



JOE WELLBORN

Wellborn Hits In Thickest Grid Action

When the Texas Aggies are on defense and you want to follow the action, keep your eyes on No. 55.

No. 55 jersey graces the broad, thick shoulders of senior linebacker Joe Wellborn and he always sticks his helmet into the thickest of the action.

Wellborn is a good, solid, tough football player. A&M Coach Gene Stallings has praised him publicly, time and again, this season for his performances. Yet, Wellborn says: "I never have been satisfied with my play this year. There's always something I do wrong and I know I can improve."

Wellborn is a name that the Rice Owls know well. Maybe not all of the current Owls. But, back in the 1958 Cotton Bowl game, a Navy fullback named Ray (Buddy) Wellborn led the Middies to a 20-7 win over the Owls. Buddy, who attended high school at Houston Austin, is Joe's cousin.

As a sophomore, Joe and his Aggie teammates upset Rice, 13-6, and it was Joe who squelched a late Rice drive with a pass interception.

Wellborn played his schoolboy football at Houston St. Thomas and picked A&M for his college career despite the fact that he was offered only a one-year, make-good scholarship. He started every game as a freshman and had a good session in spring training. But, it was not until shortly before fall workouts commenced that he received his full scholarship.

At 6-2 and 215, Wellborn is a solid, compact linebacker who tackles with authority. "I don't feel like I've tackled well unless the ball carrier falls backward," he says.

Wellborn feels that he's improved a lot this season. "Coaches (Jack) Pardee and (Dee) Powell have taught me a lot," he explains. "I have a clearer picture of the overall situation on defense now."

Since coming to A&M, Wellborn has started all but two games in four seasons. He didn't start the first two his sophomore year, but he played a lot in both of them and he did so well that Ray Kubala was moved to the

line and Wellborn took over the linebacking post. He's been a resident at that position ever since. Joe recently switched majors.

discarding Education in favor of Business. "I want to get a degree in Business but I still plan to get a teaching certificate."

He's had a few nibbles from the Canadian league about playing pro football and says, "If I can get a decent contract I'll play

pro ball. Otherwise, I want to teach and coach after I get my degree." Joe received a broken thumb

during the TCU game this year (the first broken bone of his life) but hasn't missed a down because of it. "I petted it during the Bay-

lor and Arkansas games but I just ignored it in the SMU game. It's something I've gotta live with the rest of this season."

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CORPS SENIORS & 1ST SERGEANTS YEARBOOK PORTRAIT SCHEDULE

Corps seniors and outfit first sergeants will have their portrait made for the Aggieband '66 according to the following schedule. Portraits will be made at the University Studio in class A winter uniform.

Executive officers and first sergeants will also have portraits made in GH caps for the military section.

Commanding officers will have full length portraits made in boots. PLEASE MAKE INDIVIDUAL APPOINTMENTS WITH THE STUDIO FOR THESE FULL LENGTH PORTRAITS.

NOVEMBER

- 8-9 Maroon and White Band
- 9-10 A, B, C, D-1
- 10-11 E, F, G, H-1
- 11-12 A, B, C, D-2
- 12-15 E, F, G, H-2
- 16-17 Squadrons 1-4
- 17-18 Squadrons 5-8
- 18-19 Squadrons 9-12
- 19-22 Squadrons 13-14