

ALL HAIL SIR SEDRICK

Curry making presence felt for Wrecking Crew

By JEFF WEBB
Staff writer

Despite the lack of a take notice All-American defensive back in the Texas A&M secondary this season, the pass defense-by-committee approach has pushed the Aggies to a 4-0 record thus far. One reason for the undefeated record is the play of cornerback Sedrick Curry.

Curry would have been a wide receiver by choice except for the play of his high school teammate Lorenzo Armistead.

"In high school, I always wanted to be a receiver, but there was this guy, Lorenzo, who ended up going to Mississippi State," Curry said. "He kept getting all the balls thrown to him. I wanted some action, so I thought I'd get more balls

thrown at me playing cornerback."

This change of position sums up Curry's attitude towards football. With the lack of big names on the Wrecking Crew this year, a variety of players have been earning playing time. Curry has been working hard to improve himself and do whatever is needed to help the team win. Defensive backs coach Larry Slade feels Curry has come a long way from the player he was when he entered the program.

"Sedrick is a student of the game, so he's going to improve just because of that," Slade said. "What he may lack in athletic ability, he makes up for with his work ethic, his character and his dependability."

"You can see him getting better each week," said starting strong safety

Rich Coady. "He has great speed and is really competitive."

Early in the season, it was undecided if Curry would play cornerback, his natural position and the one he was signed to play, strong safety. His versatility has never been in question. Curry played basketball, football and ran track in high school. His blazing speed helped his team to a 3:11 time in the mile relay, third best in the nation.

A unique part of Sedrick Curry's makeup is his height. At 6-foot, 3-inches, 186 pounds, Curry is big for a cornerback. This proves to be a valuable asset when considering the trend of tall, athletic receivers.

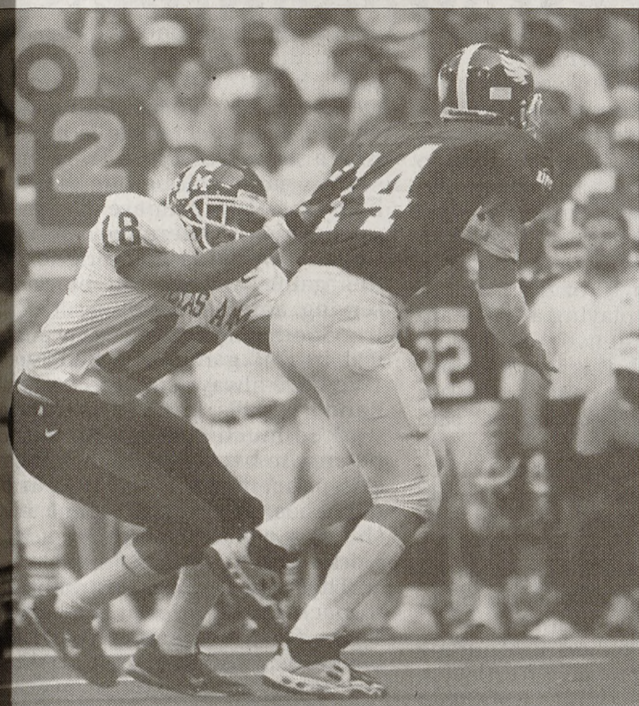
"Being physical is part of my game. Sometimes it works as an intimidation factor, not that I try to intimidate any-

one," said Curry. "I heard sometimes these little receivers don't like to play against a big cornerback like myself. I just have a cornerback mentality. I like being out there on the edge."

Curry has learned from the best. Curry was redshirted his freshman year, watching the likes of Ray Mickens and Donovan Greer and learning from them. The secondary's goal this season has been to "Regain the Rage" that made the Wrecking Crew so formidable in years past. And what does Curry want others to see when they take a gander at him on the playing field?

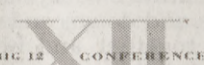
"I'm a hard worker. Whether it is on the field or in the classroom, I'll go the extra mile to get it done."

One thing is for certain: that extra mile will be a quick one.

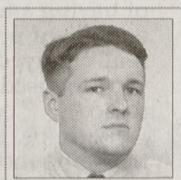


DAVE HOUSE/THE BATTALION
Sophomore Sedrick Curry is an opposing force in the secondary.

It's put up or shut up time for upstart Oklahoma St., Kansas



NOTEBOOK



JAMIE BURCH
Staff writer

ran 99 yards from scrimmage to help the Jayhawks outlast OU, 20-17. In doing so, Vann became only the fifth player in NCAA history and the second by a Kansas runner to accomplish the feat.

