

UH game a grim reminder of high school

NICK GEORGANDIS

Asst. Sports Editor



I've got a few friends that go to the University of Houston that are always mad at me because of a certain yell done by the Aggie faithful that starts with "Beat the hell..." and ends with "outta Cougar High."

Why, they wonder, do the Aggies refer to the University of Houston as a high school, when they give Texas, their arch-rival, the nickname "t.u.", at least referring to them as a university.

To be honest, I haven't the faintest idea why we call them Cougar High. Having grown up in an Aggie family, when I went to see A&M-UH games, I simply yelled whatever my parents were yelling.

But after paying close attention to the various aspects that UH incorporated into their off-the-field activities Saturday night, I think I have a pretty idea where that moniker came from.

In a nutshell, the Cougars behave very much like a high school, complete with their pre-game traditions and halftime performances. I felt like I was back at my old high school, especially since the opposing team's crowd (in this case, the Aggie faithful), usually made up about nine-tenths of the total attendance of the contest.

The Cougars started out the game by having the players run out onto the field while the cheerleaders turned cartwheels and handstands. The players burst through a giant homemade sign that contained on it "UH is in da house", an awe-inspiring message if I've ever saw. The players were all jumping around and urging on the non-existent Cougar faithful in the crowd.

Oh, then there was the band. Dressed in their flame-red suits and hats with those "big tufts" coming out of the top, they played three very basic fight songs over and over and over again. It got very annoying, very fast. Are you starting to have flashbacks of your high school days?

Anyway, at halftime, the UH homecoming court was announced. Not only was there a king and queen, but also a duke and duchess, a baron and baroness, a prince and princess, a couple of court wizards, a moat, a dungeon and a couple of dragons to boot. The winners just seemed so damn excited, it made me feel bad for laughing at the Royal Court, especially when they thought the roar of the crowd was for them, when in reality it was from the Aggie crowd welcoming the team back onto the field for the second half.

Perhaps the most defining characteristic that UH has in common with a lot of high schools is they're very, very bad. True, UH put up a good fight against A&M, but the Cougars have only scored 27 points now in five full games. Their average margin of loss is 30 points, not bad against teams like A&M and Ohio State, but inexplicable against teams like Missouri and Louisiana Tech.

Cougar High? From a football aspect, that's a disgrace to Houston-area teams like Deer Park and MacArthur that are trying to give high school football a good name.

Aggies switch to passing game in 37-8 victory

Pullig passes for 256 yards, three touchdowns

By Stewart Doreen
THE BATTALION

Going into Saturday's game versus the University of Houston, the seventh-ranked Texas Aggies knew it wasn't going to be a matter of if, but by how much. That question was answered with a 38-7 A&M win.

"It's good to get done, get this one behind us and get back to work," head coach R.C. Slocum said. "Those kinds of games worry coaches more than anyone else. I knew we weren't going to come down here and have them lie over for us."

"We've won a lot of games, and with that comes confidence," senior running back Rodney Thomas said. "This win wasn't impressive, but it was a win. That is what is important."

The Aggies came into the game as heavy favorites against Houston, but were held scoreless for over a quarter. The Cougars' eight-man front contained the Aggies to 144 yards rushing (50 below their average) and forced A&M to pass.

The Aggie defense however, not only matched the Cougars, but dominated the entire game, holding UH to only 213 total yards. The third quarter spotlight fell upon the defense as they extended Houston's miseries holding the Cougars scoreless for the 11th straight quarter. Though the "Wrecking Crew" would allow a touchdown in the fourth quarter, the overall effort received positive reactions from the Aggies.

