

Baylor awaits verdict

# A&M, Texas tangle to decide crown

By PAUL McGRATH  
Staff Sports Writer  
Bevo. Orange and White. The Wishbone. "The Eyes of Texas". "Texas Fight". Darrell Royal. Hook 'em Horns.  
These few phrases would just about sum up the Southwest Conference for the past six years as the

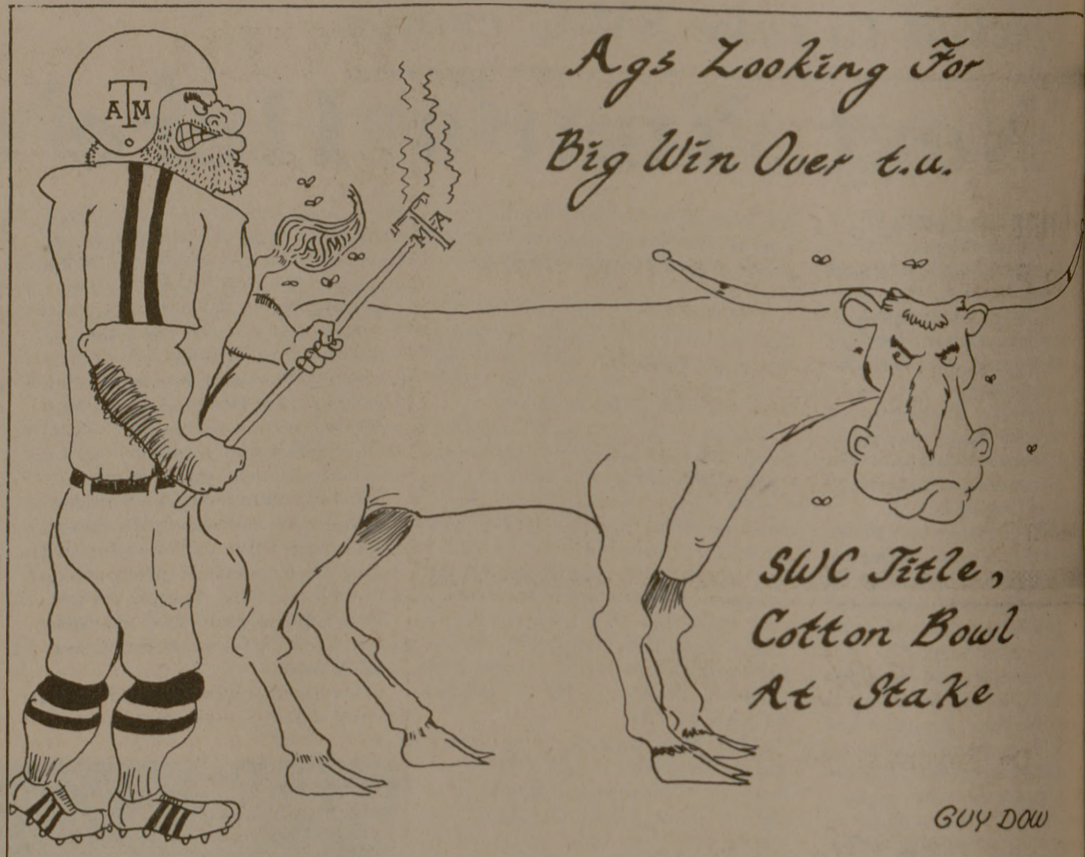
University of Texas made a habit of waltzing through the rest of the league while on the way to the Cotton Bowl.  
However, something funny happened to the Longhorns on the way to Cottonland. Texas Tech and Baylor showed the world there were a few chinks in the Horns' sup-

posedly invincible armor. And now the boys from Austin are now cast in the role as spoilers rather than as favorites.  
Come 12:30 p.m. Friday, the bowl hopes of Texas A&M will be matched against the pride and tradition of Texas. An anxious Baylor Bear club will be watching for the

results of the nationally televised contest.  
An A&M victory automatically sends the Aggies to Bowl City in Dallas. A win by the Horns will put the Bears alone in the conference driver's seat and off to their first bowl game in 50 years.  
So the day-after-Thanksgiving match between A&M and Texas will decide who really gets the turkey on New Year's Day.

The Aggies have not beaten Texas since 1967 which also happened to be the last year A&M won the conference. The Farmers also have to overcome the jinx they seem to have developed over the years in playing in Austin's Memorial Stadium. In 29 games, A&M stands 2-26-1 on the Horns' home ground.  
Head coach Emory Bellard matches wits and offenses with his old mentor Royal. Bellard came to Aggieland in 1972 after serving a stint on the Texas coaching staff. With him he brought a new offense called the T-Bone and has finally built a winner on the Brazos.

