

1995 bowl games in 'The Twilight Zone'

DAVE WINDER

Sports editor



January 2, 1995. What a wacky, wacky college football season it has been up to this point. Blowouts, upsets and last second finishes have made the annual New Year's Day bowl festival very exciting.

Cotton Bowl — After a 47-3 loss to Texas A&M, the Rice Owls went on to win their last five games to claim the Southwest Conference title. Cotton Bowl officials invited every Division 1-A school to play the Owls, but all turned down the offer. The University of Southwestern Michigan State Tech Evil Clowns accepted, however, and rolled to a 30-6 win.

Orange Bowl — In a battle of two veteran teams and two legendary coaches, the Florida State Seminoles battled the Colorado Buffaloes. Trailing by seven with a minute to go, the Seminoles score to tie the game after the referees mistakenly give them 17 downs. Buffalo coach Bill McCartney complains vigorously, but in the end accepts Foot Locker gift certificates from the Seminole players.

Summer's Eve/John Deere Bowl — After winning the Heisman, quarterback Ron Powlus faces his toughest competition as the Fighting Irish of Notre Dame take on the Golden Weiner Dogs of Northeastern Kentucky A&M. Despite throwing five interceptions and fumbling twice, Powlus is named the Chrysler Player of the Game in the Weiner Dogs 53-19 win. Coach Lou Holtz begs the voters to still consider his team for the national championship, which causes the voters great distress. It is, after all, Notre Dame.

Rose Bowl — After Penn St. marched through the Big 10, everyone thought they were a lock for the national championship. That was before they ran into UCLA and Bob Toledo's potent offense. With the score tied 10-10, Nittany Lion tailback Kijuana Carter starts laughing so hard at coach Joe Paterno's high water pants that he fumbles at his own 3-yard line. After three straight sweeps to the right, the Bruins settle for a 47-yard field goal to win the game.

Sugar Bowl — After going through the season undefeated the Colorado State Rams accepted a bid to take on the Florida Gators in what was supposed to be the biggest mismatch of the year. Florida coach Steve Spurrier, however, talked about how the Rams' poor strength of schedule so much that he forgot to practice for three weeks. Colorado State wins 21-0 while chanting, "At least WAC teams play defense," during the entire fourth quarter.

Screw the NCAA Bowl — After being placed on probation by the NCAA, Texas A&M and Auburn decide to hold their own bowl game. Down 24-23, Auburn's Frank Sanders takes the kickoff with only three seconds left in the game. He then runs to the 20-yard line and pitches to teammate Thomas Bailey as he is hit by the Aggies' Steve Kenney. Thinking Sanders was tackled and the Aggies had won the game, the Corps freshmen start chasing the yell leaders onto the field.

Bailey then runs twenty yards and pitches it to fellow Tiger Chris Shelling who takes it to the

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Lady Aggies pound Tech in three games

Bronner, VanderWoude too much for Raiders

By Nick Georgandis
THE BATTALION

Needing a win to break a three-match losing streak and move up in the Southwest Conference standings, the Texas A&M women's volleyball team looked to a seasoned veteran and an explosive freshman Wednesday night to lead them past Texas Tech three games to none.

Senior outside hitter Jennifer Bronner and freshman middle blocker Cindy VanderWoude combined for 37 of the Lady Aggies' 50 kills as A&M breezed by the Lady Red Raiders 15-10, 15-8, 15-4 before a crowd of 519 at G. Rollie White Coliseum. The Lady Aggies thoroughly dominated their SWC rivals, outhitting them by a .325 to .081 margin.

"I don't think we've played better all season long," head coach Laurie Corbelli said. "I think the players learned a lot from the last few games (against ranked Duke and Notre Dame). When you play it enough, you learn it and it becomes you."

Coming off a heartbreaking loss to Duke on Monday night, the Lady Aggies started off slowly in the first game, as the Lady Red Raiders lept out to a 8-4 lead before A&M called a time out to regroup. Following the break in the action, the Lady Aggies garnered a side-out and proceeded to run off eight straight points before putting Tech away 15-10.

A&M jumped out to a quick 5-0 lead in the second game, as the offense began hitting on all cylinders, while a stifling defense held the Lady Red Raiders to a meager .027 hitting percentage.

