11 A.M.-11 P.M. DAILY

eam togetherness stressed

ilson anticipates new job

By DAVID BOGGAN

less than 24 hours, Tom Wilson arned that he had been desigas head football coach at one of ion's major universities, taken notionally upset team through nportant practice, attended ngs with various officials and zations, accepted a multitude gratulations from family and ds and met with an inquisitive

nd if any of this had a wearing on him, Texas A&M's new lfootball coach did not show it as ared to take over the position

ed by Emory Bellard. here have been few days in my en the alarm clock went off in ning and I was already awake time before that," Wilson told ters at a Wednesday afternoon sconference. Obviously, the exent of the previous day had not wed him much sleep that night. was waiting to get up, ready to

Meeting a new day with such thusiasm is exactly the kind of at-

Texas Aggies with a winning spirit. Losing two consecutive games and a highly respected coach can have de vistating effects on a football team and Wilson realizes this.

The mental attitude of the players of major concern to us," the new Aggie head coach said, "even over and above our injury situation. The players are very upset and sad and they have a right to be. They just have to realize that this is a situation in life that happens. We have to get our heads up and go on. We have to come together in a group and stay

Wilson said that Tuesday's practice went well and that he was ready to accept the challenge of the head

"I am very happy to have the op-portunity to do what I'm doing," he said. "I think I've prepared for it. I'm going to throw the hat in the ring and come out fighting. That's the only way I know how to handle it.



ing. Football is my life. I can think of no other thing I would want to do. Last year, Wilson, a 1966 graduate

"Everybody (in coaching) dreams of being a head coach. I've devoted a lot of attention and study to coachof Texas Tech, was a considered as a

however, he admitted that he considered leaving coaching com-

That had been a major part of my thinking, that I was going to be head coach at Texas Tech," the former Raider quarterback said. "No ques-

tion about it, I was upset."

But Wilson did not give up coaching and now he has the responsibilities of a head coach. After spending his entire coaching career viewing games from the press box, Wilson is anticipating working on the sideline against Rice Saturday.

"I'm looking forward to it like I haven't looked forward to anything for a long time," said Wilson, who was an assistant coach at Texas Tech before coming to Texas A&M in 1975. "I've been in the press box since I graduated in 1966. The only time I've been on the sidelines is in

spring games and scrimmages.
"I think the biggest thing personally that I have going for me is that I work hard. I will be with the players and I know they will play for me. I believe in open manner, exciting football. We will establish our running game first and compliment it with passing. No. 1, we've got to score touchdowns."

Wilson was asked if the Aggies will

against the Owls.

We are working on it seriously right now," he answered. "But that's mainly because of our injury situa-tion in the backfield. We will still be prepared to use the wishbone.

I don't feel like it would be smart to let Curtis (Dickey) play this week. We will hold him out of this game and prepare him for the rest of the season. Adgar (Armstrong) looked real good in practice yesterday. I believe he is 95 percent healthy." Both Dickey and Armstrong have been hampered with leg injuries in the past two weeks and have seen limited action.

What does Wilson see in his future Texas A&M?

That is one of those things that you just have to take a day at a time and a game at a time," he said. "I can't look beyond that. The future depends on the next five games, I'm

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d Post-season rivals meet tonight in Dallas

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"Idon't know if you can call this a oust game for us," said Vikings Coach Bud Grant. "When you are ggling every game it seems like y game is a must game. This is nother week where we are tryto get our head above water.' The Vikings go into the contest games back of the NFC Centraling Green Bay Packers, a club

ion

ied

innesota knocked off last Sunday.

d Dallas, with Tony Dorsett stated as a starting running back, nove into at least a temporary n the NFC East for the first in six weeks.

allas' defense has played well of eand the Vikings' pass-minded of-se is in good hands with Fran Tar-

it will be strength against Fran has had a super year," said

nt. "I don't seen any difference at him this year. I think the last

Dallas Coach Tom Landry agreed Vikings seem to have jelled. They had some troubles early they had some troubles early ing over some players," he said. iey got off to a bad start. But right whey look like the Vikings of old. ey won a really significant game Sunday against Green Bay.

I'm sure they see it within their up to win the division. Fran is ing the ball as well as he has thrown it at this point and he is key to the Minnesota offense.

olleyball action

he Texas A&M volleyball team s Sam Houston State University dual match tonight in G. Rollie ite Coliseum starting at 7 p.m. oach Dave Schakel's Aggies, led ma Branch, Dianne Douglass licki Marshall, have a 31-11 rec-

drawing even with Washington in the race for the NFC East crown and known at as long as there is going to be a then apparently settling an incident involving Dorsett.

Dorsett, who was benched last Sunday for missing a practice and not sota Vikings, familiar post-season letting the team known why he had missed, will be back in the starting lineup tonight.

"I am happy with our record now at 6-2 midway through the season," Landry said. "Sure, I'd like to be 7-1, but I'm satisfied.

"I don't see us going out and beating somebody real bad. We're still not playing real good, at least not at the top level we were when we had the momentum last year. But if we missed, will be back in the starting hit on all cylinders one of these days maybe we will be back.



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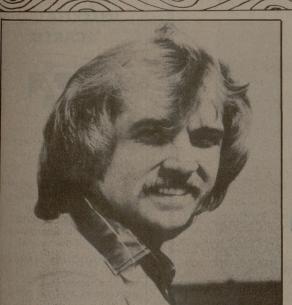
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