

## Welch starts Game 3 against old friends

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — As a 21-year-old rookie, Bob Welch struck out Reggie Jackson to win Game 2 of the 1978 World Series for Los Angeles. His challenge this time is to beat the Dodgers.

Los Angeles carries a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven series into the Oakland Coliseum for Game 3 tonight after beating the Oakland Athletics in the first two games at Dodger Stadium.

Kirk Gibson hit a dramatic two-run homer with two outs in the ninth inning for a 5-4 victory in Game 1 and Orel Hershiser pitched a three-hitter to beat the A's 6-0 Sunday.

Welch, who pitched for the Dodgers for 10 years, will be opposed by left-hander John Tudor.

"I have lots of friends on the Dodgers and I was rooting for them to win the playoffs against the (New York) Mets," Welch said. "I know them and they know me so I don't think there's any advantage there."

Welch went to Oakland in a three-team deal last winter that also involved the Mets. The Dodgers ended up with relievers Jay Howell and Jesse Orosco and shortstop Alfredo Griffin.

"One of the things you want to do when you trade is make a deal that

helps both clubs," Dodgers manager Tommy Lasorda said. "We were last in hitting last season, last in fielding and we needed to help our bullpen."

"We hated to trade Bobby Welch. But we helped our bullpen and Alfredo Griffin helped Steve Sax at second. He solidified our infield defense."

Welch was 17-9 for the A's with a 3.64 earned-run average and struck out 158 in 244 2-3 innings. The 17 victories represented a career high for Welch.

"I told the A's when we traded them Welch that we had just traded them the AL West title," Lasorda said.

In Game 2 of the 1978 Series against the New York Yankees, the Dodgers had a 4-3 lead in the top of the ninth when reliever Terry Forster put runners on first and second. Lasorda brought in Welch, and the right-hander got Thurman Munson on a soft liner to second and struck out Jackson swinging on a 3-2 fastball.

"That all seems so long ago and it happened so fast I hardly remember what I felt," Welch said.

Jackson got his revenge in Game 6 when he hit a long homer off Welch and the Yankees won 7-2 to take the World Series.

## Welch, Tudor trying to ditch playoff blues

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Bob Welch and John Tudor are big winners with a lot of experience in big games. