



Battalion photo by Robert Cook

No worms for Wilson

By MARK PATTERSON
Battalion Staff

During Coach Tom Wilson's Tuesday press conference the subject of Grant Teaff eating a worm Saturday before Baylor played Texas was brought up.

In the Bear's locker room before the game, the Baylor head coach put a worm in his mouth in an attempt to motivate his players. The Bears went on to defeat the Longhorns 38-14 and many Baylor players said that Teaff's pre-game action was the reason for their victory.

The Aggie head coach was asked if he planned to eat a worm before Texas A&M battles Texas Friday night in Austin.

"No worm for me," Wilson said. "I don't even like putting the things on my fish hook. If it takes eating a worm to win a football game, I'm in the wrong business."

"This week these guys won't have any problem getting up for the game, worm or no worm."

Perhaps Wilson should have tried the worm trick last Saturday to motivate his offense before the TCU-Texas A&M game.

"I'm upset with the way the offense played in the ball game," Wilson said of the Aggies, who narrowly defeated TCU 15-7. "We showed that we could go out and move the ball in the game. We rolled up all the statistics, but we weren't able to finish the job and score."

"The offense wasn't mentally ready to play TCU last Saturday. It's difficult to change your attitude in the middle of the ball game. Preparation begins on Monday and the offense didn't have their mind on TCU. I'm upset because they didn't have their mind on their business."

Not only did the offense as a unit not play up to their potential but Wilson cited tailback Curtis Dickey's three fumbles as one of the problems creating the Aggies' ineffectiveness.

"Curtis' fumbles were caused by a mechanical problem," Wilson ex-

plained. "He has developed the habit of changing the ball from one hand to the other in the critical zone of the line. In the past he hasn't had any major fumble problems. It's something we're working to correct in practice."

"But he's never carried the ball 34 times in a ball game. He's got more chances now to fumble the ball."

Dickey's mistakes added to the Aggie's offensive miseries against TCU Saturday, but the defense was a bright spot for Texas A&M. It held TCU to minus 17 yards rushing and 134 yards total offense on the afternoon.

"Our defense is playing as well as it has all year," Wilson said. "It's been consistent all year long for us. It's been our offense that's been the inconsistent thing. And improving it is our main concern right now."

Another concern of Wilson's is the injury situation of the team. What were originally thought of as minor injuries after the TCU game have hung on since Saturday.

"I thought the injuries were minor after the game, just the usual bumps and bruises," Wilson said. "But Curtis (Dickey) and Adger (Armstrong) have not been able to work out all week. Curtis has a hip pointer and Adger has a bruised knee."

"They ought to be ready for the game, but they've been kept out of two days of workouts. We already have a short week to prepare for Texas and now their week is even shorter."

"When it gets this late in the season a team can be held together by tape, as many teams are. We've had a rough season and we're in that situation. But we'll be ready by Friday."

Texas A&M head coach Tom Wilson praised his defense for "being consistent all year long." Wilson said, "It's like this where Aggie defensive Jacob Green pressures TCU quarterback Bayuk exemplify Wilson's point. The offense, Wilson said, is another story. The

Aggie coach criticized his offense's performance against the Horned Frogs saying that the offensive players "didn't have their mind on their business." The Aggies will have to have their mind on their business Friday as they play Texas in Memorial Stadium.

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