

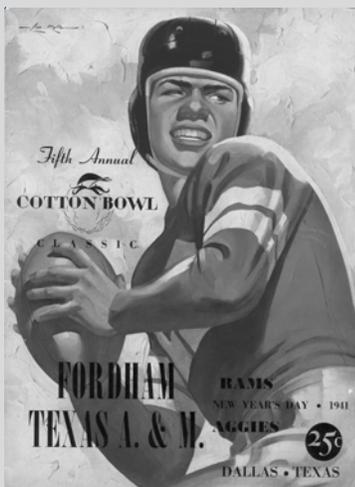


January 1, 1941

Texas A&M 13, Fordham 12

Attendance - 45,507

GAME SUMMARY



Second Quarter:

Fordham-Steve Filipowicz 2 run (Steve Hudacek kick blocked by Jim Sterling), 20 yards in 6 plays following blocked punt by Joe Ungerer

Third Quarter:

Texas A&M-Earl Smith 62 pass from Marion Pugh (Pugh kick fail), 65 yards in 2 plays following second half kickoff
Texas A&M-John Kimbrough 1 run (Pugh kick), 1 yard in 1 play following punt return by Derace Moser and holding penalty

Fourth Quarter:

Fordham-James Blumenstock 15 run (Hudacek kick blocked by Martin Ruby), 46 yards in 8 plays following fumble recovery by Alex Santilli

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

Lou De Flippo, Fordham
Joe Ungerer, Fordham
Charles Henke, Texas A&M
John Kimbrough, Texas A&M
Chip Routt, Texas A&M

COACHES

Jim Crowley, Fordham
Homer Norton, Texas A&M

WEATHER

Ideal

This was a game of "firsts." It marked the first sellout for the Classic with 45,000 fans looking on to see Texas A&M challenge Fordham, a powerhouse from the East and a team coached by Jim Crowley, the famed Notre Dame Four Horseman. The Aggies were winners of 19 consecutive games before losing their season finale to Texas. The loss dropped A&M from second to sixth in the national poll. No. 12 Fordham also had held a lofty ranking during the season, reaching as high as third before falling to St. Mary's, 9-6. The 1941 game promised a classic battle between two outstanding football programs. Also making for a memorable day was that in 1941, the Cotton Bowl came under the sponsorship of the Southwest Conference.

Maybe just as memorable was Earl "Alabama" Smith's "hideout pass." Smith was a surprise starter in the Aggies' backfield, and his first half performance left little indication as to what was to come. Trailing 6-0 at the start of the third quarter, it was time for the Aggies to spring the play on the unsuspecting Rams. Instead of returning to the huddle after a play that gained three yards, Smith trotted toward the east sideline while his teammates rushed to the huddle. Still undetected, Smith took off on the snap, heading straight downfield. Quarterback Marion Pugh whirled around, retreated to his 25 and let go a long, graceful spiral. Startled fans, along with the Ram defense, looked for a receiver. By now, Smith was several yards behind Fordham defensive back Len Eshmont and only had to turn and momentarily slow his pace to take the pass on the 35. Regaining his stride, he easily outdistanced the surprised Eshmont in his race for the end zone. It was that 62-yard scoring play which put the Aggies back into the ball game, 6-6.

On its next possession, A&M scored again when All-America fullback Jarrin' John Kimbrough crashed over from the one. This time Pugh redeemed himself for missing his first conversion attempt and the Aggies had a 13-6 lead as the contest moved into the final period. Jim Blumenstock's 15-yard touchdown run brought Fordham within one of the Aggies, but Steve Hudacek's try for the extra point was blocked by the Aggie line. Twelve minutes remained on the clock, although from that point on the Rams never seriously threatened.

FUN FACT #5

The Classic's first sellout occurred in 1941 when Texas A&M defeated Fordham, 13-12. Since that time, the AT&T Cotton Bowl's annual ticket sales have averaged 95 percent of stadium capacity.

GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATS	Fordham	A&M	
First Downs	13	8	RUSHING
Rushing	8	5	Fordham - Eshmont 16-48, Blumenstock 12-42, Filipowicz 13-16.
Passing	4	2	Texas A&M - Kimbrough 18-66, Thomason 1-10, Pugh 10-(-19).
Penalty	1	1	
Net Yards Rushing	118	52	PASSING
Net Yards Passing	62	101	Fordham - Filipowicz 5-20-3, 62 yards.
Passes	5-23-3	6-18-1	Texas A&M - Pugh 5-14-1, 97 yards.
Total Net Yards	180	153	
Fumbles-Lost	1	3	RECEIVING
Penalties-Yards	2-29	3-25	Fordham - Blumenstock 1-17.
Punts-Average	8-30.4	10-32.9	Texas A&M - Smith 1-62, Thomason 2 receptions, Moser 1-5.
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS			
PUNTING			
Fordham - Blumenstock 7-29.7, Filipowicz 1-25.0.			
Texas A&M - Moser 4-40.5, Pugh 1-58.0.			