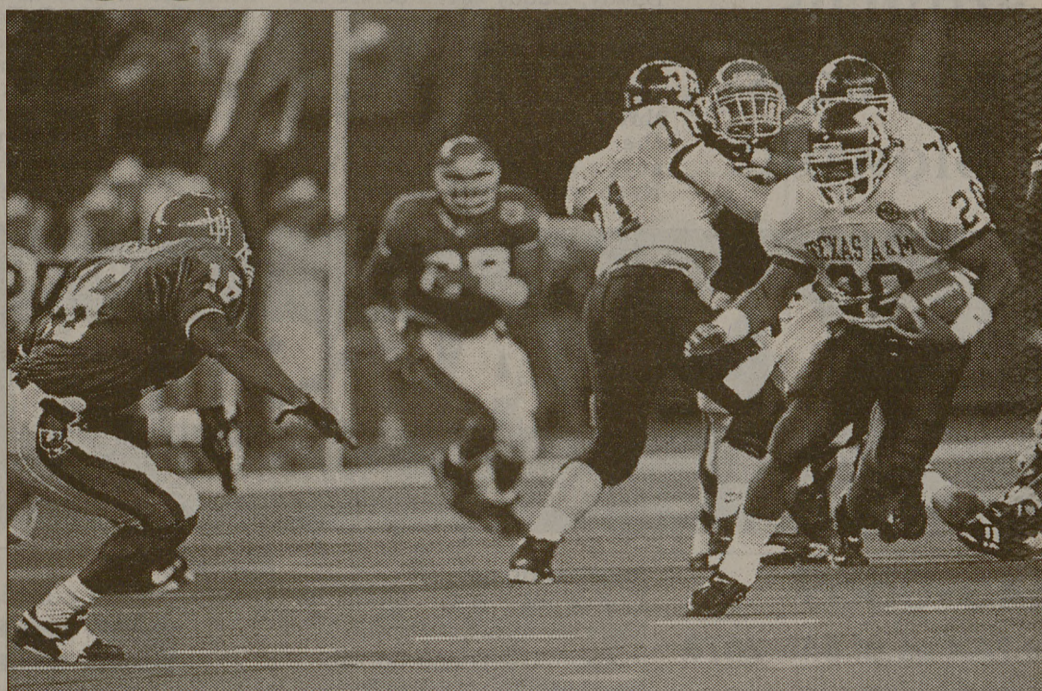
"The defense came out and played at our level," senior linebacker Antonio Armstrong said. "We played like we were supposed to play, and the results speak for themselves."

The Cougars mustered only 85 yards rushing in the game, meaning that no Aggie opponent has managed over 100 yards this season.

It wasn't until three minutes into the second quarter that junior quarterback Corey Pullig hit senior wide receiver Ryan Matthews for 36 yards down the right side of the field for the initial score. It was the first of three touchdown passes by Pullig, who passed for 264 yards on 21 of 37 passing.

"We had to come out and air it up a little bit to try to get people backed off of us," Slocum said. "We wanted to get some work in and find out where our problems are in protection and see what we could do."

The attack continued with another Pullig touchdown pass this time finding senior receiver Chris Sanders who leaped over a Houston defender to give the Aggies a 14-0 lead. The touchdown pass was called a gift by Pullig who opted for the pass even though he could have walked in to score.



Running back Rodney Thomas outmaneuvers the UH defense.

Jason Welborn/Special to THE BATTALION

Special teams caused or scored two Aggie touchdowns. Twice in the fourth quarter, A&M blocked Cougar punts. Rodney Thomas' nine-yard run came courtesy of a blocked punt from junior

defensive back Dennis Allen. Following a Houston score, the Aggies closed the book on the game on a blocked punt by senior safety Junior White that fell into the waiting arms of Allen for the 38-7 final score.

Lady Aggies dominate 4-Way Invitational

Women's tennis captures "A", "B" singles titles

By Kristina Buffin
THE BATTALION

Although this weekend's weather was not tennis-friendly, the Texas A&M women's tennis team blew away the competition at the Texas A&M 4-Way Invitational this weekend.

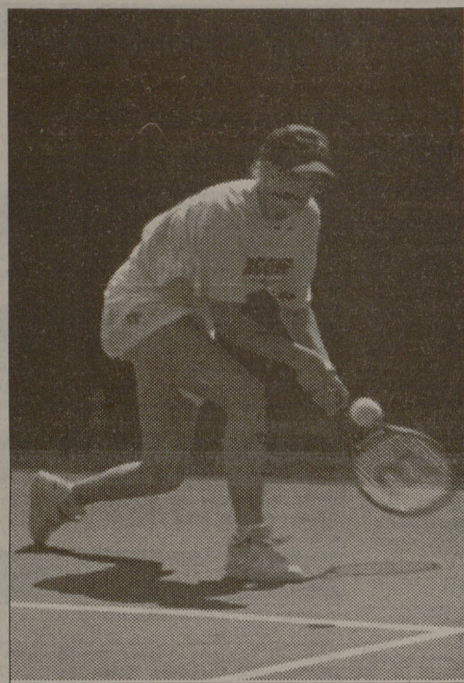
"We played really well, even though two of our girls weren't playing. I'm really optimistic this year, this tournament shows that we are much more deeper this year," head women's tennis coach Bobby Kleinecke said.

