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The Battalion

September 2, 1991

Aggies bothered by rash of preseason inj

by Scott Wudel The Battalion

A rash of injuries has hit the A&M football team less than two weeks before it starts the season against Louisiana State University Sept. 14.

Senior running backs Randy Simmons and Keith McAfee were



Freshmen Sam Adams Rodney and Thomas were



er intrasquad scrimmage Saturday. Simmons underwent a magnetic resonance test Friday, and it

Senior Randy Simmons is fighting for the starting tailback positon but will be out indefinitly because of minor ligament damage to his knee.

hobbled by injuries during anoth-

was confirmed there is slight ligament damage to one of his knees Sports Information Director Alan Cannon said.

Cannon said the injury will not require surgery and that doctors have recommended a slow healing process for Simmons. Cannon said Simmons will be out of the A&M lineup indefinitly.

"Out of all the injuries, Coach Slocum is most concerned with (Simmons)," Cannon said. "Doctors hate to put a time-frame on when he'll be able to return.

"Right now he is on an indefi-

McAfee suffered a pulled hamstring the same night and should be able to practice later next week,

Cannon said Freshman lineman Sam Adams bruised a shoulder during a scrimmage Saturday,

Cowboys win opener

Aikman leads Pokes past Cleveland

Freshman backup running back Rodney Thomas hyper-extended a knee during the same practice. Both players are expected to return to practice later this week

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CLEVELAND (AP) - Troy Aikman, playing completely healthy for the first time since colcompletely lege, passed for 274 yards and two touchdowns as the Cowboys beat the banged-up Browns 26-14 on

The Cowboys improved its NFL-best record in openers to 24-7-1 and wrecked the coaching debut of the Brown's Bill Belichick

Aikman directed the Cowboys to scores on all four of their firsthalf possessions, including short touchdown passes to Jay Novacek and Michael Irvin and a pair of field goals by Ken Willis.

Dallas dominated the half, taking a 20-7 lead while al-lowing the Browns to run only 17

The Browns needed just one play to get back in it. Bernie Kosar threw a 62-yard touchdown pass to wide-open Webster Slaughter on the first play of the second half, getting Cleveland within six. It was the longest completion in a Cleveland opener since Reggie Rucker caught a 69-yarder in 1978.

But the Browns were unable to sustain any more scoring drives, as the Cowboys held their opponent under 300 yards of total offense for the seventh straight regu-

lar-season game. The Cowboys haven't allowed an opposing quarterback to throw for 300 yards

in 20 games. Willis kicked second-half field goals of 22 and 54 yards. The latter was his career best and tied the Cowboys record set by Toni Fritsch in 1972

Emmitt Smith led the Dallas rushing attack with 32 carries for 112 yards. Irvin caught a career-high nine passes for 123 yards.

Aikman was playing his first regular-season game since undergoing surgery on his right shoul-der last January. During that operation he also had doctors remove bone chips from his elbow, which had troubled him since his junior year at UCLA.

He completed 24 of 37 passes without an interception, exploiting a Cleveland secondary that was without three starters and two key backups for most of the

Starting safeties Thane Gash and Eric Turner missed the game, and starting cornerback Raymond Clayborn left with a leg injury in the second quarter. Defensive backs Mark Harper and Anthony Blaylock were also out.

ting up Moon's 1-yard touchdown

Defensive tackle Doug Smith shook Marcus Allen from the ball

and McDowell recovered the fum-ble at the Raiders 35, setting up Moon's 23-yard touchdown pass

to Ernest Givins with 2:43 elapsed in the third quarter for a 23-7 lead.

yard touchdown pass late in the third quarter and, 14 seconds later,

rookie Mike Dumas scooped up a fumble by Sam Graddy on the

kickoff and ran 19 yards for a

touchdown. Vince Evans replaced Schroed-

er in the fourth quarter and drove the Raiders to the Oilers 24, where

he was sacked on fourth down by

Moon hit Tony Jones with a 28-

dive 1:20 into the second quarter.

Oilers use balanced attack to smash Raiders, 47-17

Offense, defense combine for victory at Astrodome

HOUSTON (AP) - Warren Moon passed for two touchdowns and ran for one and the emerging Oilers defense set up three touchdowns with turnovers en route to a 47-17 victory over the Raiders on

Allen Pinkett, starting in place of holdout running back Lorenzo White, had his best day as a pro, gaining 144 yards on 26 carries, including 48 yards on eight runs during the opening drive of the game

The Oilers started the game trying to protect their young and injured defense with time-consuming drives and took a 16-7 lead at intermission on runs of eight yards by Pinkett, one yard by Moon and Ian Howfield's 34yard field goal.

The Raiders had the ball for

Lamar Lathon and Doug Smith with 12:42 remaining. Jeff Jaeger kicked a 39-yard

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