

Front four look to fall with strength and depth

An average of 240 pounds per man; front four anchor a veteran defense

Texas A&M's defensive front four in 1974 should be strong and deep and could cause a lot of problems for opposing offenses.

All four starters return, plus three other lettermen, a couple of squadmen and an outstanding junior college transfer.

At the close of spring training the first unit had Don Long, 6-3 and 241 and Paul Hulin, 6-1 and 215, at the ends with Warren Trahan, 6-4 and 261 and Ted Lamp, 6-2 and 242, at the tackles. Those four were starters in 1973.

But, just a step behind and coming on rapidly was the second unit that had Blake Schwarz, 6-2 and 219 and Tank Marshall, 6-5 and 237, at the ends with Jimmy Dean, 6-5 and 252 and Edgar Fields, 6-3 and 238, at the tackles. A pair of squadmen figure into the playing picture, too. They are end Bill Herrin, 6-1 and 226 and tackle Brad Burnett, 6-2 and 222.

Defensive line coach Paul Register and defensive end coach R. C. Slocum were pleased with what they saw in the spring. They didn't have to spend any time teaching techniques and got in a lot of work on recognition and reacting.

The Aggies a year ago were the No. 1 defensive unit in the Southwest Conference and they should be a lot better in 1974.

Long, Hulin and Schwarz are all two-year lettermen ends while Marshall won a monogram last season as a freshman. Long made first-team all-SWC on one poll a year ago and the top four ends this season all have a shot at post-season honors.

Herrin was a schoolboy all-starter who figures to get in some playing time as a sophomore this coming season.

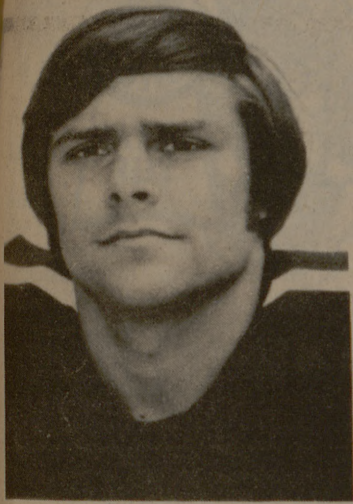
All of the tackles are big and strong. Lamp is the best technician while Trahan is extremely strong. Dean played a great deal last year as a freshman and Fields, the transfer from Navarro JC, was with the squad last year while establishing his eligibility. Burnett saw some duty as a freshman but not enough to letter. He's expected to see more action as a sophomore.

The starting four average 240 pounds but it could go to 245 with Long and Marshall at the ends and Trahan and Dean at the tackles.

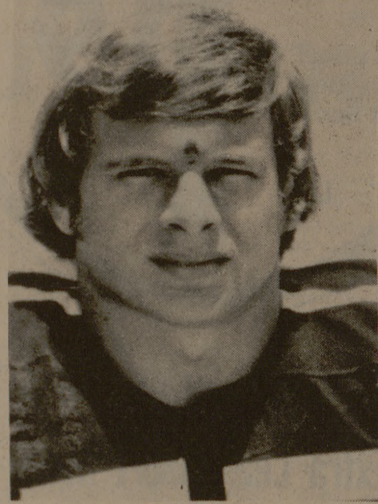
Defensive coordinator Melvin Robertson says quality depth is the best thing about the defensive front four. "We can substitute without a dropoff in ability and we can keep fresh people on the field this coming season."

All 11 starters return on defense from a club that was 5-6 last season. And, in these days of high-octane offenses, there's a lot of pressure on the defenses. But, with that year's playing experience together, the 1974 Aggie defense figures to put the clamps on a lot of offenses.

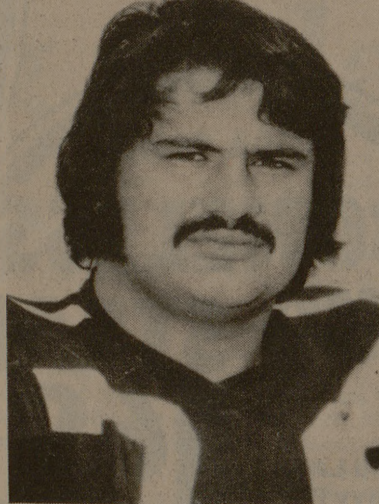
The four starters—Long, Hulin, Trahan and Lamp—are seniors. Schwarz is a junior and all the others are sophomores.



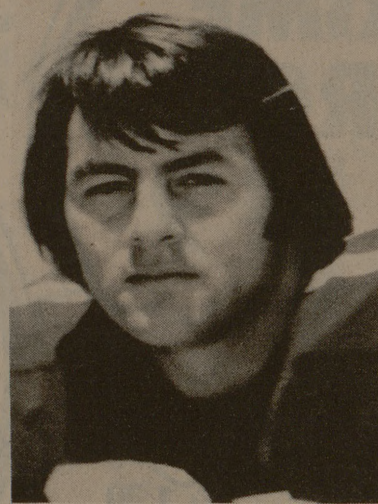
Don Long



Ted Lamp



Warren Trahan



Paul Hulin

Hacker, Miller named All-American

For a total of nine Chandler players

All American honors were bestowed to two Aggie baseball players, Jim Hacker and Paul Miller, when the All-American teams were announced during the College World Series in Omaha, Nebraska. They were the latest in a string of nine A&M baseballers coached by Tom Chandler who were awarded the honor.