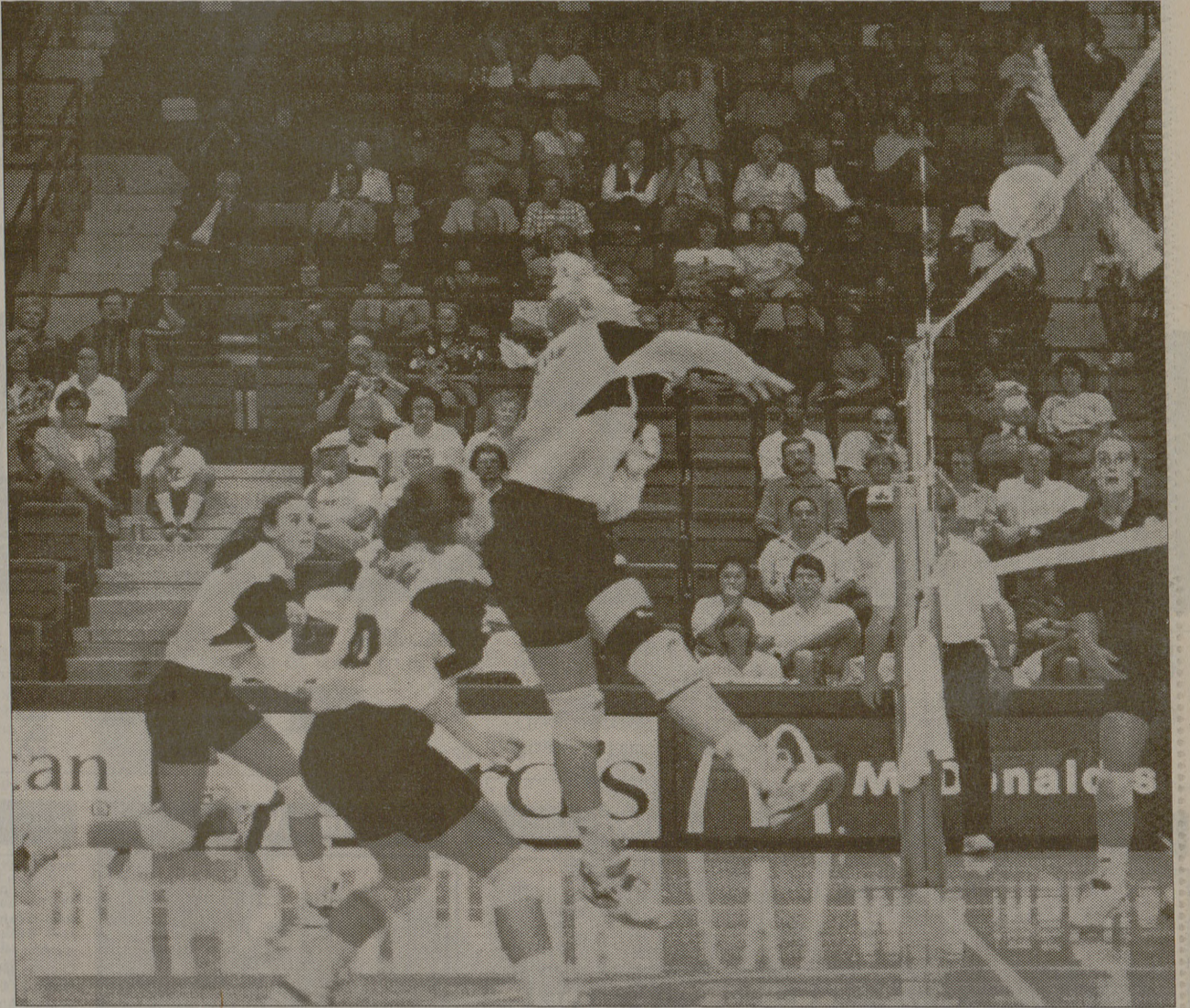
"We were in a real groove offensively," VanderWoude said. "We were one whole team instead of just six individuals."

Going to the 10 minute intermission after the second game, the Lady Aggies faced a similar situation to the Duke game when they won the first two games, then lost three in a row to lose the match.

"When we were up two games at the break, we said we wanted to do it in three," Bronner said. "We wanted to make sure (what happened versus Duke) didn't happen again."

But lightning was not destined to strike twice at G. Rollie White, as the Lady Red Raiders again couldn't mount any sort of offensive threat, compiling a horrendous .026 hitting percentage in the Lady Aggies' 15-4 rout.

