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Red Raiders shut out No. 24 Ags, 12-0

By BRIAN RUFF THE BATTALION

LUBBOCK — The hex that thing in the cold ns to travel to Lubbock with Texas A&M football team eared its ugly head once again aturday, as the Texas Tech Red nmentary, but an Riders handed the Aggies a 12nutout at Jones SBC Stadium. "We struggled a little bit en 2002 is a maing enthusiastant offensively today and we really idn't make any big plays refensively either," said A&M best game for the ior linebacker Brian Gamble. thought we played well ensively with the exception the lack of a turnover here

The Aggie defense quickly de its presence known on the st Tech offensive series. On the cond play for Tech, senior linecker Christian Rodriguez corded his first sack, taking wn Kliff Kingsbury for a loss six vards.

Following the defensive stop, looked as if the defensive mentum would carry to the gie offense. Freshman rung back Derek Farmer took handoff on the Aggies' first fensive play and cut back ross the field to pick up 29 rds on the play.

Two plays later, Farmer ould take a pitch to the left le and pick up another 14 rds to the Tech 12-yard line. nfortunately for the Aggies, a olding penalty wiped out the tire play and backed them up yards. On the fourth down nd 14 from the Tech 30-yard

lined up for the field goal.

Senior Wes Bautovich, who holds for the Aggies, took the snap and followed Scates into the hole. The fake produced a gaping hole in the line, but Bautovich was tackled just three yards short of the first down marker, turning the ball over to the Red Raiders.

The Tech offense mounted a drive on their next possession and moved the ball down to the A&M 5-yard line, where they were given 1st-and-goal. The Aggie defense stiffened once again and forced the Red Raiders to attempt a fourth-andone play from just outside the end zone stripe.

Tech senior running back Ricky Williams took the ball over the left side, but was met by Gamble and sophomore Jared Morris at the 1-yard line, turning the ball over to the Aggies.

The two teams traded punts on the next five possessions, until the Red Raiders again mounted another long drive. The drive was highlighted by a 21-yard screen pass to Williams to took the pass down to the A&M 12-yard line.

The Aggie defense would again stiffen with their backs were against the wall, holding the Red Raiders to a 25-yard Robert Treece field goal giving the Red Raiders a 3-0 lead.

The Aggies took the following kickoff and mounted a drive of their own, looking to score before the half. A&M converted

line, sophomore Cody Scates on two third-down conversions to keep the drive alive, and had a first-and-goal from the Tech 7yard line.

Junior quarterback Mark Farris and was pressured by Tech defensive lineman Aaron Hunt, who forced Farris to hurry the throw. Sophomore strong safety Ryan Aycock jumped the slant-route and intercepted the pass in the end zone, putting an end to the Aggies' hopes of putting points on the scoreboard.

We had a chance to take the lead at halftime," said A&M football head coach R.C. Slocum. "We got down there and misfired and came away with no points."

Tech moved down the field at the close of the third quarter, taking the ball 57 yards in 13 plays and connecting on a 37-yard field goal.

Following the field goal, the Aggies drove down the field, putting together one of their most impressive drives of the game. The Aggies moved the ball from their own 20-yard line and faced yet another important fourth down play.

The Aggies needed just three yards for the first down, and Farris hit freshman wide receiver Terrence Murphy on a fiveyard out-route. Murphy crossed the first down marker and was fighting for extra yardage when junior Joselio Hanson slapped the ball out of Murphy's hands. The Red Raiders recovered the fumble and ended the Aggies'

See HEX on page 6.



Junior quarterback Mark Farris is taken down in the fourth quarter by Texas Tech defensive lineman Josh Page. The Aggies suffered a 12-0 loss to Tech, who have not lost to the Aggies in Lubbock since 1993.

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