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**Depleted Fish Face Tech
In Battle Of Unbeaten Teams**

By KEVIN COFFEY

A&M takes a depleted Fish squad to Lubbock to face the unbeaten Texas Tech Picadors tonight.

The Fish have had their ranks depleted by the advancement of 13 freshman to the Aggie varsity and the injury of starting tight end David Greeno.

The Picadors are 4-0 with wins over TCU, Arkansas, Houston and Oklahoma. The Fish are 3-0 having defeated Rice, TCU and Baylor.

Tech has lost three members of their squad to the Raider varsity.

The starting offensive lineup for the Fish has Dale Ammons running the Wishbone at quarterback. The halfbacks are Tony Blankenship and Bucky Sams. Jim Hartman is the fullback.

The offensive line has Wayne Iltis and Scott Knippa at tackles; Tyrone Wright and Terry Crownover at guards and George Bohn at center.

The receivers for the Fish are split end Roy Murry and tight end Bill Newton.

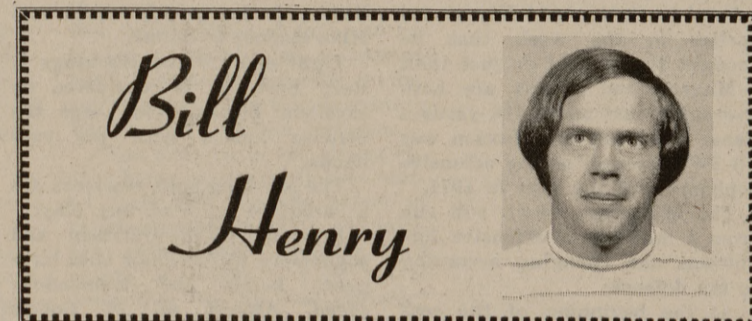
Defensively the Fish line up

with Dan Allen and Ron Garrison at the ends with Kent Krueger and Bruce Welch at the tackles spots.

The Fish linebackers are Carl Warnke and in the middle with Garth TenNapel and Kim Scott on the outsides.

The Fish pass defense has Jackie Williams and Charlie Arndt on the corners and safeties Doug Wood and Jeff Helsa.

Kickoff for the Tech game is scheduled for 7:30 with KORA radio broadcasting the game locally at 7:25.



Bill Henry

Football causes some of the strangest happenings to players and fans alike around here in the Southwest Conference.

Take Joe Ferguson for example.

Last year, Ferguson had probably the best game of his entire career in organized athletics against A&M. He threw 51 times, completed 31 for 345 yards and had only one interception. Even with this great performance, he and his Razorbacks lost by eight points, 17-9.

Saturday, he threw 26 times, completed nine and had six intercepted. This performance was the worst performance of his career and his team lost by three points, 10-7.

The 6-1, 182 pound senior, a former All-America schoolboy from Shreveport, La., was recruited with the belief that sometime during his tenure in the Ozarks he would guide Arkansas to a SWC championship.

Well, this never came true for coach Frank Broyles and his Cajun star.

Last year, the Razorbacks had the conference crown all but in the dressing room after beating the Texas Longhorns like a drum, 31-7. Ferguson hit on 14 of 24 attempts for 249 yards and two touchdowns. The Razorback defense stopped the famed Texas Wishbone attack, limiting it to 140 yards and returned all but two starters off that defensive team.

Two weeks later, after mauling North Texas 60-21, the Razorbacks were blasted by A&M thus putting Arkansas in a tie with Texas for the top spot, but with a win over the Longhorns.

Instead of playing heads-up football the next week, Arkansas lucked into a tie with Rice after trailing throughout the contest and knocked itself out of title contention.

Now, look at a team like Baylor. The Bears were picked as the definite 'cellar-dweller' for 1972. They had a new coach, a new system and many new players. They didn't have a chance.

Well, not having a chance, the Bears finds themselves as the only team still able to dethrone Texas for the championship.

Baylor has done two things that look tremendous. The Bears have beaten Missouri (which has topped Notre Dame and Colorado on consecutive weekends) badly, 27-0, and stomped TCU badly, 42-9.

Now did Baylor look like a team to beat anyone by 33 points against A&M the previous week? And didn't TCU look pretty tough even though the Aggies had a good chance to win in the 13-10 game?

Look at the fans. At Baylor, the chances of having a sell-out crowd against anybody was about as likely as getting liquor-by-the-drink at the Baylor Student Union. You can't get a seat now.

This isn't being derogatory toward fans, but shows the interest people have in the game for a winner.

The same is happening here. Finding a seat for the Rice game isn't going to be a problem, but wait until the Texas game.