The Longhorns definitely possess the more potent offense thus shown by their 81 point output against TCU. The backfield combinations of Marty Akins, Mike Presley, Roosevelt Leaks, Earl Campbell, Joe Aboussie, Raymond Clayborn, Don Burrisk, and David Bartek offer quality depth few teams can match.  
On the other side of the ledger is the A&M offense which has sputtered at times. Like the Horns, A&M had their biggest point production of the year in their last game against Rice. Returning to the backfield may be Skip Walker after recovering from ankle problems and is reported near full speed.  
Quarterback David Walker, Bubba Bean and Bucky Sams round out the rest of the backfield positions. Mike Jay, Jerry Honore, David Shipman and Jim Hartman will be ready to fill in if called upon. Ronnie Hubby is still out with an injured groin.  
The A&M defense, the heart and strength of the team, is at full strength with all members suffering no ill effects. As the number two ranked defense in the nation, A&M must grind to a halt the Texas attack to stay in the game.  
Texas' defense presents formidable opposition but has had a tendency to surrender a good deal of yardage through the air. Basically a running team, A&M may have to switch tactics to be successful offensively.  
So, the game appears to be a match up of the Aggie defense against the Texas offense. If the Aggies can move the ball, which they will probably have to do through the air, and can stop the ground game of Bevo's boys, they will celebrate New Year's in Dallas. Simple? Not quite.  
What if the Aggies can't run or pass and the defense fails to do its job? Then the game will just go down as another typical A&M-Texas game, leaving the Aggies with nothing to cling to but dreams of next year once more.  
Beside the physical factors that



Take Texas to lunch.



will determine the game's outcome is the psychological aspects involved. A&M seems to have a complex about playing Texas, especially in Austin.  
The poise of the Aggies will be severely tested during the game. The team that maintains its poise will probably leave the field on top.

Can A&M come back if Texas jumps off to an early lead or will the players think "Here we go again"? If A&M establishes a lead, can they be tenacious enough to hold it?  
To coin an old phrase, all the marbles are on the line for the Aggies in 1974. Whatever the outcome, A&M is assured of its first

winning season in seven years. However, to come this far and end up with nothing would be a demoralizing blow to Bellard and his players. One A&M player commented that this game would be like any other. Sure it is. The Aggie bonfire will be cancelled due to lack of interest too.

## Wrestlers victorious

Ag wrestlers demolished Texas 33-18 Monday in the first home match of the season, with strong performances in the 118, 126, 142, 150 and 190 pound weight classes.

Richard Goswick became the speed champion with a 50 second pin of Pat Nelson. He used a three-quarter Nelson to down Alvarado. Frank Cox, 118 pound class, properly defended his state title with two near falls, a take down and a reversal.

Mike Monhollen beat Texas' Terry Bower. Monhollen took the 142 class with a pin.

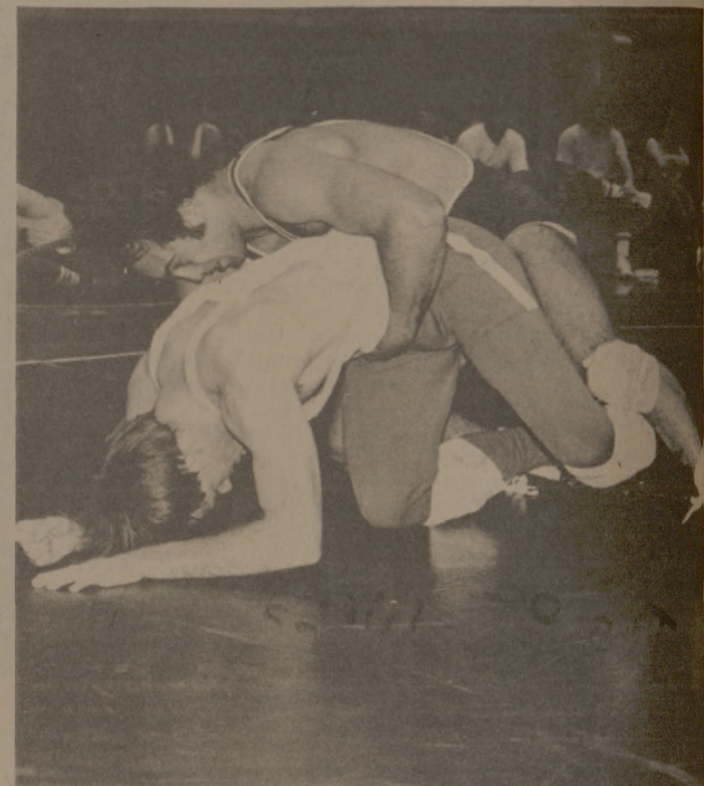
Bob Hines wrestled aggressively in taking a pin win over David Scobedo in the 126 class.

John Manning took a close win over Mac Green with two takedowns, an escape and a near fall.

Harry Earl of UT beat defending state champ Jim Giunta. Earl outpointed Giunta. Earl is a three time state champ in the 134 class.

Jud Dudley got stuck and couldn't or wouldn't move. Dudley got the pin to win the 167 pound class. Grayson Gwyn outpointed Ag Jerry Rasmussen 2-1 to take the 177 class.

The final match pitted UT coach Dave Dearborn against Reza Dehkordi, a Roman-Greco wrestler. Dehkordi couldn't get a grip in Dearborn and as a result lost a pin in the second period.



Aggie and Longhorn wrestlers have it out in Monday's meet

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