

# Sports

## Robertson thinks of past while dreaming of future

By RITCHIE PRIDDY  
Sports Editor

This is the second part of a two-part story on the Texas A&M defenses under former Aggie defensive coordinator Melvin Robertson.

The one game the defense exceeded even the wildest expectations of everyone involved in the game, with, of course, the exception of Robertson, was the 1975 TCU game in Fort Worth.

The Aggies did everything but bury the hapless frogs in that game, holding them to a career low of minus 67 yards total offense — an NCAA record. Needless to say, Robertson was elated with the performance but added that it would've been better.

"This is not being critical, but we could have set records that I don't think could have ever been broken because we did dominate the whole league in defense."

A major disappointment for Robertson, as well as every member of the 1975 and '76 teams, was the fact that the teams never won the SWC championship outright.

Both in '75 and '76, the Aggies had the material and their best shot at winning a national championship. What the didn't have was a consistent offense.

In 1975, the Aggies defeated the Texas Longhorns 20-10 to run their record to 10-0 and move to the number two spot in the nation.

The next week, however, the team was blown out of the Ozarks 34-6 by the Arkansas Razorbacks. Incidentally, that was the most points the Ags gave up in almost two years.

Two early losses to Houston and Texas Tech kept the Aggies from

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winning the championship in '76. By the end of the year, however, the Aggies were considered to be one of the best teams in college ball.

"You can't get involved in stats and all that, but we were always in the middle, like fifth or sixth, in offense. It is very, very unusual to

win a championship with that kind of offense.

"The defense can't score enough points to win. You've got to have an offense. There's not many teams that can win a championship unless their defense and offense is pretty close to the top in the stats."

Robertson prides himself on the personnel he coached in '75 and '76, but he admits some were playing above their level.

"We had some guys that weren't really that good. However, they played with so much emotion and played together so much that they were successful. There was always one of them Player of the Week or something."

"They played with so much enthusiasm and aggressiveness that

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some of the guys that were not quite that good played better than they were supposed to. That made the good guys play super, so, consequently, we had one hell of a defense.

Over the years a number of Robertson's students were drafted by the pros, some of the most notable include Pat Thomas, Ed Simonini and Lester Hayes.

Both years ('75 and '76), he said, there would be about four or five players that would be a cinch to be drafted, but, because some of the other players played above their level they would be drafted as well.

Robertson often attends Aggie scrimmages and games and sees some similarities between his defenses of the mid-70s and the 1981 version.

"Right now, in a lot of areas, they have better people than we had. Better depth for sure. That's potential."

"Again, potential never played a down or made a tackle. The one thing that counts is performance. You're always competing against yourself to do the best that you possibly can."

Robertson is excited about the '81 team and he said some of the

players play with the same kind of attitude that was characteristic of his teams.

"They may not have a Pat Thomas, but not many teams do anyway. But, if everybody on the team is going like Mike Little then Mike looks like Ed Simonini. It's a team effort, though. Everybody has got to play."

Robertson plans to re-enter coaching but is waiting for the right offer to come his way.

When Bellard left he asked Robertson to be his defensive coordinator at Mississippi State. For a time it appeared he might accept the job, but at the last minute he turned it down.