The Aggies went from dogs to heroes in a week. The campus was buzzing Monday with praise, but no one took into account that the Aggies didn't particularly play well.

This is not to take anything away from the win because it was super, really super. But the Aggies played much better football against TCU and Tech. If A&M had got a third as many breaks against the three teams that beat the Aggies, they would be 4-0 in loop standings and you couldn't find a seat anywhere.

Football is a strange game, and I guess anyone who writes sports has got to be a little strange too.

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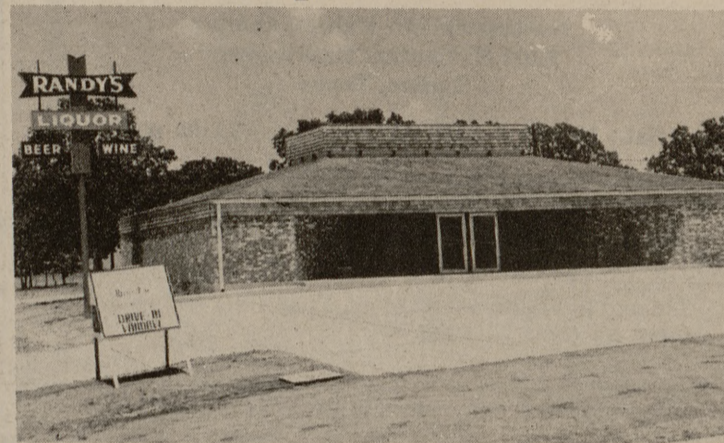
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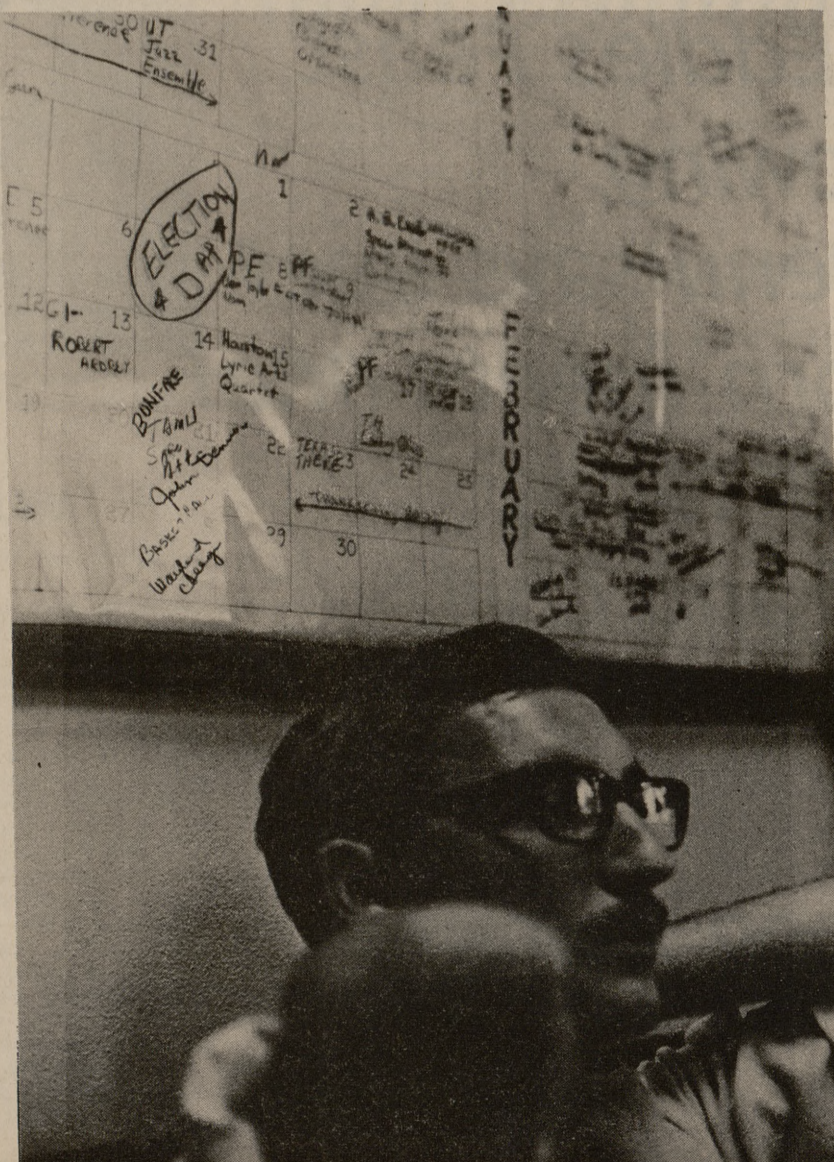
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