

ANTHONY ANDRO
Sportswriter

Bills no match for Redskins in Super Bowl

When it comes to American holidays, there are a few that immediately come to mind. You have Christmas, Easter, Thanksgiving and of course, Super Bowl Sunday.

However, this Sunday it will be a holiday for only one team, the Washington Redskins.

Once Super Bowl XXVI is all said and done, the 'Skins will rise to the top and the Buffalo Bills will once again taste Super Bowl defeat — Big time.

The Redskins are favored to win the Super Bowl by about seven points. It won't be that close.

Think about it for a second. When was the last time an American Football Conference team won a Super Bowl? Keep thinking. How about Ronald Reagan's first term as President?

Back in 1983, the Los Angeles Raiders, led by veteran quarterback Jim Plunkett, defeated the Redskins. Will there be any chance of an AFC repeat over the Redskins? Nope.

This year's game will be played in the Metrodome in Minneapolis, which is an indoor stadium.

A lot has been made of the fact that the Redskins aren't the same kind of team when the play on artificial turf. Big deal. So they did lose two games this season and one was on turf. So what.

Since the first of the season, the Redskins have been the most domi-

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Lady Aggies riding high

A&M coach Hickey hopes team keeps poise in future

By Steve O'Brien
The Battalion

Monday night was a benchmark for A&M women's basketball. The Lady Aggies defeated the Texas Longhorns for the first time in almost 14 years.

In her eighth season as the Lady Aggies' head coach, Lynn Hickey is now 1-14 against Texas. But it's better late than never.

"We had been waiting for that for a long time," Hickey said. "Ever since we got here eight years ago we've wanted to beat Texas and we finally did."

More importantly for Hickey, her team moved to 12-5 overall and 4-0 in the Southwest Conference. It marks the first time the Lady Aggies have started conference play with four consecutive victories.

Texas Tech and Houston are both 3-0 and tied for second place in the conference.

Hickey said the Aggies have a long way to go before they start thinking about a conference championship.

"Monday night was the beginning of the tough part of our schedule," Hickey said Tuesday. "It was the beginning of a four-game stretch that's going to be tough."

The Lady Aggies continue their road trip with games against Rice and Houston and return home to play Texas Tech on Feb. 1.

"I thought if we could come out .500 (on those four games), I would be satisfied," Hickey said. "Now, we're in good

shape, but any time you have a win like this you can't sit back and relax. I think our players are young enough experience-wise that everything is new enough."

Senior forward Dena Russo scored all of her team-leading 25 points in the second half on 11-of-11 shooting. She was 3-for-3 from three-point range.

Monday night's victory was the Lady Aggies' sixth win in a row. Hickey said even with Russo's heroics, it has been a team effort all season.

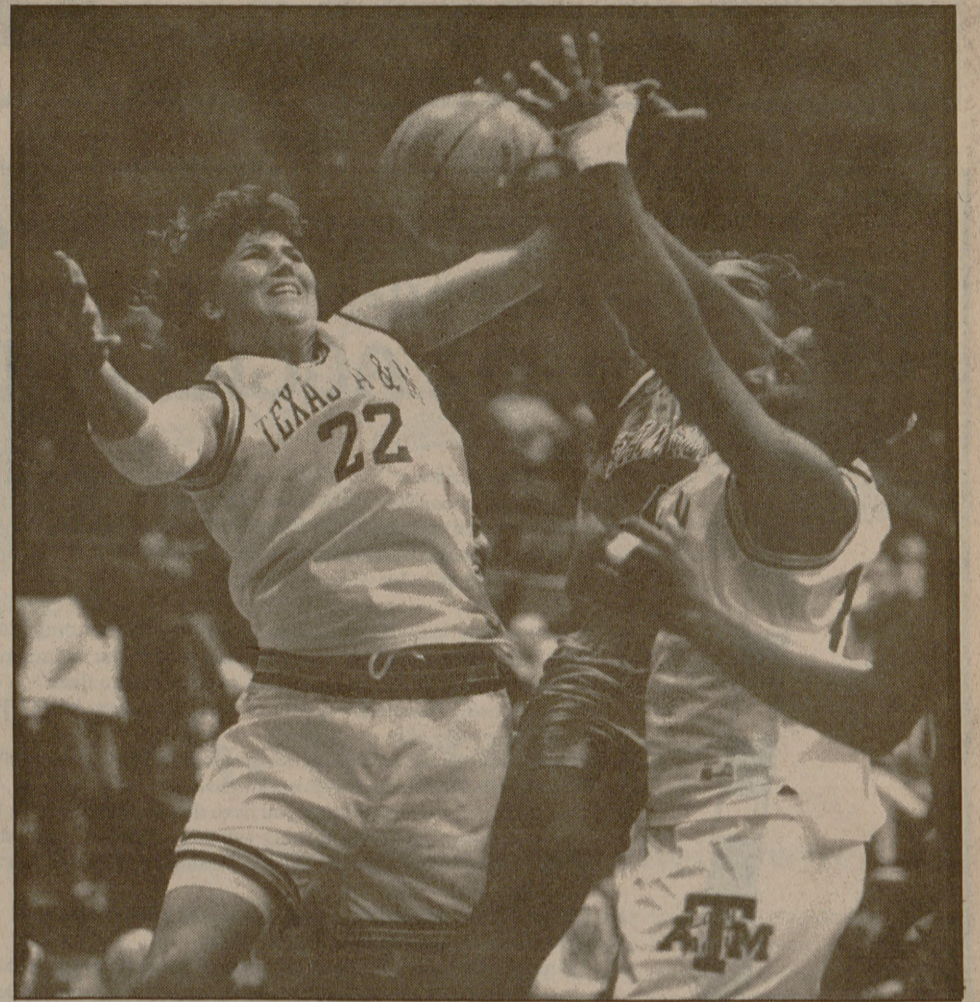
"It was very much a team effort (Monday night)," Hickey said. "(Russo) had a great game but she had a very good supporting cast. We've had eight or nine people all year who have consistently played well."

