

# New Coach, New Image Rejuvenated Bears Shucking Losing Traditions

By KEVIN COFFEY  
Assistant Sports Editor  
Trying to shuck its biggest tradition, losing, the Baylor Bears have turned into an aggressive and exciting football team in 1972.

During the three year regime of Bill Beall the Bears could manage only three wins while compiling 28 defeats. Baylor's opposition ran up a total 839 points to the Bears 294 during that time spread. Beall's crew could manage but one Southwest

Conference victory and that came at the hand of the Texas Aggies in 1970.

This year's Baylor team looks nothing like the teams of the past. They have a new head coach in Grant Teaff. Teaff was head coach at Angelo State University before being tapped for the Baylor job.

Teaff saw the challenge of rebuilding Baylor's football image and went on a recruiting campaign which brought 14 of the

south's finest junior college players into the Baylor fold.

The Bears also have a new astroturf covering for Baylor Stadium which could have as many as 45,000 homecoming fans to watch the battle with the Aggies.

Baylor's fortunes on the football field have changed along with all the face lifting. They beat a rugged Georgia team state wise but lost on the scoreboard 24-14. They then blanked Missouri 27-0 and won two games in a row for the first time since

1966 by beating Miami (Fla.) 10-3.

Since then Baylor has dropped games to Arkansas 31-20 and Oklahoma State 20-7, but the Bears are a three point favorite over the Aggies.

Baylor runs its offense out of the I slot formation. They have rushed the ball for an average of 3.2 yards a carry and passed 33 percent of the time. Starting quarterback Neal Jeffery has completed 56.1 percent of his passes and has suffered five interceptions this year.

Jeffery's favorite target is Charles Dancer, a JC transfer from Navarro, who has hauled in 20 of the 56 Baylor completions.

Joining Jeffery in the Bear backfield will be tailbacks Gary Lacey and Brian Kilgore. Lacey was a Jr. College All-America at Wharton where he piled up over 2,000 yards during his two year career. He was coached in high school by A&M's offensive line coach Dan LaGrasta.

The Baylor fullback is Gene Wilson. Wilson is small as fullbacks go tipping the scales at 192 pounds. Wilson is a senior with two varsity letters.

Baylor rounds out its receiving corps with tight end Ken Townsend joining the talented and elusive Dancer.

Baylor's offensive line situation was perhaps best described by Teaff who said, "realistically, our offensive line is likely to be only average . . . and your offense can be as good as your offensive line."

The question mark offensive line is made up of Lee Wright and Richard Mason at the tackles, David Walters and Harold Rodgers at guard with Cary Dorman at center. Mason is a junior while the rest of the line is all seniors.

The Baylor defense is giving up the identical number of points the offense is scoring, 78. It is led by all-America candidate Roger Goree.

Against Arkansas Goree blocked two punts and was in on 18 tackles. In the Oklahoma State game he recovered three fumbles, forced another, had seven tackles, nine assists while sacking the quarterback for losses on two different occasions. In short, Goree is a quality ballplayer.

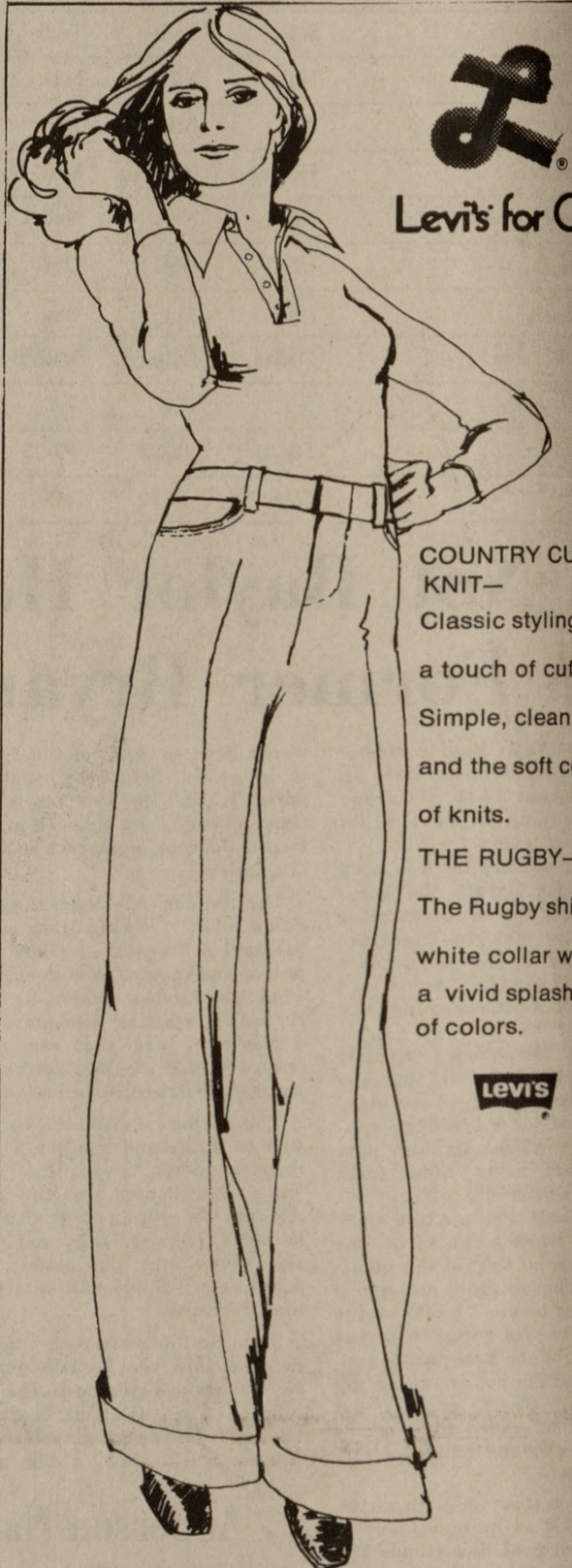
Mike Black joins Goree at defensive end. Coy Zunker and Joe Johnson of Bryan are the tackles with Millard Neely the nose-guard. Neely was JC All-America at Tyler.

