

Sports

Friday, November 15, 1991

The Battalion

Page 7



Chris Whitley
Sportswriter

Please pray for Arkansas

Tomorrow night, I think it would be appropriate for everyone to dress in their Sunday best and carry their favorite Bible into Kyle Field.

After all, it will be a solemn occasion.

From what we can gather, the athletic department is chipping in for a reverend to preside over the service.

"Dearly beloved, we are gathered here today to pay our last respects to a school whom we've all known and loved ... and, at times, despised," the reverend will say to begin his eulogy. "The University of Arkansas lived on Southwest Conference land for 77 years, before its untimely passing. They may be gone, but they won't be forgotten."

"It seems fitting that in their last trip to College Station, Arkansas again had Cotton Bowl hopes on the line, however small they may have been. Yet, in the end, they fought valiantly," the reverend said as a few snickers

See Whitley/ Page 9



Arkansas vs. Texas A&M



Sooooo . . . long Razorbacks

Arkansas makes its final Southwest Conference trip to Kyle Field

By Chris Whitley
The Battalion

Texas A&M and the University of Arkansas have made a lot of memories over the past 88 years. They might make their last one Saturday in Kyle Field.

The 13th-ranked Aggies, 7-1 and 5-0 in Southwest Conference play, will face the Razorbacks, 5-4 and 4-2 in SWC play, at 6:30 p.m. The game will be televised nationally on ESPN for the second straight week.

The two will play for the last time as conference foes since the Razorbacks will move to the Southeastern Conference next year. The two schools have no plans to play each other after this game.

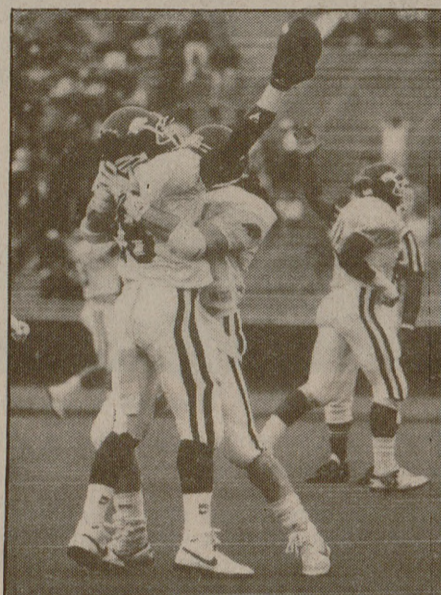
Head coach R.C. Slocum said he realizes this game ends a memorable chapter in SWC history.

"Growing up in Texas, I have watched Arkansas play for years," Slocum said. "The experience was a fond experience. They were, obviously, one of the good members of this league."

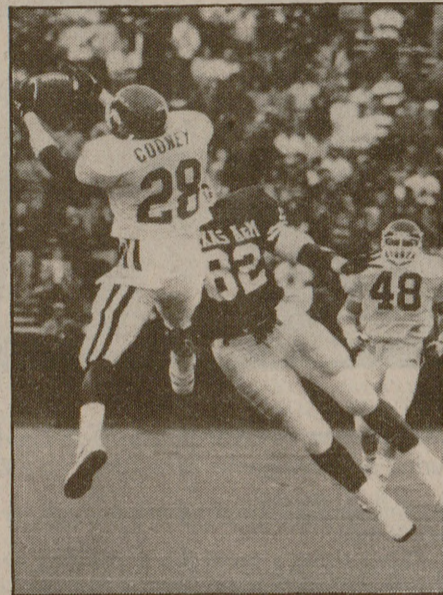
A&M and Arkansas come into Saturday's game as the top two teams in the conference.

If Texas Christian beats Texas in Austin Saturday afternoon, and Texas Tech upsets Baylor, the Aggies could clinch a Cotton Bowl berth with a win that night.

Head coach R.C. Slocum realizes that his team is in the driver's seat, but he wants his team to focus on the task at



Arkansas cornerback Anthony Cooney intercepts a Lance Pavlas pass to Mike Jones insuring the Razorbacks a 23-22 victory in the fourth quarter of the last A&M-Arkansas game played at Kyle Field two years ago.



Battalion file photos

hand. "My sole concern is with Arkansas, and I hope my players are the same way," Slocum said. "If we get that one, then we'll see what's up next."

Arkansas lost any realistic chance at winning its last SWC title this year with a

loss to Texas Tech in Lubbock last week, 38-21. It was the first time the Razorbacks had lost in Jones Stadium in 25 years.

"We are capable of playing better than we did against Texas Tech," Arkansas head coach Jack Crowe said. "We have a tremendous challenge ahead of us Satur-

day on national television against an outstanding, front-running Texas A&M football team."

The Aggies won a Thursday night game over TCU in Fort Worth, 44-7. A&M quarterback Bucky Richardson threw for a career-high 321 yards, and Greg Hill became the first freshman in SWC history to rush for more than 1,000 yards in one season.

Saturday's game will be the 65th meeting of a series that dates back to 1903. Arkansas leads the series, 38-23-3.

The series has produced a multitude of memorable contests, including the last A&M loss at Kyle Field in 1989. With the SWC championship on the line, the Aggies were upended by Arkansas, 23-22, to end a 19-game winning streak at home.

A&M led, 20-17 late in the fourth quarter, but on fourth down at the Aggie 19, Larry Horton was called for pass interference. Arkansas received a first down and eventually scored what would be the game-winning touchdown.

Last year in Fayetteville, A&M squeaked by Arkansas, 20-16, despite the fact the Razorbacks were winless in six conference games at that point. Richardson had a 10-yard touchdown late in the third quarter to put A&M ahead for keeps.

The Razorbacks were an early surprise in the SWC with a 4-0 conference record at one point. They were ranked as high as 24th in the Associated Press poll this season until a 9-5 loss at the hands of Baylor two weeks ago.



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