

# Recruiter Wright feels optimism

'Tis the season to be optimistic. That's the way it usually is when one talks about college football recruiting, but Bob Wright, Texas A&M recruiting director, warns against being too optimistic because, in his words, anything can happen.

The general feeling around the A&M Athletic Department is that the Aggies are on the verge of having one of their best recruiting years ever, that is, in Wright's words, "If we get the ones we want."

Getting those aren't as easy as it may seem. A&M coaches are on the road working night and day so they can

secure the signature of today's high school stars.

"You think you know how kids feel, but you don't really know until they sign, and even then they can change their mind and go somewhere outside the Southwest Conference," Wright said.

One that didn't get away is Robert Jackson, a Junior College transfer from Henderson County J.C.

Jackson, 6-3, 225, should give the Aggies some needed help at middle linebacker with the graduation of John McCrumby and Kenny Stratton leaving Grady Wilkerson at that spot.

Aggie recruiters are hitting the Houston area especially hard. "We feel we must recruit well in Houston, Wright said. Houston is a good spot for us for several reasons. It is close and we get good coverage there but mainly because there are always good athletes in that area."

Wright was quick to point out that A&M isn't concentrating just on the Houston area. "We recruit where the athletes are."

Official signing date is February 4th. Until then there will be many rumors about players going to one

school or the other, but one thing is certain, no one will know until the name is on the line. Then all the coaches can come home and settle

down to the task of making plans to use the players they recruited to assure more winning seasons at Texas A&M.



BOB WRIGHT

# Big 10 tops conferences in producing pro players

By ROBERT CESSNA  
Staff Sports Writer

In any barbershop or bar where people gather this time of year, they are deciding which college football conference is the greatest of past times.

Wire service rankings, inter-conference play and bowl games are the standard gauges of success.

But each year the National Football League spends millions of dollars on scouting and signing college players. Their judgment has to be taken into account when examining college conference strengths. By examining opening day NFL rosters you can see in which conferences the NFL finds its talent. On this basis which conferences do you think are the best?

The leading conference and appropriately named is the Big Ten. Together its schools total 139 of the 1,222 players on opening day rosters. Michigan leads with 25 alumni in the pros with players on 17 differ-

ent NFL teams. Ohio State trails with 23 players, the majority earning their living as linemen. Purdue, Michigan State and Minnesota add 19, 15 and 15 respectively.

The Pacific Eight, the Big 10 Rose Bowl opponent, has 103 athletes in the NFL. The Trojans of Southern Cal with their pro offensive style head with 28 players on 17 different teams. Stanford and UCLA, the two other leading schools of the Pac-Eight, have 16 and 15 respectively on NFL rosters.

Close behind is the Big-Eight with 101. This conference shows balance with Nebraska leading the way with 19 players in the NFL. Five other schools have at least 10 while Oklahoma State and Iowa State have seven apiece.

The Southeast Conference is tied with the Southwestern Athletic Conference at 82 each, while the Western Athletic Conference has 56, the Southwest Conference 42, the Atlantic Coastal Conference 40 and the Ivy League has only eight.

The Southwestern Conference which includes Jackson State, Grambling, Alcorn A&M, Texas Southern, Southern University, Prairie View and Mississippi Valley is very equally balanced. Southern University leads the way with 17 while Grambling and Jackson State add 16. All others have at least 10 except Mississippi Valley which has only one.

The Western Athletic Conference is supported largely by Arizona State with their wide open pro at-

tack. Eighteen players can trace their origin to the Sun Devils. Six are running backs and seven wide receivers.

The biggest disappointment has to be the local SWC with only 42 athletes in the NFL ranks. Texas has the most with 12 while the remaining schools have 30 in the NFL. When Houston is added in 1976 they may help the SWC in producing pros. Currently the Cougars have 10 in the NFL.