Paul Savage and Derrel Luce are the Baylor linebackers.

The Baylor pass defense consists of corner backs Ira Dean and Keith Stone. Stone was a all-conference performer at Wharton Jr. College last year. Tommy Stewart is the Bear safety and Tommy Turnipseede is the Baylor roving back.

Baylor will throw everything it has against the Aggies and the outcome should be interesting.

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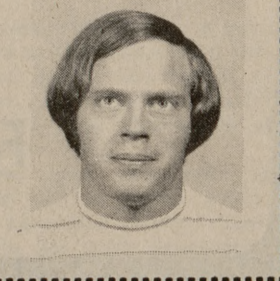
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There are now 12 freshmen on the A&M varsity, six of which will start against the Baylor Bears in Waco Saturday night.

Richard Osborne and Carl Roaches alternate at split end, Bubba Bean at left halfback, Skip Walker at right half, Henry Tracy at right guard and Ed Simonini at strong linebacker.

Others are Ronnie Hubby, playing second team behind both Walker and Bean; Alvin Bowers, who has started in two games due to injuries to fullback Brad Dusek, and now second team; Glenn Bujnoch, second team left tackle; Dennis Smelser, second team right guard; Blake Schwarz, second team right defensive tackle and Pat Thomas, working at the cornerback position.

No other Southwest Conference team comes near the number the Aggies have in the varsity lineup. If all these freshmen letter this fall, the Aggies could have an unbelievable number of four year lettermen in 1976.

Coach Bellard says that he's not looking toward 1973 by letting these youngsters gain needed experience, but it looks like a good guess. He says the reason these freshmen are playing is because they play with a tremendous amount of desire and are willing to really get after the opposition.

I guess that's a fair assumption since the Fish, even without some of its great players, have been undefeated this year while soundly trouncing all who have crossed its path.

Don't be surprised if even more freshmen are brought up as the season progresses. Look for linebacker Garth TenNapel who has intercepted two passes, recovered a fumble in the end zone after a blocked punt and leads the team in tackles. Another candidate is Kent Krueger who has blocked two punts and has plugged up the middle of the fish defensive line. Tyrone Wright also has a chance to move up. His left guard position is the favorite path of fish runners so far this year.

With these fine freshman, the Aggies should have the nucleus of which to build a winning football team. Bellard and his staff did a fine job recruiting these young men and are in the midst of getting another fine group this season.

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Maybe the Aggies just have a hard time getting warmed up for the first and third quarters. A&M has put 13 points on the board in the first quarter and six in the third. The opponents have scored 47 and 38 during the same time span.

A&M's top quarter is the second. The Aggies have scored 58 compared to the opponents 21. Don't get too excited about us warming up and getting the opponents in the fourth though. Aggies have been outscored 40-21.

We need to figure out a way to play four second quarters.

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Wonder what the point spread is for the A&M-Baylor game? Pick the Bears by 94 points.

The Bears lost to Oklahoma State by 13 and Colorado lost to OSU by 25, making the Bears 12 better than Colorado. Colorado beat Oklahoma by six, making Baylor 18 better than the Sooners. Oklahoma beat Texas by 27, making Baylor 45 points over Texas. Texas defeated Texas Tech by five, which means Baylor is 50 points over the Raiders. Tech beat Arizona by 25, which gives Baylor 75 over the Wildcats. UCLA beat Arizona by 11, making Baylor 64 up on UCLA. UCLA beat Nebraska by three which puts Baylor 67 points over Nebraska. Nebraska beat A&M by 27—so there it is, Baylor by 94. Any bets?

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