Page 8

Wiebol flowers story for middle guard Bill Hearts and

As the closing credits slide gently onto the screen, the camera pans back to show a wild crowd tearing down the goalpost. On the 50-yard-line stands the high school football hero, wrapped in the embrace of the glowing cheerleader. Fade out. That, sports fans, is the first

chapter in The Bill Wiebold Story. The next episode has him as a college football star. As the nasty little girl says on Laugh-In, "And that's the truth."

Wiebold, Texas A&M's sophomore middle guard, did indeed marry his high school sweetheart, Linda, who was a cheerleader at Beaumont Forest Park High School. And he is indeed doing well as anchorman in the tough Aggie defense. The 6-4, 227-pounder is the leading tackler among the front five and is a strong candidate for defensive Sophomore of the Year in the Southwest Conference.

"I've been awfully lucky, I

sive tackle got hurt. The same kind of thing happened in high school. I wasn't expecting to play much this season because I was behind Van Odom who is a senior and a great player. Then the coaches moved Van to defensive tackle against Nebraska, and I got a chance." Wiebold gives Odom much of

the credit for his performance. "The coaches can tell you what

I take all my questions to Van, and he shows me the right techniques."

Prior to the Nebraska game, Wiebold had seen very limited action against Wichita State and LSU. But against the nation's No. 1 team, he made 13 tackles and nailed down a starting berth. "I don't know why, but I just do a lot better in a game than in Also, we play a little harder practice," Wiebold said. "I'd have when we have a lead to protect."

guess," Wiebold said. "I got a to do, but they can't really get to say that Nebraska was my chance to play when our defendown and show you full speed. best game individually, but Arkbest game individually, but Arkansas has to be the most satisfying." Wiebold was in on four key stops which contributed to the

stunning 17-9 Aggie upset. Wiebold feels the big difference in the Aggie defense came when the offense started moving the ball. "In the last three games, we got a little more rest, and that made a big difference.

How would Wiebold cha ize the Aggie defense? " cal. We like to punish the carrier. Next time he isn' ing to run quite as hard."

Though Wiebold played running back in high school, fense has always been his ho 'I played linebacker all thr high school and as a fresh This fall we combined the mi guard-middle linebacker posit then just made it middle guar