Leading the way for the Lady Aggies over the weekend was junior Lonna Logan. Logan ended the tournament with a win in the final of the "A" singles contingency.

"Lonna is consistent and has a lot of power. She uses her power to her advantage," Kleinecke said.

Logan defeated three Baylor players to win the singles title. She only dropped one set and decisively defeated Greta Gibson in the final 6-1, 6-2.

"I'm playing more consistently and playing smartly," Logan said. "My first round win gave me more confidence for the tournament."



Tennis player Lonna Logan dives on a return at the tournament on Sunday.

Blake Griggs/THE BATTALION

Aggie air attack takes off at dome

By Nick Georgandis
THE BATTALION

Maybe it's something about the Astrodome...

In the stadium in which a successful passing attack took the Houston Cougars of the late 1980's and early 1990's into the stratosphere of the NCAA record books, the Texas A&M offense proved it could pass anytime it pleased as the Aggie football team rolled to a 38-7 victory over a stubborn University of Houston team Saturday night.

"Their receivers made a lot more plays than I would have liked," UH head coach Kim Helton said. "I think (A&M) came out determined to prove they could throw the ball and they did."

Junior quarterback Corey Pullig enjoyed his second fine performance in the Astrodome in as many games, completing 21 of 37 passes for 264 yards and three touchdowns. The 21 completions tied Pullig's career high, while the 264 yards was the second-

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Women's soccer team defeats Texas Tech 3-1

Staff and Wire Reports

The Texas A&M women's soccer team defeated the Texas Tech University Red Raiders 3-1 Sunday at Fuller Track stadium in Lubbock.

"Tech played well, and their goalie had a great game," said A&M head coach G. Guerrieri. "But the main thing was that we played well. It's good to be winning again."

The Aggies, 6-2-2, spotted Tech an early goal when Kristie Patterson scored in the 24th minute of the first half off a free kick from Nicole Dean.

The Aggies, who ended a three-game road trip, would come back with minutes left in the first half. Freshman midfielder Bryn Blalack fired home a crossing pass from freshman midfielder Sonia Ibanez.

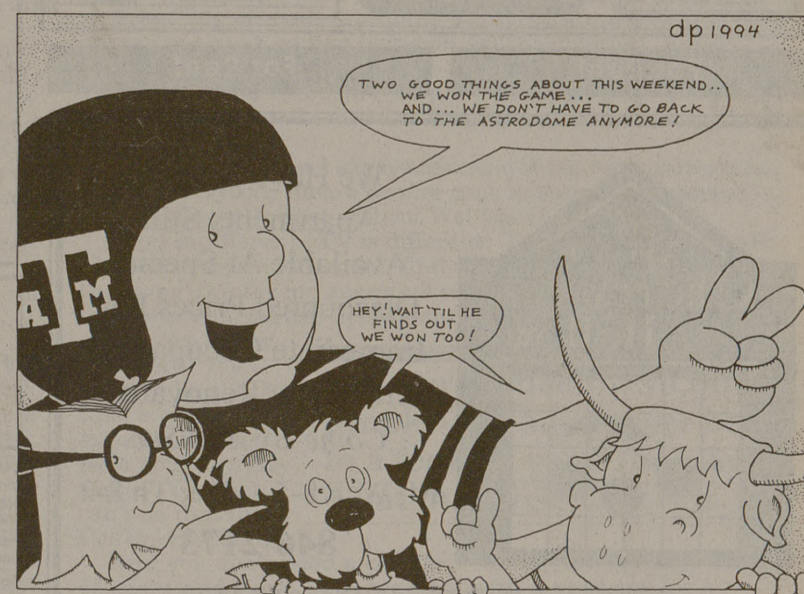
Blalack opened the scoring in the second half shooting the rebound off the breakaway attempt by sophomore forward Kristen Koop.

Junior midfielder Corie Hammers finalized the victory, blasting sophomore midfielder Sandy Edwards' pass in the goal from three yards out. Sophomore midfielder Kim Duda also received an assist the play.

"We created a lot of chances, but steadfastness in front of the goal was what paid off," A&M head coach G. Guerrieri said. "They weren't the most beautiful goals, but they went in and we won."

For the match, the Aggies outshot Tech 34-5, including seven to zero on corner kicks.

The Aggies return to College Station to prepare for three-match weekend beginning with Arkansas-Little Rock on Friday at 3:00 p.m. at the Aggie Soccer Complex.



dp 1994

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