

ports

Wood replaces Bickham

By MARK PATTERSON
Battalion Staff

Baylor offense was dealt a major blow Saturday when Greg Wood replaced Tony Bickham, the Bear's starting quarterback, was lost for the remainder of the season with torn ligaments in his knee.

Wood was on Baylor's scouting staff last year and did not appear in a game. This year, due to Bickham's other injuries, a shoulder and a finger, Wood has had his chances to play.

Wood is facing his starting assignment. The pressures of school plus the pressures of Saturday's game are taking their toll.

Wood really had a bad week of practice. I haven't been able to hit receivers and I just don't have the concentration I need to do well.

Wood had a lot of tests this week. I'm a pre-med student and I had a chemistry test Monday. I stayed up Sunday night studying and I'm now catching up on my sleep.

Wood knows the importance of the A&M game this week. The Bears stand 1-2 in the conference and another loss could ruin their chances for a conference championship.

"I've got to force myself to look at this game like I would at any other game. We can't afford to let our emotions get the best of us. If we get too uptight we'll choke."

Since Bickham's injury, both Wood and freshman Scott Smith have been working with the offensive unit. Head coach Grant Teaff is sticking with his original game plan, whoever he has in at quarterback.

"We have made no changes in the plans we have for the A&M game," Teaff said. "I have confidence in both Wood and Smith's ability as I would have if Sammy was in there for us. They're all fine quarterbacks."

Wood and Smith have been alternating at quarterback this week but Wood feels he has the edge at the position.

"Scott is a lot like me size wise," says Wood. "He's a dedicated athlete and a good veer offense operator. He really has impressed me being just a freshman."

"But I believe I can run the team better than he can. I've been passing better than he has and the team works really well behind me."

Wood foresees some problems against the Aggies in Saturday's game.

"I've been watching the A&M films and I sure respect their de-

fense. I know they're going to line up and really come at me. I don't blame them. That's what I'd do if the opposing quarterback had as little game experience as I have."

"We have something working in our favor this year that we didn't have last year. We know about Tony Franklin and his abilities. It was a shock to us when he kicked his 65-yard field goal against us last year. At least we can be mentally prepared for it this year."

The injury to Bickham in the SMU game Saturday thrust Wood into the starting position, yet he did not know about the injury when it happened.

"I was on the sidelines watching the game and somebody came over and told me Sammy was hurt and I might play."

"When I learned of the extent of his injury I really felt sorry for him, but I realized that it was an opportunity for me to play. I would rather beat him out of the position than having it happen this way, but that's part of the game."

It has been rumored that Bickham will end his football career with this injury and will concentrate solely on his baseball career. Wood can neither support or deny the rumor.

"I don't know what he's planning on doing. Nobody's talking but I know he'll be healthy and ready for the baseball season. I'm expecting him to come back out for football. I'll be really surprised if he doesn't."

Shepard says he's innocent

United Press International

HOUSTON — Freshman quarterback Darrell Shepard Tuesday said he is innocent of the University of Houston's probation on NCAA probation for illeg-

ally recruiting him, did no worse than some other schools.

"I know today that I haven't done anything wrong and the University of Houston has never given me any-

thing," Shepard said. "But I was offered a lot — I mean a lot — under the table by some other schools."

The Cougars were placed on one year's probation last week because of visitation to Shepard and helping him arrange an automobile loan.

The 5-10, 165-pound Odessa, Tex., high school star declined to elaborate as to which "other schools" did what. He was recruited by Houston, SMU, Baylor, Nebraska, Oklahoma and Texas.

"Coach Bill Yeoman told me not to say anything about any other schools, but if it were up to me I would. He feels it wouldn't do any good."

"I was offered cars and money, mostly by alumni of the schools," Shepard said. "But one coach who Shepard declined to name made an offer that was under the table."

He said he chose Houston because "I decided the big city was for me." He said entertainment, professional sports and the Cougars "winning" tradition appealed to him.

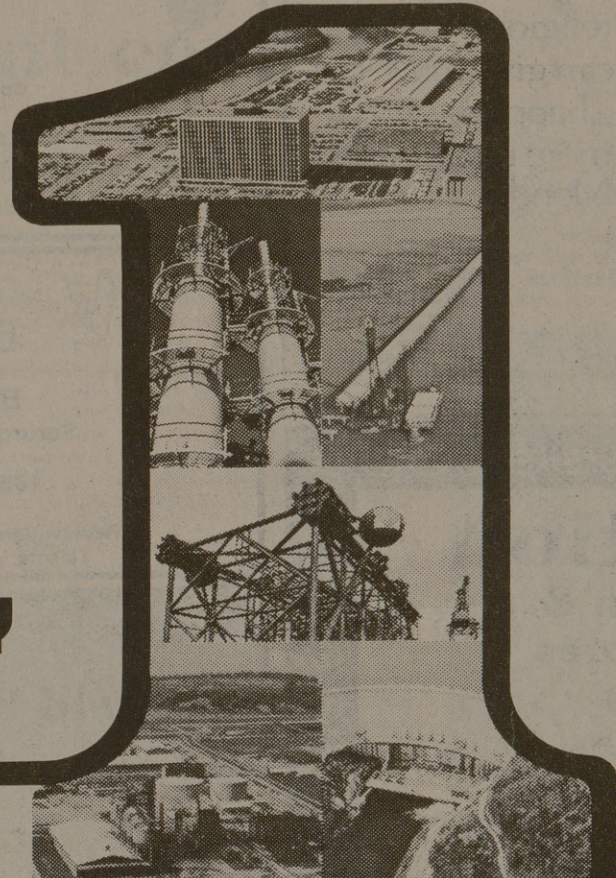
Shepard said he has not been treated differently since the probation was announced and Yeoman said, "I'm going to get him into the game against SMU Saturday if I can."

Intramurals

TAMU FLAG FOOTBALL	
6	I-1
12	Squadron 2
25	Squadron 7
0	B-1
0	L-1 Team 2
13	H-2 Team 1
6	I-1A
20	Squadron 6
8	Kinky Fetish
0	Armadillos
6	Wesley's I
6	Saints II
FF	Maulers
13	Raiders
6	Alpo Meatball
6	Dunn Two
7	Trehouse
0	Mean Free Path
26	SF 69's
27	Gator Hawks
7	Scrubs
7	Sand Baggers
0	Black Sheep
7	Longnecks
FF	BC Ballers
6	Menches

6	I-1
0	P-2
19	S-2
48	S-2
12	N-1
20	K-1
0	S-2
13	Hobbits
14	Shaw's 2 Percent
16	Deep Threat
7	Blue Belts
12	Magnificent 7
32	Utay Lone Stars
13	Jedi Knights
19	Killer Elite
20	Country's
20	High Chicago
6	Zacharias
6	You Lose
39	Sigma Phi Epsilon
19	Zeros
7	Kolache Kids
38	Commodores

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