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Ags meet Baylor in crucial contest

By JOHN CURYLO
Battalion Sports Editor
For the third straight week, the Texas Aggies meet a team that is at a critical point in establishing itself in the Southwest Conference this year.

The Baylor Bears, utilizing the Wishbone offense, visit Kyle Field tomorrow at 1:30 p.m. in a contest that could determine the future of both squads for the remainder of the season.

Coach Gene Stallings' charges are hampered by injuries, and the offense hasn't dominated a game since the season opener. For the Aggies to salvage the records this year, it is necessary for them to come up with a win tomorrow.

Joe Mac King again gets the call at quarterback. He started his first game of the year last week against the TCU Horned Frogs, completing five of 19 passes and moving the team into enemy territory several times in the second half, only to have interceptions stop the threats.

Lex James may be able to play, but the shoulder separation he got

in Lubbock has kept him from practicing all week. Tim Trimmer is listed as the backup man.

Hugh McElroy, still battered and bruised from the game Saturday, may start at tailback, but Steve Burks is healthy again, and Mark Green is still going strong as a running back.

Doug Neill, the team's leading rusher, lines up at fullback, with Marc Black right behind him. McElroy may play at split end, but Joey Herr has recovered from the collarbone he cracked in the LSU game. Ricky Spencer will play here, too. At split end, Robert Murski leads the team in number of passes caught. John Gardner is his substitute.

Injuries have hurt the offensive line, and a number of changes have been made this week. Todd Christopher and Robert Gerasi-mowicz were hurt in the TCU game, and both are doubtful. Skip Kuehn will move back in from tackle to center, leaving Buster

Callaway and Ralph Sacra at those positions.

The starting guards are Leonard Forey and Mike Park. Homer May and Mitch Robertson are ready at tight end. May has been a steady starter all year, and Robertson was a winner of the Aggie Star in his first start last week. Robertson will do the punting, and is currently second in the conference.

Mike Bellar will handle the kickoffs again, with Pat McDermott kicking placements. Roberto Payan is available for duty here, too.

Defensively, the Aggies are sound at all but one position. Kent Finley was hurt last week, so either Dan Peoples or Rusty Pool will start at one end, opposite mainstay Max Bird.

Van Odom and Boice Best are the tackles, but James Dubeak, back in action again, will fill in on both sides. Bill Wiebold, cited by Frog Coach Jim Pittman for his

tough play against TCU, gets the nod at noseguard.

The linebacking corps is strong, and any two of the four would be excellent starters. Grady Hoermann and Steve Luebbehusen start, but Mike Lord and Dennis Carruth are expected to fill in at times.

The secondary play has been superb this year, and the usual four are going again. Lee Hitt and Bland Smith are the cornerbacks, while Brad Dusek and David Hoot play the safety spots. Larry Ellis and Ed Ebrum are the back-up cornerbacks, with Ellis or Bellar filling in at safety.

The same formula for victory applies in this game. The defense must contain the Baylor Wishbone and give the offense the field position and number of possessions it needs.

But the offense must get rolling for the first time in the past five games.

Razorbacks leave rest of conference behind as Texas tries to rebuild against Rice Owls

By BILL HENRY
Assistant Sports Editor
With the Southwest Conference almost wrapped up by Arkansas, the rest of the teams will settle down to fight for what's left in the standings.

Highlighting this week's action is the regionally televised contest between Southern Methodist and Texas Tech in Dallas at 2 p.m. SMU is fresh off its first SWC win of the season over Rice, 16-10. Tech is 1-1 in conference play, having lost to Texas, 28-0, and defeating A&M, 28-7. Both teams have had somewhat lackluster pre-conference results with identical marks of 1-3. SMU rests on the laurels of two-time All-SWC performer Gary Hammond for its offensive punch out of the Wishbone. Tech, on the other hand, uses the pass-run option well but its main source of success has come from its defense. Tech leads the SWC in that category.

Rice, after being upset by SMU last weekend in a fourth quarter rally, will visit Austin for an afternoon game with the Longhorns. Texas, after jumping out with a 3-0 mark the first of the season, has lost two straight. 1967 was the last time the 'Horns have lost

two straight. The chances look dim for Rice to pull off the third straight loss against the injured Texas team. Rice looked impressive in its non-conference schedule with a tenacious defensive unit. The offense looks weak, however. Texas will be out for at least a second place finish in the conference and a chance for some type of bowl game, even if it is not the Cotton Bowl. Eddie Phillips and Donnie Wiggington may be ready to play.

Arkansas hosts an outmanned North Texas State team in Fayetteville for an afternoon contest. If Tulsa hadn't already done it to the Razorbacks, the Mean Green might have a chance to pull off a major upset. Arkansas is still too excited to play a good,

Water polo team to play in Arkansas

The Texas A&M Water Polo Club left for Conway, Arkansas today to play in the Hendrix College Water Polo Invitational.

The two-day affair will see six teams play in the double elimination competition with the top teams seeded being John Brown University and Southeastern Missouri.

"This should be another good tournament for the boys," said Coach Dennis Fosdick. "I think we can surprise some of the people there and win the tournament in New Mexico, and we've been playing well all week with good speed and form."

The junior varsity team will host the Fort Hood Dolphins in the indoor pool Saturday morning at 10.

sound football game against such inferior opposition. Joe Ferguson is too young to get over-confident and besides, he's looking at an All-American berth in this, his junior year. He leads the conference in passing with his favorite receiver Mike Reppond holding the reception lead. The big question mark at the beginning of the season was defense and the problem seems to be solved as proven last week in Little Rock.

Texas Christian flies to University Park, Penn., for an inter-regional battle with Penn State in an afternoon contest. This will be the last non-conference game for any SWC team in 1971. The Horned Frogs have looked impressive at times and sheepish at others. This inconsistency was shown in last week's game with A&M. In the first half, the Frogs came on like gangbusters, making 19 first downs and 14 points. The second half, they made only three first downs and failed to score. The "Purple People Eaters" were ahead of both Washington and Arkansas before succumbing badly. Penn State is undefeated in 1971 and again is one of the top 10 teams in the nation. The Frogs will have to stop the Nitany Lions' great runner, Lydell James, to have any hope.

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