Texas A&M The Battalion Sports

September 10, 1982 / Page 11

NFL rookies

Baldwin, Whitwell secure spots with Cleveland

by Frank L. Christlieb

Sports Editor When Keith Baldwin pulled a hamstring during the first day of the Cleveland Browns' traing camp, he could have lost all infidence about his chances of king the squad.

But not Baldwin. Although he injury slowed him slightly, he former Texas A&M defen-ive end didn't break stride in his orts to elude the most terrifyevent in the life of an NFL kie — the dreaded final cut. The Browns, along with 27 other professional teams, re-eased their last batch of players rookies as well as veterans ----Monday and Tuesday. But Baldwin's bid to escape being sliced from the Browns' roster s successful.

Vhitwell, the Aggies' all-time ader in receiving yardage with ,372 yards in four seasons, made the Cleveland squad. Although many people had



Former A&M receiver Mike Whitwell playing Browns

aged to squeeze in as the No. 3 Logan and Danny Fulton.

season, has found college and professional football to be jerseys of a different color.

"It was a big jump and it was a little difficult at first," Baldwin said from Cleveland in a telephone interview Thursday. You have to think a lot more about what you're doing, and you have to do a lot more studying. You get used to doing so many things in college, but when you come into professional foot-ball, it's really different." For starters, the Browns play

a 3-4 defense, with three men on the defensive front and four linebackers. In contrast, Baldwin spent four seasons under for former Aggie coach Tom Wilson as part of a 4-3 alignment, in In addition, teammate Mike doubts about Whitwell's chances which he was one of four mem-nitwell, the Aggies' all-time of making the team, he man-

'Now I'm starting to come wide receiver behind Dave around, and I'm getting comfortable with the team and the Baldwin, who at 6-4, 255 system," Baldwin said. "Going

pounds has gained about 10 in, I was pretty confident, but pounds since the 1981 Aggie after a couple of days, it shook after a couple of days, it shook my confidence to see how tough it was. But then I started concentrating on doing my best at my position, and things got better." Baldwin, who this week

moved into a new apartment in central Cleveland, said Whitwell performed well during limited playing time. A member of the Browns' front office said Whitwell's entrance into professional football was enhanced by the retirement of Reggie Rucker, one of the top receivers in the history of the Cleveland franchise.

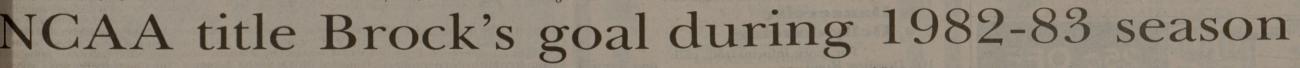
During the Browns' 4-0 preseason schedule, Baldwin finished with six tackles, two assists and two fumble recoveries while playing behind starting right end Mike Robinson, a second-year man from Arizona. Whitwell, a 6-1, 175-pounder, caught the only pass thrown to him, a 22-yarder, but had five

See ROOKIES page 13



Keith Baldwin (80), a former Texas A&M defensive end, has survived the final cuts that all NFL rookies dread, solidly entrenching himself as the No. 2 right defensive end for the Cleveland

Browns. Former Aggie wide receiver Mike Whitwell, drafted a few rounds after Baldwin, also qualified for the squad after leading Texas A&M in pass receptions during the 1981 season.



by John Wagner

Battalion Staff The Aggie softball team, win-r of the AIAW national troearly in the summer, will mpt to win another crown is season — this time under ne NCAA banner. And at this int, it appears that inexperi-ce in the infield *might* be the m's only weak point.

Coach Bob Brock lost five yers from last year's squad, d the key to success this year l be the play of several fresh-

men. This year, however, the team far outnumber the weak-Aggies will compete as a mem-ber of the NCAA, due to the dissolution of the AIAW.

Cindy Cooper and Mary the past. field Friday in the first game of the Aggie Invitational.

Cooper will start at third nation. base, while Schwind replaces the graduated Shannon Murray as aduated Shannon Murray as e starter at first base. played on national teams this summer. Stoll, a left-hander, pitched for the U.S. women's nathe starter at first base.

nesses. Brock will rely mainly on pitching this season — pitching that has always come through in

Schwind will get their first test as members of the Aggie infield when the host team takes the field Friday in the first game of is easily one of the best in the

Both Stoll and McDonald

the Canadian national team.

aren't enough, freshman Darlene Lowery, from Largo, Fla., will be able to bolster a staff that rarely needs bolstering. Stoll and McDonald pitched in 82 of the Aggies' 93 games during both the fall and spring seasons. Stoll finished the year 34-6 with an FRA of 296 McDereld

with an ERA of .296. McDonald was 35-3 with an ERA of 0.31. The Aggies are led offensive-by senior Carrie Austgen,

junior Patti Holthaus, and sophomores Josie Carter and Gay McNutt. Austgen, Holthaus and McNutt were all-region players

REO SPEEDWAGON

including: Keep The Fire Burnin'/Sweet Time The Key/Every Now And Then Back In My Heart Again

GOOD TRO

tional team and McDonald for .331 average and 72 RBI.

Texas A&M has a full fall And if those two strengths schedule this year, with games against Baylor, Louisiana Tech, Sam Houston, and the University of Texas at Arlington. They

> Last year the Aggies were 36-3 in the fall and 48-6 during the spring for a combined record of 84-9 — good for the champion-ship in the AIAW Women's Col-lege World Series.

The Aggie Invitational is a four-team double round robin tournament with a single elimi-Carter led the Aggies with a nation playoff. Besides Texas

A&M, Baylor, Sam Houston State and Texas Tech will participate in the two-day event The tournament, as well as

the Aggies' home games, will be played at Travis Park in Bryan. Texas A&M opened the tourna-ment at 10 this morning against Texas Tech, while Sam Houston played Baylor.

Every team will play five games today, with the last game beginning at 8:30 p.m. Each team will play three games Saturday, with the champion-ship and consolation games scheduled for 5:30 Saturday

TEDDY PENDERGRASS

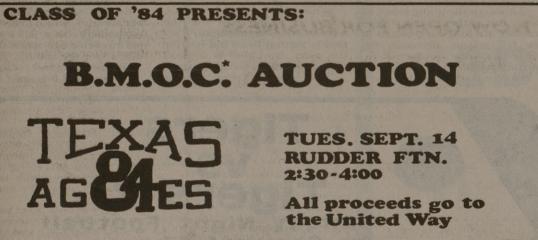
THIS ONE'S FOR YOU

including: This One's For You/ This Gift Of Life I Can't Win For Losing/Only To You Now Tell Me That You Love Me

evening The Aggies' next competition will be a double-header against Baylor in Waco Monday.



Aggie softball pitcher Lori Stoll ready for '82 season



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