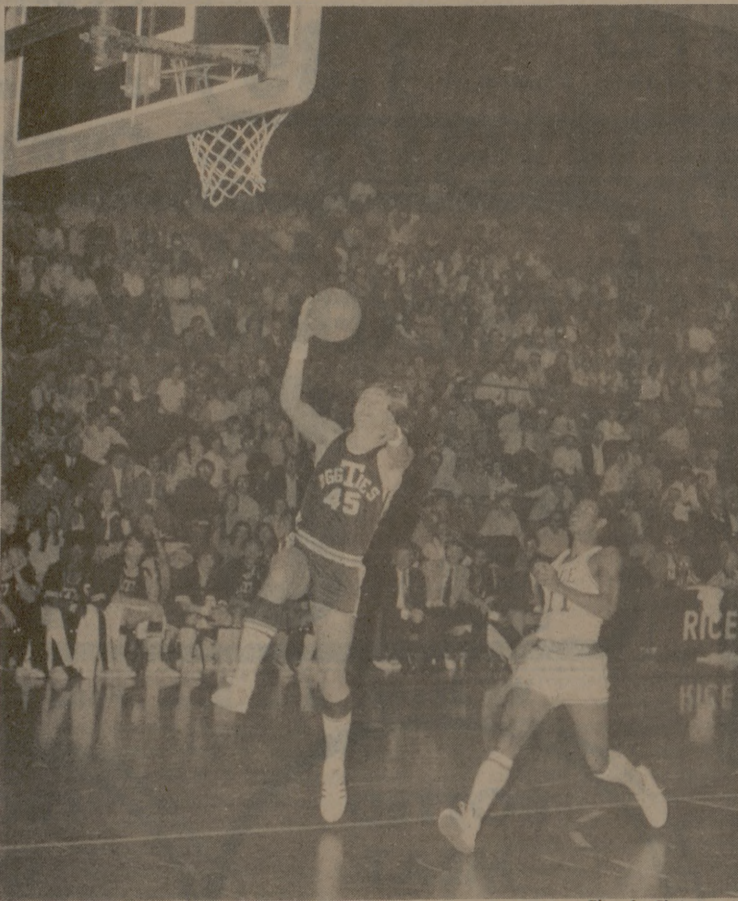
If you look at the top ten individual schools using this method, major independents take three of the top positions.

USC leads all schools with 28. Finishing a close second, a school which may surprise many people is Penn State.

Penn State has 27 people in the NFL on 17 teams. The Nittany Lions could be renamed Linebacker University as 10 linebackers in the NFL are Penn State grads.

Michigan and Ohio State follow with 25 and 23 respectively, while independent Notre Dame is fifth with 20. Nebraska is tied for sixth with San Diego State, Purdue and Tennessee State with 19 alumni in the NFL.

So when the pro draft is held January 28-29 watch to see if these trends continue or if they change. Will the Southwest Conference start to make a comeback? Or will the Big Ten, Pac-Eight and Big Eight continue to place the most players in the NFL?



Aggie Chuck Tone in conference debut against Rice. (See related story, page 9.)

**WHATABURGER RESTAURANT**

That's your nearby Whataburger restaurant. Stop in any time and fill up on a juicy quarter pound of pure ground beef. Top it off with an order of crisp golden french fries and a super shake and discover that Whataburger is Whataburger should be.

College Station 105 Dominik Dr.      Bryan 1101 Texas Ave.

**Take a few minutes to bring your bicycle in for service.**

You'll save time and money later.

WE SERVICE ALL MAKES OF BICYCLES  
Also Sales Center For:  
PEUGEOT • RALEIGH • BICYCLES  
Bicycle parts & accessories

**CENTRAL CYCLE & SUPPLY**  
Sales • Service • Accessories  
3505 E. 29th St. — 822-2228 — Closed Monday  
Take East University to 29th St. (Tarrow Street)

## need tax help?

### Call IRS toll free

No matter where you live, you can call the IRS toll free for tax assistance.

To find the toll-free IRS number for your area, check your tax instructions booklet or your local telephone directory.

**Internal Revenue Service**

**TOWER SPECIAL**  
"Something Different"

Your choice of any three meats or cheeses plus choice of variety bread with a cup of savory hot soup. All for \$1.50 plus tax.

BEVERAGES EXTRA.

SERVING EACH WEEKDAY FROM 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
on Tower Mezzanine

Regular buffet on first level  
'Quality First'

**We Want You To Meet Someone!**

**Howdy Party — Jan. 24**  
7:30 p.m.

**Noon Bible Studies**  
M-W-F 12:00  
(great food!)

**Sandwich Bible Studies**  
T-Th 11:00

**Baptist Student Center**  
College Main at Church St.

**BIG Kmart**  
... gives satisfaction always

**AUTOMOTIVE DISCOUNTS**

OPEN MON. THRU SAT. 9:30-9:30      WED., THURS., FRI., SAT.