Hacker, a senior from Temple, was

named to the first team as the second baseman. Although he played third base throughout his career at TAMU except for a brief stint in center field during his junior year, the presence of USC's Rich Dauer forced the selectors to place Hacker at second. Jim hit .474 for the season and was the first Aggie since Mike McClure in 1969 to win the SWC batting title. He was selected by

the Atlanta Braves in the fifth round of the recent pro baseball free agent draft. He was drafted out of Temple High School by the Boston Red Sox but opted for four years at A&M.

Miller, the fleet leftfielder, became

the latest in a tradition of All-American Aggie outfielders. He was named to the third team in left field. His .402 season batting average was one reason for his leadoff spot in Chandler's batting order. His speed aided the team immensely both

defensively and on the basepaths. A senior from Aldine, Miller was named as a junior college All-American two years ago at San Jacinto Jr. College. An arm ailment put him at first base during his junior year, but he moved to his natural outfield position for his stellar senior season.

Hacker's selection at second base gave the SWC its second consecutive All-American at that position. Phil Turner of TCU took the honor in 1973. Jim Gideon, the UT fireballer from Bellaire who is the co-holder of

the record of most victories by a pitcher in one season, was also named to the first team. Texas' Rick Bradley, a catcher from Lufkin who was third in the SWC batting race, earned second team honors while TCU slugger Tommy Crain and UT third baseman Keith Moreland were named as honorable mention.

Hacker and Miller join Ed Simonini as the only Aggie athletes to receive All-American honors this year. Simonini was named as a second team linebacker.

Blinn All-American signed to baseball

Aggie baseball coach Tom Chandler has released a list of his first four baseball recruits of 1974. Included was the All-American junior college pitcher from Blinn JC in Brenham, Kirk Campbell was 8-2 for Blinn in 1974. Campbell was a high school standout at Corpus Christi Carroll High School.

Robert Bonner, also from Corpus Christi, attended King High School and hit .587 this past season. Bonner, who was recently chosen in the pro baseball

free agent draft by the Montreal Expos, will play in the Texas High School All-Star game in the Astrodome next week. He is an infielder.

James Gibson, a pitcher from Bee County Jr. College was 9-4 this season, and Tommy Larsen was an all-Houston shortstop from Milby High School. Chandler attended the state high school baseball tournament this week and hopes to add more names to the four stellar recruits he has already signed.

Delegates on last lap of document revision

AUSTIN, Tex.—Constitutional Convention delegates are entering the make-or-break last laps of their work.

President Price Daniel Jr. said he hopes all articles will be pushed through the third-reading stage by the end of June.

After that, the document will go to the convention's "Submission and Transition Committee," which will wrap up all proposals in package

form and return them to delegates. At this stage, the document and related separate-submission items (like right-to-work) must be approved by a two-thirds majority (121 votes) to be submitted to voters.

The Submission and Transition Committee will serve as a kind of conference committee, seeking compromises which can rally approval of the necessary majority of delegates.

Reuther to take Culpepper post

Jim Culpepper, Aggie assistant basketball coach for the past ten years, resigned this week to accept a position as the head of the Recreation Department at Texas State Technical Institute's Connally campus at Waco. Norman Reuther has been named as his replacement.


From 1965 to 1972, Culpepper coached the Aggie freshman teams to a

65-35 record without a losing season. When the Aggies discontinued freshman basketball competition in 1973, he became chiefly involved in recruiting and scouting. Culpepper has previously coached at East Texas State University and Henderson County Jr. College.

Reuther, an all-SWC forward at

Texas Tech in the mid-60's, came to Aggieland in 1973. He served as an assistant to Shelby Metcalf and was in charge of the post play. He will now be Metcalf's chief assistant. Reuther's presence was also felt in the recruiting wars as he personally signed standout Sonny Parker to a TAMU basketball scholarship.

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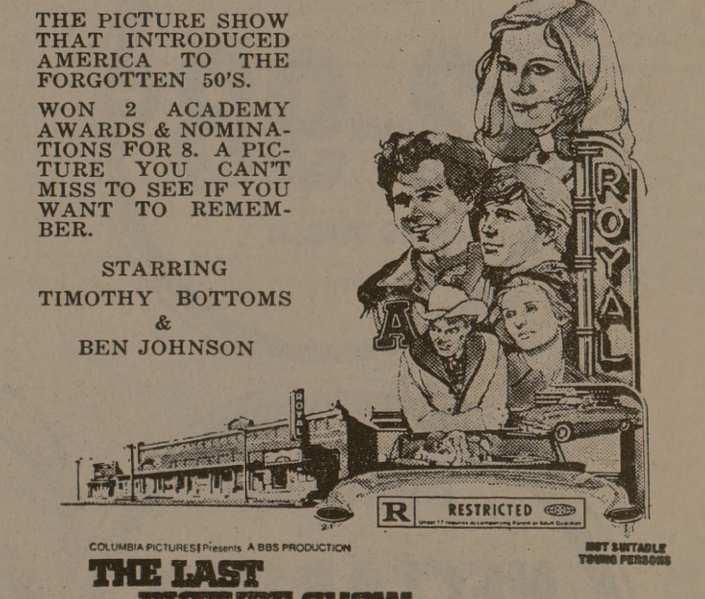
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