Page 12 THE BATTALION **But inexperienced on defense** Houston Cougars big on offense for 1975

usual for the Coogs as they have owned one of the nation's most explosive offenses over the past decade. But on defense it's a different

story for the red-clad Houston team. In the past, the Cougars have always had a tough defense to complement their deadly offense. Things don't look that way for 1975. Houston lost stellar end Mack Mitchell, Larry Keller, Harold Evans and Bubba Broussard. Experience will be limited for the

record than the color of his skin.

stole 48 passes in his career, raturn-

The Houston Cougars plan to be offensive this season. That's not un-fense chewed up 700 yards of turf. 210) and split end is being contested for by Eddie Foster and Roosevelt And their size and talent indicates that they have the ability to equal such feats this season if not checked.

> On the front wall the Cougars have guards Val Belcher (6-3, 240) and Everett Little (6-5, 275). The tackles are David Brooks (6-5, 275) and Kevin Rollage the midget of the group at 240. At the extremes of the line are tight end Don Bass (6-2,

210) and split end is being contested Harden.

The real claw of the Cougar comes forth in the backfield. Donnie "Quick Draw" McGraw heads up the Houston pigskin carriers, returning for his final season at running back. McGraw has been one of the main bullets in the Cougar's gun during his career. Fullback John Housman (6-3, 200) gained 900 yards last season after missing the

first four games of the season and will return to try to better his mark.

Bubba McGallion, who came off the bench to take charge of the Coogs last season, will return at quarterback. The Houston signal caller led his team to seven straight wins in the middle of the 1974 sea-son. McGallion picked up 362 yards, scoring six times on the run-minded Cougar veer offense. The offense is set, but Yeoman

said he hopes the talent on the de-

fensive unit will compensate for the inexperience.

The interior of the front wall is solid, with lettermen Wilson Whitlet (6-3, 265) and Lee Canalito (6-4, 265) anchoring the trenches at the tackles. The flanks show a different look, with both starting ends from 1974 being absent. But Ross Echols (6-3, 245) and Guy Brown (6-4, 245) will step in as replacements.

Both outside linebackers also were lost in graduation, leaving the

edges of the Houston defense void of proven experience. Two sophomores will handle the outside posts for next season. They are Willis Williams and Reid Hansen. Returning at middle linebacker will be veteran Paul Humphreys.

Another sophomore, Anthony Francis, will join lettermen Joe Rust and Gary Drake to make up one of the swiftest defensive backfields in the nation. Rust, who runs the 40yard dash in 4.5, led the secondary in tackles last season. Defensive coach Clarence Daniels calls Rust the best safety he's ever seen.

Houston has unlimited potential on offense coupled with size and talent. But the defense lacks experience, though the size and some talent is there. If the defense can develop quickly the Coogs can get ready to sit back and enjoy another

successful season. The Cougars will enter the Southwest Conference race in 1976.