**KM 100 BLACKWALLS 4-FULL-PLY POLYESTER CORD**

SIZES	SALE	F.E.T.
C78x13	21.66	1.99
E78x14	22.66	2.24
F78x14	24.66	2.41
F78x15	24.66	2.42
G78x14	26.66	2.55
G78x15	26.66	2.63
H78x14	27.66	2.77
H78x15	27.66	2.82
L78x15*	31.66	3.13

\*WHITEWALLS ONLY

ALL TIRES PURCHASED AT K MART ARE MOUNTED FREE - NO TRADE-IN REQUIRED

**1966** PLUS F.E.T. 1.83 EACH  
WHITEWALLS 2.44 MORE EACH  
ALL TIRES PLUS F.E.T.

**KM 200 BLACKWALLS 2 FIBERGLASS BELTS + 2 POLYESTER CORD PLYS**

SIZES	SALE	F.E.T.
C78x14	23.66	2.17
E78x14	25.66	2.33
F78x14	26.66	2.50
G78x14	28.66	2.67
G78x15	28.66	2.74
H78x14	30.66	2.92
H78x15	30.66	2.97

\*WHITEWALLS 2.44 MORE EACH

**Model 12R/500**

**5" RCA speakers 10.66 Pr.**

**R.C.A. STEREO TAPE PLAYER**  
Our Reg. 54.88 - 4 Days  
**41.66**

Compact 8-track player with slide controls.

**INSTALLED**

**SUPER K 500 BATTERY**  
GUARANTEED AS LONG AS YOU OWN YOUR CAR  
**32.66**

No Exchange Necessary

Enjoy fast dependable starts with K mart's top of the line battery. Polypropylene case. Sizes To Fit Most U.S. Cars.

**FREE Safety Inspection**

**H.D. SHOCKS 'N ALIGNMENT**  
Discount Price 4 Days Only  
**19.66**

We install 2 deluxe H.D. shocks, align front end, inspect steering and suspension. Free safety inspection included.

**AUTO AIR FRESHENERS**  
Our Reg. 1.11 4 Days  
**66c**

**GRANNY LITTERBAG**  
Our Reg. 1.17 4 Days  
**66c**

**SUPER FUNNEL FILLER**  
Our Reg. 1.17 4 Days  
**66c**

**COMPASS KEY CHAIN**  
Our Reg. 88c 4 Days  
**66c**

**THERMOMETER CHAIN**  
Our Reg. 88c 4 Days  
**66c**

**CHOICE OF GREASE**  
Multi-purpose, Wheel Bearing Net Wt. 16-oz.  
**66c**

**FLASHLIGHT CHOICE**  
Our Reg. 97c "C", "D" Cell  
**66c**

**"D", "D" BATTERIES**  
Our Reg. 42c 2 Pack of 2 Pkts.  
**66c**

**GAS, OIL TREATMENT**  
Our Reg. 77c-96c 12-oz., 15-oz.  
**66c**

**CHROME DOOR MOLDING**  
Our Reg. 97c 4 Days  
**66c**

**STEERING WHEEL COVER**  
Our Reg. 99c 4 Days  
**66c**

**DELUXE FILTER WRENCH**  
Our Reg. 97c 4 Days  
**66c**

**K MART TIRE GAUGE**  
Our Reg. 99c Up to 50 lbs.  
**66c**

**TWO MINIATURE BULBS**  
Our Reg. 88c-97c 4 Days 2-Pk.  
**66c**

**DELUXE POUR SPOUT**  
Our Reg. 99c 4 Days  
**66c**

YOUR CHOICE 66c EACH

**SAVE! 30" LASHING STRAP**  
Our Reg. 97c 4 Days  
**66c**

**SPARK PLUG GAUGE**  
Sale Price 4 Days  
**66c**

**TAPE HEAD CLEANERS**  
Our Reg. 97c 8-track, Cassette  
**66c**

**SILICONE LUBRICANT**  
Our Reg. 96c 8-oz. Size  
**66c**

**2700 South Texas Ave., College Station**