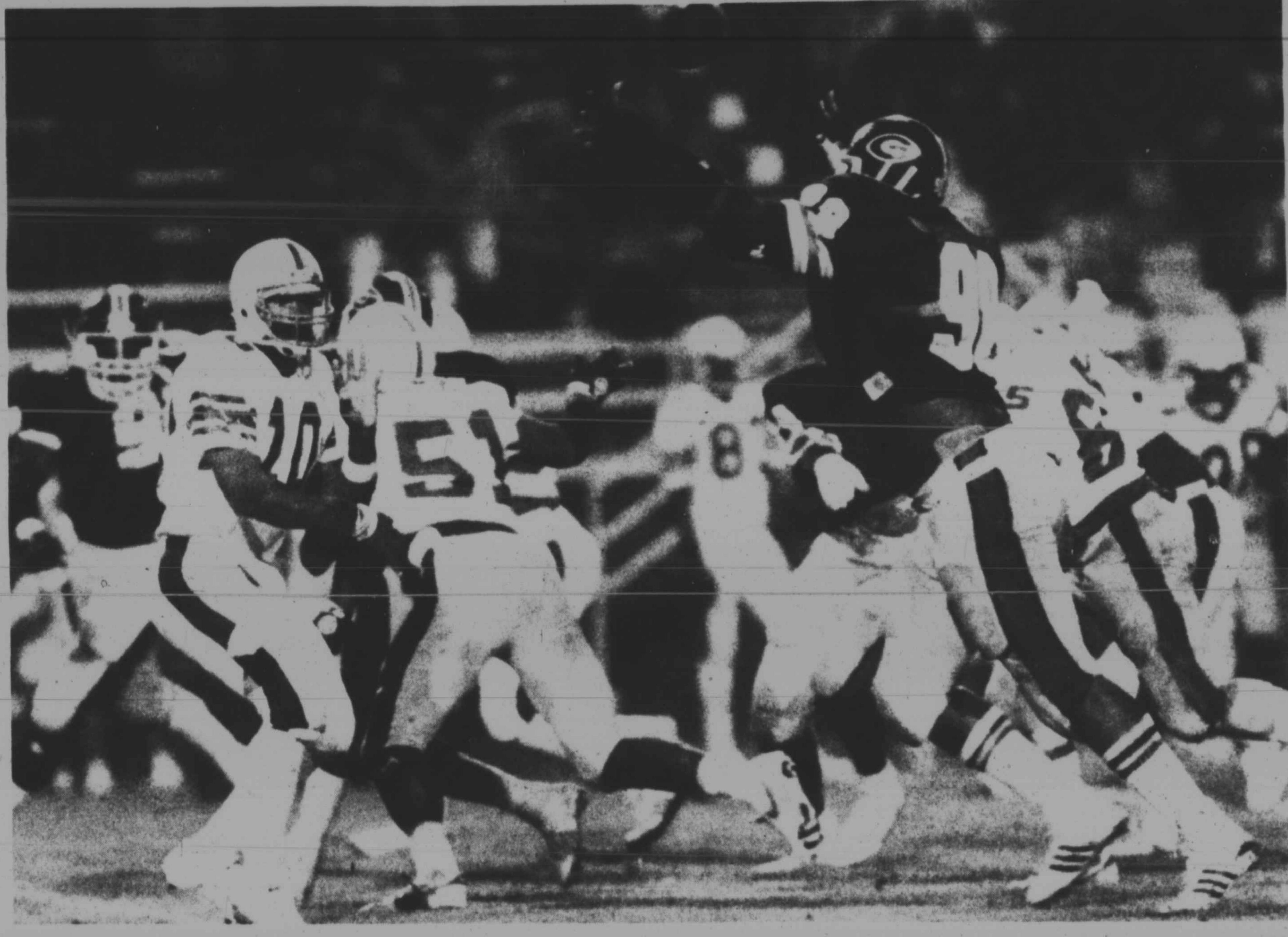
SWAC REPORT

Robinson's raucous Tigers are at it again



While Grambling's offense has been sufficient, its defense has been had to deal with the likes of 6-5 defensive end Leonard Griffin (98) spectacular. Ask Mississippi Valley quarterback Willie Totten (10), who (photo by Mark Gail).

By ROSCOE NANCE Special To The Review

Grambling's football tradition has grown into a legacy now that Eddie winningest coach.

alumni who contributed to Robinson's isn't the second coming of Doug "Grambling has not been an emo- team ever." record are household names.

midst of all the hullabaloo that has ac- talent it lacks. son's victory total.

35-26 decision to Jackson State was the James Hunter and those people in the winningest coach has been a dedicated the season to Coach, but it's

best for a Grambling team since the '75 secondary. squad got off to a 6-0 start too.

companied Robinson's record-setting "The way I look at it," said Alcorn and drive they have. They're playing ing force for the G-Men.

motivating factor.

"Offensively, they're not "They're older and want to win," Jackson State also snapped that streak. monstrous. Running back Wayne Hill said Robinson of his players. "They But this year's squad lacks the is a good football player, but I've seen want to win for themselves. They have superstar-caliber players that Grambl- better. They're more opportunistic goals -- the conference championship Robinson is college football's all-time ing has become known for. There are than they are dominant. They're play- and a national championship. But no Everson Wallses or Trumaine ing with a goal -- a mission -- to take what haunts them most is what teams Johnsons or Charlie Joiners. And Eddie as far as they can take him. before them did. There's a lot of talk Willie Davises and other Grambling quarterback Terrell Landry certainly They're playing more inspired ball. about them being the best Grambling

tional team. But you see a lot of emo- Whether Robinson wants to believe But the members of the 1985 squad But this team has that special tion. Against them, we committed four it or not, his assault on and ultimate have sort of gone unnoticed in the something that makes up for whatever turnovers and they scored on three of conquest of Bear Bryant's collegiate them. That's an indication of the desire record of 324 victories has been a driv-

season. They are faceless and nameless Coach Marino Casem, Grambling is this one for the Gipper." "It's a motivating factor," said performers who have quietly gone well balanced. They're not terribly Robinson, being the person he is, Wayne Hill. "Not being prejudiced or about the business of adding to Robin- dominating in any area. They're not takes little of the credit for the anything, but for a black man, he's terribly talented like when they had the G-Men's fast start. Nor does he think come a long way. He loves Grambling Their 6-0 start before dropping a Trees of Terror or like when they had his quest to become college football's and we love Grambling. We haven't

Robinson's raucous Tigers

CONTINUED

a good idea."

Grambling. But it will be remembered as the one that put Robinson in the record book. However, that's an honor that each of his 42 previous teams can

The one thing the '85 Tigers can do that no other Grambling team has done is win an NCAA Division I-AA championship for Robinson.

"He's had good talent before but came up short," said Hill.

Grambling lost to Boise State 14-9 in 1980, its only I-AA playoff appearance. The Tigers have been ineligible for the playoffs ever since because the date of the Bayou Classic against Southern University has conflicted with the start of the playoffs. There is no conflict this year and the G-Men want to take advantage of this oppor-

Basically, this year's squad is the one that finished third in the Southwestern Athletic Conference last



Above, Robinson and his players celebrate their victory over highly ranked and high-scoring Mississippi Valley State by singing Grambling's school song. Left, quarterback Terrell Landry: Effective if not flashy (photos by



Valley and posted a 7-4 record. Only just 22 turnovers in the first seven five starters are missing from that games. Seven of those came in the loss

Coach Rob Taylor. "It all seemed to year we had a couple of guys fail at the come together. We have the same per- last minute and there was nothing we sonnel, the same coaches. Communica- could do about it." tion is the key. They have the same old Another difference has been personality. Everything's the same." Landry's play at quarterback. He guid-

which in this case is the won-loss final five games of '84. Landry, a record. After seven games a year ago, Grambling was 3-4.

'85 success were planted in the final range. But he passed for 1,377 yards Grambling defeated Jackson State, Landry is most dangerous when he's Texas Southern, Alabama State, pressured because of his strength and Southern Carolina State and Southern University in succession.

some Grambling-caliber players whatever it takes to win."

coming back. Everybody was looking you with his running." forward to playing. We came back Landry is not Grambling's only ofwith a positive attitude."

resemblance between the '84 and '85 cept when Doug Williams was quarter-Tigers purely coincidental. The '84 backing them. This year is no excepteam was besieged by turnovers, losing

year behind Alcorn and Mississippi the ball 43 times. This season, they had to Jackson State in the rain.

Why the difference?

We're older," said Robinson. "Last

Everything except the bottom line, ed the Tigers to victories in each of the 6-foot-3, 200-pound senior, is one of those players who finds a way to win. Actually, the seeds for Grambling's His completion rate is in the 40-percent and 14 touchdowns in Grambling's first seven games.

"Landry gives us stability," said That let the Tigers know they had Robinson. "He seemingly does

around if they went ahead and played. "You have to keep Landry contain-"We figured it would be a good year ed or he'll kill you," said Mississippi last year," said middle linebacker Fred Valley Coach Archie Cooley. "He's Collins Jr. "We had a lot of people not the greatest passer. But he can hurt

fensive weapon. The Tigers have That positive attitude made any always featured a balanced attack, ex-

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