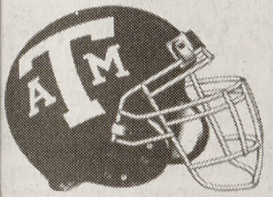


Undefeated Aggies now target of Big 12 Southern Division foes



NOTEBOOK

Chris Ferrell



CHRIS FERRELL
Sports editor

passing game. "We've been here before," Slocum said. "But we're not far off." With the media beginning to raise the "why can't Slocum-coached teams throw the football" question, Slocum said that some of college football's legendary coaches heard the same complaints over their careers. Coaches such as Darrell Royal at Texas and Woody Hayes at Ohio State both won national championships with run based offenses. "I've about decided y'all can stay on my case as long as we keep winning," Slocum said.

Blitz is the Word

A corner blitz by sophomore Sedrick Curry helped to set up junior safety Rich Coady's game saving interception last week. Curry's blitz was one of the packages the defense has been adding in recent weeks. The Wrecking Crew is not quite ready to return to the traditional "blitz first ask questions later" attack, but the blitzes are increasing.

"We're going to try to continue to develop the pressure packages," defensive coordinator Mike Hankwitz said. "Early in the season, we weren't going to hang ourselves out too early. We want to develop some base defenses we can execute and then add to that as we go along. We could have started the pressure right away, but I don't think our corners would have been ready."

Even the Wrecking Crew Needs a Breather

A key to a good defense has always been a good offense. If the offense is on the field for long periods of time, it limits the opportunities the other team has as well as gives the defense longer to rest. This was evident last weekend when the Wrecking Crew looked like the Crew of old, dominating Colorado and swarming to the ball, limiting the Buffs to only 58 plays on the afternoon and 105 rushing yards. The offense deserves some credit for that performance. The Aggies and their "Rushin' Crew" won the time of possession battle, keeping the ball for almost 34 of the game's 60 minutes.

"If you look at that game, that was a team victory," Hankwitz said. "The offense ran for 260 yards and established the mentality of the game."

Haven't We Seen This Before

Freshman Jason Glenn was moved from strong safety to outside linebacker this week. Glenn, who had been battling Coady for time in the secondary, will now back up junior Warrick Holdman at left side linebacker.

"That gives us another guy like we've had in the past," Slocum said. "You think of Marcus Buckley, Aaron Wallace, John Roper and William Thomas, Antonio Armstrong, he's one of those kinds of guys, a big safety who comes in fast from the linebacker position."

Chris Ferrell is a sophomore journalism major

In the Baskin-Robbins that is the Big 12 Conference, there is a special on the maroon stuff in the Southern Division. Yes indeed, the Aggies are the flavor of the week after their big win in Boulder last Saturday.

It was just a few weeks ago that the Texas A&M football team was picked to battle it out for second while the Longhorns down in Austin cruised to their second Southern crown.

Well, what a difference a month makes. The young Ags are rolling and the Horns are hurting.

But remember the South is not a two horse race. There are the suprisingly tough Cowboys looming out there along with booming Sooners, Baylor (technically, we have to count them too), and an intelligible Red Raider or two, just waiting to get their hands on A&M.

Before buying your tickets to San Antonio, remember there's a whole lot of football yet to be played.

A Little Off the Top

Going into the battle with the Buffaloes, offensive coordinator and offensive line coach Steve Marshall told his men in the trenches that if the Aggies ran for 250 yards, he would "shorten his hair considerably." The Aggies rushed 57 times for 260 yards in the 16-10 win. Tuesday, Marshall showed off his new hair style.

"It was a little bit of a challenge," Marshall said. And against an extremely good defensive line, I thought they took the challenge very well."

However, the guys on the OL didn't get to cut the hair themselves, instead Marshall put his locks into the hands of a professional.

"I was in charge, this is not a democracy," Marshall joked. "I told them, this is a one man show here."

Deja Vu All Over Again

Excuse coach R.C. Slocum if he feels like he's been here before. While analyzing his team's performance over the weekend he said the defense was great, the special teams played solid and the offense was able to run the ball very well against the Buffs.

Then he said the team needed to improve the

HEIMULI

Continued from Page 11

There was a picture with my name and everything. Everyone just started calling me the "Tongan Terror."

This season, Heimuli and the offensive line are off to another explosive start. Through four games this season, the Aggie backfield is averaging 280.5 yards per game.

Senior left tackle Chris Ruhman said he is impressed by Heimuli's ability and will to play.

"He's definitely going to be one

of the premiere guards in the Big 12 and in the country," Ruhman said. "How many people do you know come in and start as a rookie on the offensive line at guard?"

In addition to his role on the offensive side of the ball, Heimuli has another responsibility this year. Heimuli's cousin, Moses Vakalahi, is a freshman offensive lineman.

Heimuli said he feels like he needs to look out for his 6-foot 5-inch "little brother."

"That's one reason I moved to Cain Hall," Heimuli said "I love stay-

ing off campus, but I wasn't going to let him stay with someone he doesn't know. If I was a freshman that's what I would want. I'm glad to have another Tongan around. He's like my little brother."

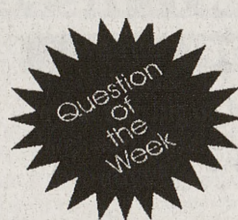
Big or little, quarterback Randy McCown said would be happy to have Heimuli, or any of his relatives, blocking for him.

"Seimisi's a big strong guy," McCown said. "We run a lot to the right side. He and Cameron (Spikes) are just two big ol' bodies. A running back could make a living following those guys."



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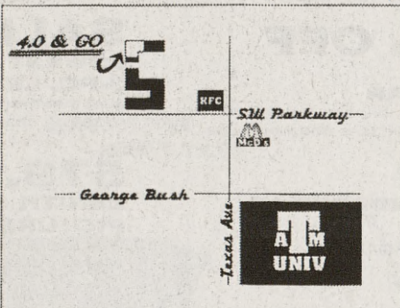
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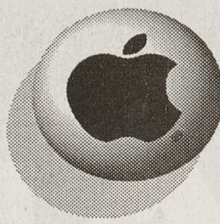


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