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Press Conference

Ags ready for TCU

By DAVID WALKER
Sports Writer

Aggie coach Emory Bellard isn't worried about his charges being over confident when they travel to Fort Worth this weekend to play winless TCU.

"Our guys know enough about football to realize that there are a different set of circumstances for each game you play," Bellard said.

"Our team has enough pride to perform well and they realize that TCU has been steadily improving in their last two games. And coach Shofner (TCU coach Jim) told the press after the SMU game that his team would be ready for the Aggies," Bellard added.

Even though TCU is winless in five tries and the last 15 straight, Bellard feels that there is reason to worry.

"TCU is a pro type team, every game they've played this year they've passed all the time. They are just going to throw the ball, period," he said.

"Lee Cook is the number one passer in the Southwest Conference this year. TCU is the number one passing team in the conference and the number eight passing team in the nation. They are averaging over 200 yards a game passing and less than 80 yards a game rushing," Bellard said.

The boss Aggie said that he wasn't worried about the Aggie pass defense that gave up over 200 yards to Texas Tech last week. "We're an excellent pass defense team, they just hit a couple of long shots," Bellard said.

Aggie all-American cornerback Pat Thomas is still having trouble with his shoulder and will take it easy this week. If Thomas isn't able to play Tony Blankenship and Mike Williams will back him up.

On the topic of Texas Tech coach Bellard was pleased with the overall performance of the team.

"In the first quarter we scored two of the three times we had the ball. In the second quarter we had the ball two times and didn't score

but in the second half we scored four of the five times that we had it," Bellard said.

He also praised the kicking game. "Mark Stanley had his best game of the year," Bellard said. He was also pleased with the improved kicking of freshman place kicker Tony Franklin. "Tony is improving steadily and is building his concentration."


Most of the back patting went to Bubba Bean who became the number one ball carrier in the history of A&M.

"I don't know what else a back has to do to become All-American," Bellard said. "He's very dedicated and unselfish. He can run inside and he can run outside. He can block and even catch the ball when we throw it to him. I just don't know what else you could ask."

Bellard added, "I think without any question Bubba should receive All-American consideration. I don't think there is any question that he is All-American caliber."

Sportfolio

By PAUL McGRATH
Battalion Sports Writer



Amongst the quiet, dark hours, when all others have left for their separate sanctuaries, there labors the small figure of a man in the corridors of the Rudder Tower. His name is Sam. Sam is a janitor.

His once inky black hair is now touched with gray as he enters his fifty-second year, nearly all of them, it seems, spent working for Texas A&M.

But Sam's services have not been restricted to merely the removal of dust or the emptying of coffee cup-filled trash cans. You see, Sam is the mastermind behind the Aggie football team.

Now Sam has been cleaning coaches' offices for quite a while and thus has learned a great deal about waste. That is why he took it upon himself years ago to use his genius for the good of his beloved Aggies.

Sam's assistance has never been made public because the secrecy of so vital an asset must be maintained for the sake of Coach Bellard's reputation.

Sanitation has only been a sideline job for Sam as he has seen three coaches take office as premier of A&M sports.

According to legend, Coach Emory, while doing time at Texas, was the father of that brainchild called the Wishbone formation. Not so, according to Sam.

"I conjured up that stuff one night when I was eating some fried chicken on my break. I had my feet propped up on a marble desk and was just settling back into that zebra skin chair when I jammed my dentures on a wishbone. Now I began to study that there wishbone and then realized that somebody besides Colonel Sanders could make a fortune with it."

"That was the winter of '68. I worked on it and finally had it all set. One night when I went to work I just laid the drawings and do-it-yourself instructions on Coach Gene Stallings' (remember him?) desk.

"Well, Gene was never too much on the bright side. Just look what he's done to what was one of the best secondaries in the NFL at Dallas. He must have thought those drawings were some kind of joke because he mailed them and a bunch of other trash to Austin in care of Darrel Royal. I guess Emory didn't have anything better to do one day and just happened to find my creation on his desk and the rest is history."

Sam's lineage dates back to the Bear Bryant regime when Sam was only a fledgling broom pusher.

