

Coaches At A&M — Out To Win

By BARRY DONNELLY

When talk of coaches comes about, Texas A&M can say it possesses one of the best staffs anywhere.

The head coach and athletic director is Emory Bellard. In his second season at Aggieland, Bellard has but one thing in mind: to build a championship athletic program at Texas A&M. Bellard is best known as the mastermind of the famous "Wishbone T" formation. Prior to coming to A&M, he was assistant to Darrell Royal at Texas where he developed the formation.

The quiet head coach has developed yet another formation which Aggies hope will make him

just as famous. The "T-Bone" formation will be the new Aggie offense and provides for greater flexibility.

Bellard came to A&M well versed in the art of winning. As one of Texas' most famous high school coaches, he compiled an overall record of 139 wins, 34 losses and three ties. Also, his teams won nine district titles and two state championships. This is quite an accomplishment for a man only 45 years old. Bellard hopes to instill this winning attitude at A&M.

Bellard and his wife, Mary Kay, have three children, Emory Jr., 22, Debra Lynn, 21, and Bob, 12. Bellard has assembled a fine

staff of assistants to help him build A&M's football fortunes.

Melvin Robertson is the secondary coach and defensive coordinator. He joined the A&M staff in January, 1972, after serving seven years in the same capacity at the University of Houston. Robertson is known as one of the most knowledgeable defensive coaches in the country. It was his defenses that enabled the Aggies to pick off six passes in the winning effort against Arkansas last year. Robertson coached in the Texas high school ranks before moving to Houston in 1964.

He and his wife, Jimmie, have three children, Vicky, 20, Greg,

18, and Lori, 2.

Ben Hurt came to A&M with Robertson from Houston where he served as offensive coordinator. Hurt also coaches the Aggie offensive line. He received both a bachelor's and masters degree from Middle Tennessee State. Prior to entering collegiate coaching, Hurt spent seven years in the high school ranks in Texas. In 1964 he joined the Houston staff and in January, 1972, came to A&M.

Hurt is married to the former Joan Bettis and they have two children, Ross, 14, and Greg, 10.

Dan LaGrasta serves as an offensive line coach. He came to A&M from San Angelo Central

High in January, 1972, after serving five seasons as head coach. During those years his record was 33-16-1. Prior to becoming head coach, he served seven years as assistant to Emory Bellard at Central. He is a graduate of North Texas State University. He received both a bachelor's and masters degree there.

He and his wife Barbara have two sons: Fred, 19; and Steve, 17.

Gil Bartosh is another of the many famous Texas high school coaches to join the A&M staff. Bartosh comes to Aggieland from Odessa Permian High where he coached them to last year's Class 4A state championship. His overall record was 81-16-2. His teams have won or shared 11 district titles. Bartosh will handle the receivers at A&M.

He and his wife Bettye have six children: Jan 19, Joy 18, Gib 13, Holly 12, Kristy 10 and Becky 5.

Donnie Wiggington will assist Head Coach Bellard with the offensive backfield this season.

Wiggington came to A&M in January, 1972, immediately after quarterbacking Texas in the 1971 Cotton Bowl. He was also named the most valuable offensive player in the Southwest Conference that season. He played quarterback under Paul Register at Spring Branch High.

He and wife Janice have one daughter Laura, who is one year old.

Paul Register is the defensive line coach for the Aggies. He moved to the line duties after serving as head freshman coach last season.

He is a graduate of Henderson State. His high school record was 56-15-2 before joining the Aggie staff in January, 1972.

Register and his wife Martha have two children, Kurt, 14, and Kean, 12.

Defensive end coach is R. C. Slocum. Slocum, who handled the receivers last year, makes the move to defense for the 1973 season. The 28-year-old McNeese State graduate played both end and flanker in four years of collegiate football.

He and his wife Janet have son, Shawn, 7.

In his fourth season at Aggieland, John Paul Young coaches the linebackers. He joined the staff from Oklahoma State where he served one year following a two-year stint at SMU. University of Texas at El Paso grad won all-conference honors three years and was team captain his senior year. He remains at A&M to join the staff of Emory Bellard in 1972 after finishing hired by Gene Stallings March 1970.

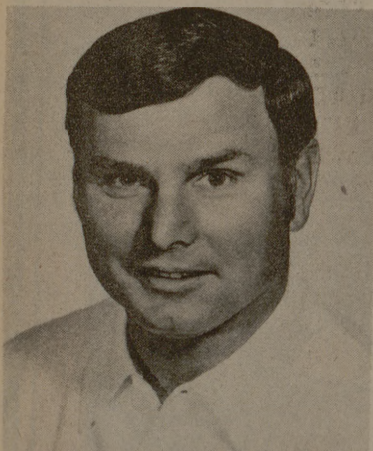
He and his wife Delores have two sons, John Paul Jr. and son.

Bob Stanley came to A&M March, 1973, and will be working with the defensive line in his first season. He comes to A&M from Round Rock High. Previously, he had been an assistant at Odessa Permian High. Stanley, a former University of Texas player, received his bachelor's degree in 1968. He is married to the former Paula Bredimus.

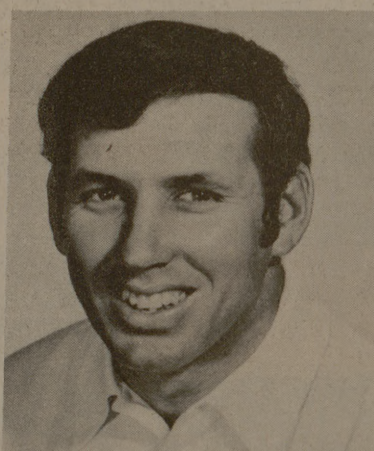
Bob Wright is in his second season as director of public relations and recruiting coordinator. He came to the staff in June of 1972. Formerly he served with I&M Athletic Supplies and prior to that was assistant executive vice-president of the Texas High School Coaches Association for four years. He began coaching in 1949 in Oleny, Texas. He also served as assistant at Brewsterwood High for five years and at Howard Payne for four years.

He and wife Tylene have three children, Robert Jr., Nilah, and Jamie.

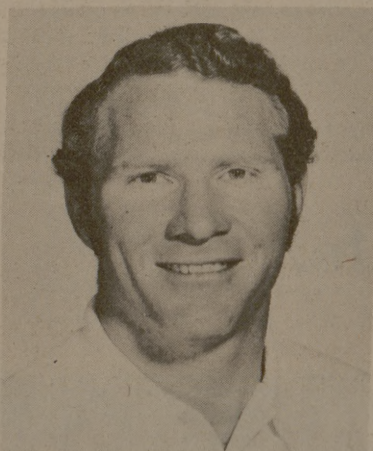
The coaching staff at A&M has the same burning desire as Bellard to make the Aggies winners. With this truly outstanding group of coaches, the Aggies have a good start toward that goal in 1973.