Early in the game, the Aggies chances at victory looked slim.

"We were behind by 14 points at halftime and I was thinking, 'Oh no, here we go again,'" Hickey said. "But we shot extremely well in the second half. We executed well. We just pressed man on man all the way up and down the court. They played us a little more man-on-man and we just handled it."

The Lady Aggies handled all the pressure well. After Texas took the lead 73-72 with 10 seconds left in the game, A&M took the ball the length of the floor for the win. Shawn Medlock found Russo under the basket for a layup as the final buzzer sounded.

Against the Longhorns, junior forward Yolanda Brown scored 14 points and pulled down five rebounds for the Aggies and Vanessa Edwards and Sheri



Battalion file photo

Senior Dena Russo and junior Yolanda Brown are leading the Lady Aggie basketball team in scoring and rebounding this season. Their contributions have helped propel A&M to first place in the Southwest Conference.

Dillard each had 10 points.

Patience may be the right formula for the Aggies, according to Russo.

"We have been just taking one game at a time and I think that is why we're being so successful right now," Russo said after

last Saturday's victory over Baylor.

"We're 4-0 now and at the top," Hickey said. "Texas and Houston have to play each other next week, so by the end of the week we'll know where we stand."

For right now, they stand on top.

Team	Conf.		Season	
	W	L	W	L
Texas A&M	4	0	12	5
Houston	3	0	13	2
Texas Tech	3	0	12	2
SMU	1	2	9	5
Texas	1	3	7	7
Baylor	1	3	8	5
Rice	0	2	6	7
TCU	0	3	4	10



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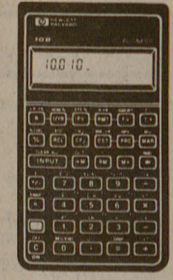
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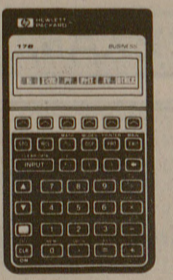
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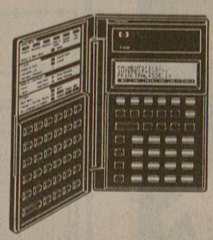
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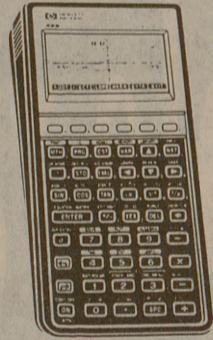
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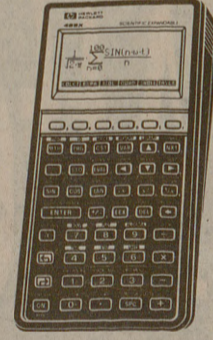
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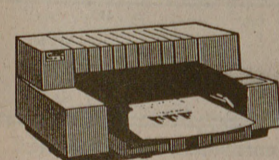
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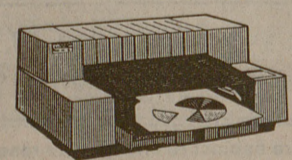
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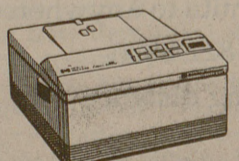
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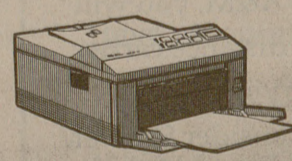
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