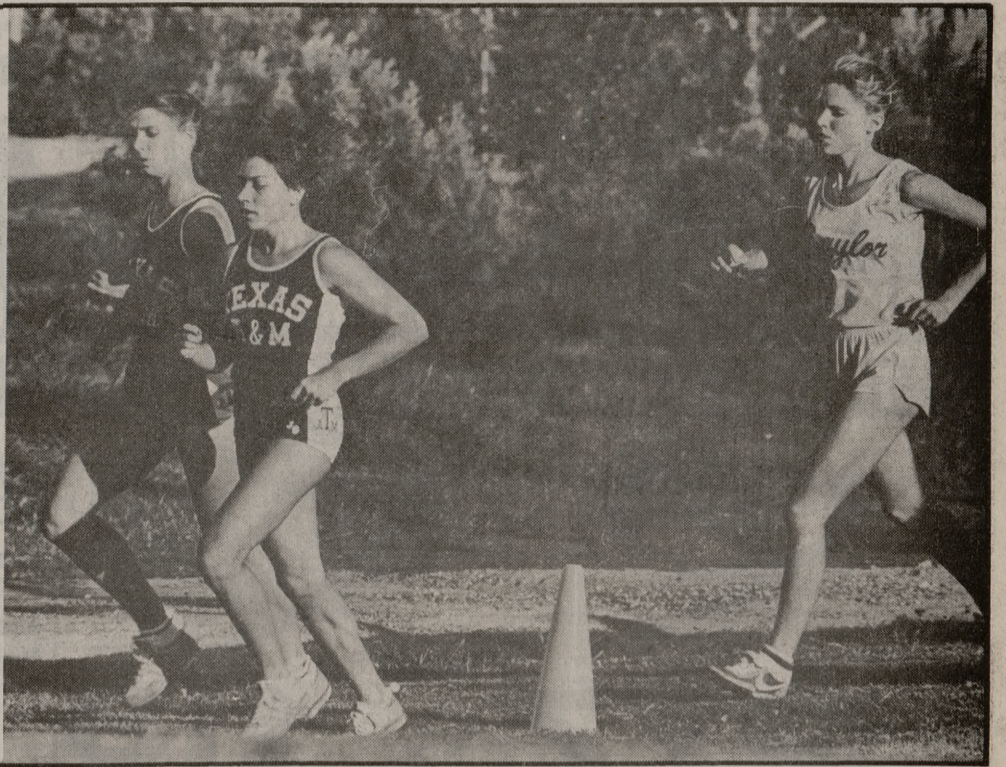
"I turned it down because I didn't want to leave the state for an assistant's job. I would leave, though, for a head job."

Meanwhile, Robertson waits, although somewhat impatiently, for a job to open up, thinking of his past teams and dreaming of the ones he'll surely have in the future.

## Marathon runners

Barbara Collingsworth and Adelide Bratten head for the finish line in Saturday's Texas A&M Invitational cross country meet. The women's team finished third while the men's team finished fifth in their first meet. Both return to action this weekend when the men will travel to Waco and the women to Houston.

Photo by Bob Sebree



## Golf team finishes third in Sam Houston tourney

By GAYE DENLEY

Sophomore Howie Johnson posted a 156 for two days of play and junior Duane Standley added a 157 to take Texas A&M to a third-place finish in the Sam Houston Intercollegiate Golf Tournament at Waterwood Monday and Tuesday.

Southwest Texas State University won the 15-team competition with a team total of 626, while the University of Texas finished nine strokes back at 635. Texas A&M and Stephen F. Austin State University tied for third with a pair of 636's, and host Sam Houston State University had a 641.

Johnson, the runner-up champion for the second year in a row, was one of a handful of players to break 80 on the redesigned Waterwood National Golf Course. A score of 155, fourteen strokes over par, was enough to win the tournament, Johnson said.

"I was leading the tournament. I was even par (Tuesday) going into (hole number) 12," Johnson said. "I missed the putt on the last hole that it took to win the tournament."

The course's new design made play difficult and caused a lot of high scores, Johnson said. Last year, he shot a 76-75-151 to take

second place, compared to this year's 79-77-156.

"They put the tees all the way back and put the pins on corners," Johnson said.

Waterwood will be the site of the PGA qualifying tournament in October, Coach Bob Ellis said, adding that playing the toughened course was a good experience for his team.

With the scores so high, Standley's 157 tied him for third and senior Paul Oglesby's 161 put him

## Volleyball team plays tonight

After a disappointing road trip to California last week, the Texas A&M women's volleyball team will try to improve its 4-6 season record against Lamar University tonight at 7:30 in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

The match against Lamar will prepare the Aggies for the Texas Women's University Tournament in Fort Worth Friday and Saturday.

at 10th overall. Senior Mike Miller and freshman David Jones both shot a 163 for the two rounds.

The Aggies add their third-place finish to a fourth-place showing in last week's Fall SWC Tournament in West Columbia. After a week of rest, they travel to Louisiana for the Morton Braswell Intercollegiate Tournament in Shreveport Oct. 4-5 and the Jim Corbett Classic in Baton Rouge Oct. 7-9.

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1981 Football Schedule

Sept. 5	at Cal-Berkeley	3:00 PM
Sept. 19	at Boston College	5:10 PM
Sept. 26	LOUISIANA TECH	7:30 PM
Oct. 3	at Texas Tech	7:30 PM
Oct. 10	HOUSTON	2:00 PM
Oct. 17	at Baylor	2:00 PM
Oct. 25	at Rice	2:00 PM
Oct. 31	SMU	2:00 PM
Nov. 14	ARKANSAS	2:00 PM
Nov. 21	at TCU	2:00 PM
Nov. 26	TEXAS	2:00 PM

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