birdied the last three holes he played — the 17th and 18th of regulation — and the first playoff hole.

"I really didn't think I had that kind of game," said Mudd, who had won only three previous titles in a nine-year PGA Tour career.

From a monetary standpoint, this was the biggest of them all. His 15-foot playoff birdie putt secured the first prize of \$450,000 and another \$40,000 from a year-long bonus pool that also closed in this season-ending event.

So, from a position on the front nine where he thought he had bought the farm, he's now in position to buy one. He said he has his eye on a 200-acre farm in Kentucky and has his big check earmarked for that.

While Mudd and Mayfair was struggling for the title over the back nine, Greg Norman was simply struggling.

He never really got into it, matched par 71 and finished in a tie for seventh at 279, six strokes out of the playoff.

### AP Top 25

Here's how the top 25 teams in The Associated Press' college football poll fared Saturday:

Rank, team, result:	Next opponent:
1. Virginia (7-0) did not play	No. 16 Georgia Tech at No. 12 Florida at Navy
2. Auburn (6-0-1) def. Mississippi 17-16	No. 10 Colorado at No. 15 Iowa
3. Notre Dame (6-1) def. Pittsburgh 31-22	
4. Nebraska (8-0) def. Iowa St. 45-13	
5. Illinois (6-1) def. Wisconsin 21-3	
6. Houston (7-0) def. Arkansas	at No. 24 Texas Christian
7. Washington (7-1) def. California 46-7	No. 23 Arizona at Pittsburgh
8. Miami, Fla. (5-2) def. Texas Tech 45-10	Pittsburgh at Air Force
9. Brigham Young (6-1) def. New Mexico 55-31	at No. 4 Nebraska
10. Colorado (7-1-1) def. No. 22 Oklahoma 32-23	
11. Tennessee (4-1-2) did not play	Temple
12. Florida St. (5-2) def. Louisiana St. 42-3	at South Carolina
13. Texas (5-1) def. Southern Methodist 52-3	at Texas Tech
14. Florida (6-1) did not play	No. 2 Auburn at No. 5 Illinois
15. Iowa (6-1) def. Northwestern 56-14	
16. Georgia Tech (6-0-1) def. Duke 48-31	at No. 1 Virginia at Louisiana St.
17. Mississippi (7-1) def. Vanderbilt 14-13	at Colorado St. at North Carolina
18. Wyoming (8-0) def. Texas-El Paso 17-10	at Purdue
19. Clemson (7-2) def. Wake Forest 24-6	
20. Michigan (4-3) def. Indiana 45-19	
21. Southern Cal (6-2) def. Arizona St. 13-6	California at Missouri
22. Oklahoma (5-3) lost to No. 10 Colorado 32-23	at No. 7 Washington
23. Arizona (5-2) def. Washington St. 42-34	at No. 6 Houston
24. Texas Christian (5-2) lost to Baylor 27-21	UCLA
25. Oregon (6-2) def. Stanford 31-0	