The last time a Jayhawk broke loose for a near 100 yard dash was 1963. A young Gayle Sayers ran for a 99-yard touchdown against Nebraska.

"OU"CH!

The Sooners led in every category of the game against Kansas except the one that mattered most, the final score. Oklahoma's backfield out-rushed the Jayhawks by 30 yards. OU aired out Kansas by a margin of 50 yards. And the Sooner offense picked up 18 first downs to Kansas' 11.

But OU, setting a dreary season trend of surrendering the big play, allowed the Jayhawks to gain 99 of its 158 yards on the ground in one of its 33 attempts.

Now He's Just Little

Texas' Heisman hopeful ran into a brick wall. Ricky "Little Earl" Williams could not find daylight against the OSU defense. The No. 2 rushing defense in the country held

the Longhorn running back to a mere 4 yards in the first half of the Cowboys' 42-16 slashing of Texas. Williams was held to 79 yards on 16 carries.

As a team, the Runnin' Horns were limited to 86 yards on 23 attempts.

Past His Prime

University of Colorado senior quarterback John Hessler is feeling the effects of aging. After igniting the Buffs' offense in 1995 as a backup, the struggling field general has failed to post numbers comparable to his sophomore campaign.

In 1995, Hessler entered the A&M game for injured starter Koy Detmer. Hessler led the comeback and went on to average 194 passing yards, a 57.9 completion percentage and 1.82 touchdowns per game. But through four games in 1997, the Buffs are 2-2 and Hessler is averaging just 187 yards in the air at a 50 percent completion rate and a 2:1/2 interception to touchdown ratio.

Bring Out The Brooms

Oklahoma State swept Conference Players of the Week for their contributions in the Cowboy's win over Texas. Freshman quarterback Tony Lindsay

engineered a 29-zip halftime lead and OSU's first victory over the Longhorns since 1944. Lindsay rushed 19 times for 126 yards and a career-high three touchdowns, including a 55-yard touchdown run. In addition to his ground game, Lindsay completed 4-of-5 passes for 85 yards.

Junior strong safety Trent Alexander, the defensive player of the week, amassed eight tackles (four unassisted), a sack, two fumble recoveries and a pass deflection.

Junior cornerback R.W. McQuarters garnered special teams honors after a 78-yard return against Texas for a touchdown and four other punt returns for a total of 113 yards.

Games of the Week

Oklahoma (2-3, 0-1) at Texas (2-2, 0-1) — Cotton Bowl (Dallas)

It's that time of year again. It's time for Texas-OU Weekend. The glorious three days in which college football fanatics from Austin and Norman converge on Dallas for on all out drunkfest. Yeah, they also play a game on Saturday, but it's the Friday and Saturday nights festivities that draw thousands to the metroplex. This is the 92nd meeting between the

interstate rivals. As always, throw out the record books. Texas leads the all-time series 52-34-5. OU won the last contest, an upset victory, 30-27. Since both teams are struggling, the stakes are high. The loser moves to 0-2 in conference and greatly hinders a possible bowl berth. The winner gets bragging rights and possibly keeps its head coach.

#22 Colorado (2-2, 0-1) at #20 Oklahoma St. (5-0, 2-0)

For Colorado head coach Rick Neuheisel this game has huge implications. Neuheisel is under the gun after Colorado's two early losses, including the home opener defeat at the hands of Texas A&M. A program that appeared to have returned to national prominence after a 1990 National Title, the Buffs have fallen on hard times. Media around the Rocky Mountain State are asking if Colorado made a mistake by not hiring former assistant coach Bob Simmons.

For Simmons, now the head coach at OSU, it means a chance to say 'I told you so.'

Jamie Burch is a senior speech communications major

Vann De Camps
University of Kansas tailback Eric Vann

All members of the Texas A&M community — students, faculty, staff and friends of the University — are encouraged to attend the

Academic Convocation

at 1:30 p.m. Friday, October 10, 1997
in Rudder Auditorium

Please join us for this important program!

This Convocation, the first of its kind since Texas A&M's centennial in 1976, will acknowledge faculty excellence and accomplishments and provide a forum for President Ray M. Bowen to discuss the current 'State of the University' and its future directions



Reception immediately following
in the Rudder Exhibit Hall



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