JOHN PAUL YOUNG



R. C. SLOCUM



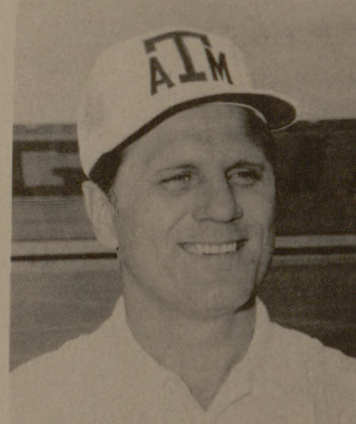
DONNIE WIGGINGTON



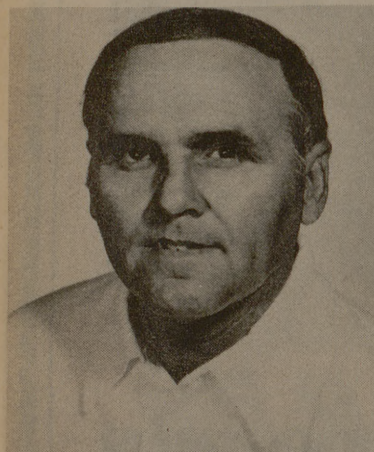
DON LAGRASTA



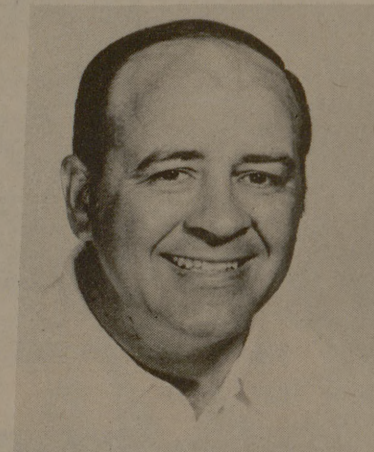
BOB WRIGHT



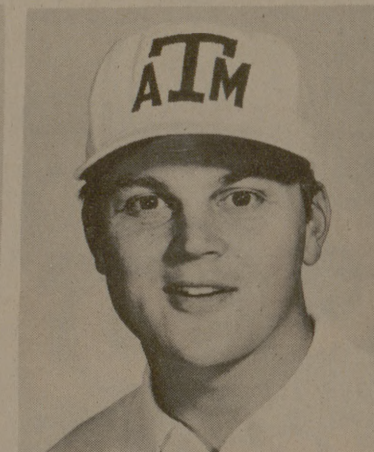
GIL BARTOSH



MELVIN ROBERTSON



BEN HURT



BOB STANLEY



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STUDENTS RATES

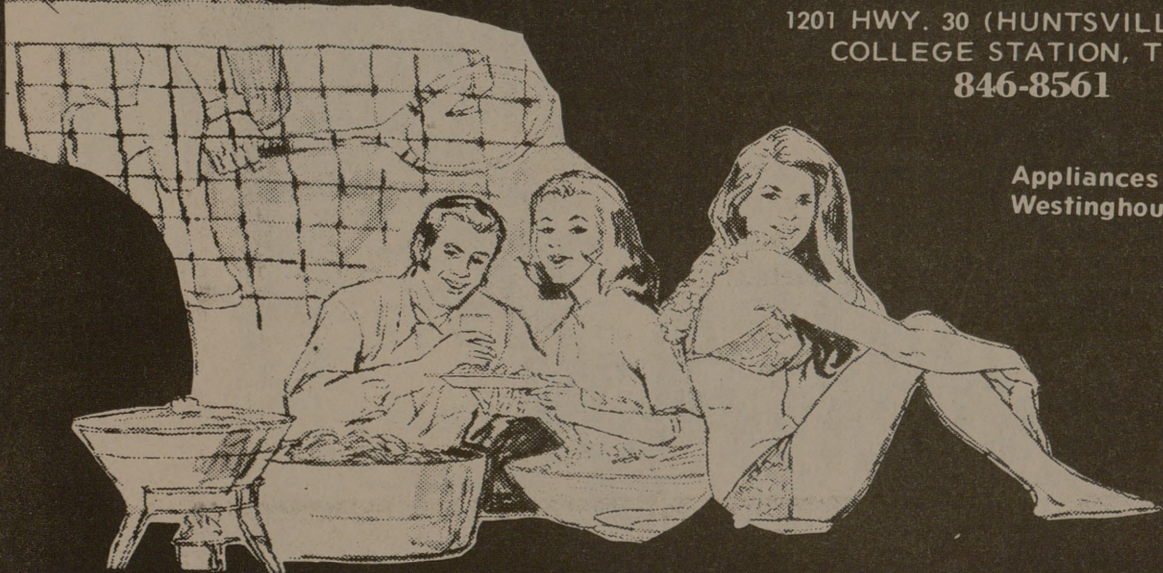
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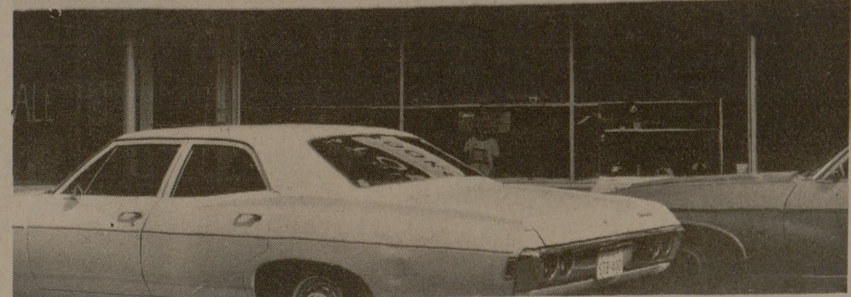
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