Also turning in strong performances for the Lady Aggies were junior setter Suzy Wentz with 35 assists,



Cindy VanderWoude, freshman middle blocker, spikes the ball against Texas Tech as teammates Jennifer Bronner (back) and Suzy Wentz (front) look on.

six kills and an .857 hitting percentage and sophomore middle blocker Page White, who led A&M with 12 digs and contributed a .400 hitting percentage.

The win moved A&M's overall record to 8-9 and 3-3 in the SWC. The loss also gave Tech a 3-3 conference record, and tied the two schools for third place in the SWC standings.

The game ended the Lady Aggies' three-game homestand. A&M will begin a two-game road trip on Friday at the University of Texas-Arlington, before returning to SWC play on Saturday against Baylor. The next home game will be next Wednesday at 7 p.m. when the Rice Lady Owls come calling to College Station.

Owls look for lead in SWC

By Drew Diener
THE BATTALION

Coming off of their 19-17 upset victory over 13th-ranked Texas last Sunday, Rice took a holiday Monday to celebrate. The win not only ended a 28-year drought against the Longhorns, but more importantly, vaulted Rice into a tie for first place with Texas A&M in the Southwest Conference.

The victory celebration was short lived, however, as Rice began preparations for their visit to Kyle Field this Saturday.

"We need to go try to beat them (A&M)," Rice head coach Ken Hatfield said. "They've got a solid program in every form or fashion. This game is important and we want to win this game badly."

Rice has not beaten A&M since 1980, when they marched into College Station and squeaked by with a 10-6 victory. Aside from their current 13-game losing streak against the Aggies, they also have to deal with A&M's 24-game home winning streak. Despite facing such odds, Rice quarterback Josh LaRocca said he is confident his team can prevail.

"We have to play real good football to have a shot at winning this weekend," LaRocca said. "We've got to go out there and not do anything fancy."

Ironically, the last coach to walk away from Kyle Field victorious over the Aggies was Hatfield, when his Arkansas Razorbacks snuck away with a 23-22 victory in 1989. Hatfield said the Aggies have made improvements since then.

"They are playing real well as a team," Hatfield said. "They've played

real solid as a unit defensively. Offensively, they have always had the same skill people, great running backs and linemen, great receivers, and a solid kicking game."

Rice's spread option offense is centered around a commitment to run the ball. The Owls achieved success against Texas, rushing the ball 61 times for 207 yards.

Hatfield said he respects A&M's defensive prowess, but his team will stick to the offensive philosophy they have employed all season long.

"It will be a real challenge to see if we can make some yardage running the football," Hatfield said. "They do a really tremendous job of putting pressure on the offense."

If A&M has success stuffing Rice's running attack, LaRocca said the Owls has other weapons in its arsenal to turn to.

"Should our running game not work out, we have a lot more options to go to," LaRocca said. "The coaches are going to come up with a game plan that utilizes every part of our offense."

The Owls are dead last in the conference, 100th in the country in passing. Running back Jimmy Lee, the Owls leading receiver, is questionable for this weekend's game, Hatfield said.

"We've got bumps and bruises from Sunday that are getting healed," Hatfield said. "I feel like everybody else (aside from Lee) should be able to play."

On the other side of the ball, Rice is

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Big 12 completes match-ups

Staff and Wire Reports

The Big 12 Conference has taken the first step in finalizing future football schedules by approving a menu of opponents for a 12-year cycle. The menu calls for each institution to play the teams in its division annually with contests against non-division opponents rotating, in two year cycles.

North Division

Colorado
Iowa St.
Kansas
Kansas St.
Missouri
Nebraska

South Division

Baylor
Oklahoma
Oklahoma St.
Texas
Texas A&M
Texas Tech

Texas A&M Schedules

1996 • 2000 • 2004

Texas Tech
at Baylor
Oklahoma
at Oklahoma St.
at Texas
at Iowa St.
Kansas St.
Colorado

1997 • 2001 • 2005

at Texas Tech
Baylor
at Oklahoma
Oklahoma St.
Texas
Iowa St.
at Kansas St.
at Colorado

1998 • 2002 • 2006

Texas Tech
at Baylor
Oklahoma
at Oklahoma St.
at Texas
at Kansas
Missouri
Nebraska

1999 • 2003 • 2007

at Texas Tech
Baylor
at Oklahoma
Oklahoma St.
Texas
Kansas
at Missouri
at Nebraska

Haiti
Evolution of a crisis

with
Christopher Caldwell
Assistant Managing Editor,
The American Spectator

The events leading up to
Haiti's political crisis and the
American Response.

Thursday, October 20
7:00 p.m.
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