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COLLEGE STATION, Tex. — Five years after learning the "r's and o's" of the wishbone from Texas A&M Coach Emory Bellard, Jimmy Sharpe paid dearly for a refresher course here Saturday afternoon.

After Sharpe's Virginia Tech team had been able to shut down the option phase of Texas A&M's attack, the Aggies went to the air and exploited the Hokies' inexperienced pass defense for a 19-0 victory at Kyle Field.

Although the Aggies racked up 199 of their 385 yards total offense on the ground, it was a series of screen passes from quarterback David Shipman to running backs George Woodard and Alex Armstrong that keyed the Aggies' opening-game win.

For 30 minutes, the A&M fans were treated to the kind of game they usually get when cross-state rival Texas comes to town, but the Aggies extended their first 7-0 lead to 13-0 after intermission and simply wore down the Tech defense in posting the first shutout over the Hokies in 65 games.

"When we received after the second half kickoff, I thought we still had a good chance to win," said Sharpe, who wasn't around to 13-0 after intermission and simply wore down the Tech defense in posting the first shutout over the Hokies in 65 games.

"But, after we failed to move the ball, it was just like a replay of last week, when we had the ball 13 or 14 minutes in the third quarter against Wake Forest." The game was a scoreless tie for the first 28 minutes until Shipman scored on a one-yard boilng with 1:50 to go in the first half but the Hokies seemed to have gained some when Rick Razzano recovered a fumble by Shipman on the Hokies' eight-yard line seconds before half time.

"I was tired; we were all tired," said Razzano, who made 14 individual tackles, assisted on six others and recovered the fumble. "I thought we'd be all right after halftime. I thought we just needed time to regroup.

While Razzano and Co. were on the sidelines to start the second half, Tech's offense was still unable to generate any offense.

After two runs up the middle by Paul Adams and an ill-fated jaunt off tackle by Chuck Nuttycombe, the Hokies were forced to punt for the fourth time in the game.

Again, the defense seemed up to the task, but Shipman broke lose for 17 yards and 10 from his own 35 and then followed moments later with a 20-yard score on a screen pass to Armstrong in a third-and-16 situation from the Virginia Tech 46.

"We had worked on the screen, but no matter how much you work you can't stop it unless you get the quarterback," said Sharpe. "Not many wishbone teams use the screen, which makes it a particularly good play in certain situations. We knew they might use it. In fact, we were thinking about it ourselves, but we never had any time.

After the Shipman to Armstrong pass took the Aggies to the Tech 35, Texas A&M still experienced trouble moving the ball against the Hokies' front five. As a result, Shipman turned to the keeper again, gaining 11 yards on another third down play from the 29.

They say that third downs hold the key to winning football and Shipman once more proved adept at making the big play when he was faced by a third-and-six on the Hokies' 13.

The quarterback rolled left, spotted running back Armstrong at the two, and from that point the bruising, 248-pound Woodard needed just one play to carry it over.

By then, it had become apparent that the Hokies couldn't move the ball, and Sharpe eventually had to turn to sopho-

more Eddie Snell to direct his attack. However, Snell's luck was no better than starter Michael Barns', as the Aggie defense continued to swarmed over the Hokie offensive line.

Bellard's crew was particularly successful in shutting down Roscoe Coles, who had set Tech's single-season rushing record last year as a sophomore. Coles, who ran for 1,036 yards in 1975, was held to 20 yards in eight carries before retiring with a bruised shoulder.

The Aggies' second touchdown was the clincher. "I was pretty confident until that point," said Sharpe.

Gobblers Vow To Go 10-1, Page D-2