"The Bear was my kind of coach. Didn't have any rules. No sir, none at all. He's the only A&M coach to get caught by the NCAA for recruiting violations. So far," said Sam.

"A&M was just a training ground for the Bear. From what I hear he's perfected his act over in Alabama. With a little help from Governor Wallace of course."

"I kinda like ol' Emory boy. Lad's got a good head on his shoulders. As long as the Aggies keep winning it'll stay there too," he said.

Sam says he is responsible for the success of the Aggie defense as well as plotting the wishbone caper. "You didn't know I co-authored Melvin Robertson's book did you? It was me that moved Ed Simonini's name to the top of the linebacker depth chart back when he was a freshman, so I guess I can take partial credit for making him a star," said Sam.

How does not having his name in the limelight affect him? "I don't mind too much. Sometimes I pretend I'm Emory at night and push hold for all of the phone lines 'cause when they're all flashing it makes me feel important," he said.

"I also like to give make-believe press interviews. I sit down and start puffing on a pipe and tell all the reporters how tough a nut the next team is gonna be to crack," he confessed.

Sam continues to serve A&M in his own way, with a mop instead of a football. But long will his name live in the annals of Aggie lore.

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Bryan still atop AP poll

Associated Press

Bryan in Class 4A and Big Sandy in Class B have maintained dominance over their classes in The Associated Press Schoolboy Football Poll by team efforts but the individual performances of Curtis Dickey and David Overstreet certainly have helped.

Dickey, all-state as a junior a year ago, rushed for 191 yards and scored touchdowns on runs of 41, 19, 21 and five yards last week in Bryan's 35-7 victory over Waco University High. Dickey sat out the fourth quarter.

Overstreet, a junior, rushed only eight times in Big Sandy's 60-0 vic-

tory over Union Hill but he scored five touchdowns and rushed for 284 yards. Overstreet broke into the open and headed for a sixth touchdown but pitched back to a teammate and let him score.

Cuero in Class 3A, Cameron in Class 2A and Seagraves in Class A, joined Bryan and Big Sandy as the No. 1 ranked teams in the AP's weekly poll.

All 10 ranked 4A teams won their games last week and held their positions although South Houston, tied with Odessa Permian for sixth last week, dropped into seventh place this week by one point.

Fifth ranked DeSoto and No. 7

Bridge City were 3A losers last week. Bridge City dropped out of the top 10 and DeSoto fell into a three-way tie for 10th with newcomers San Angelo Lake View and Navasota.

Fifth ranked Cisco and No. 10 Post were 2A dropouts after losing last week. Gladewater and Decatur became their replacements in the Nos. nine and 10 positions.

Aledo dropped out of the A list after losing to Lake Dallas, and Muenster moved into the No. 10 spot.

Sundown, ranked fifth in B last week, dropped to ninth after losing to Seagraves.

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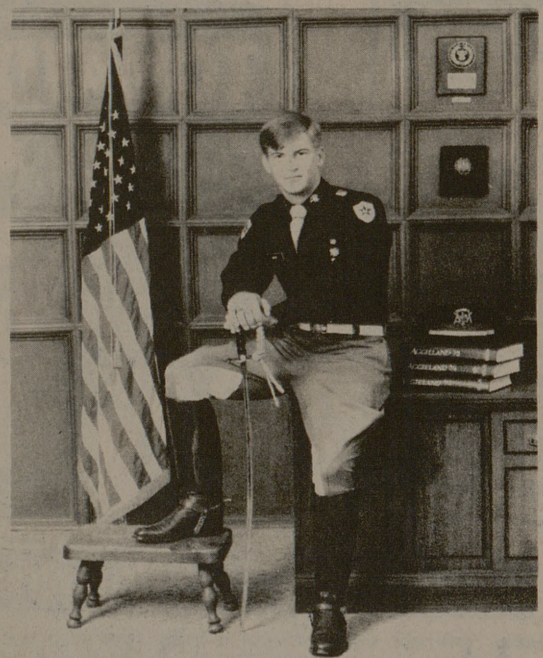
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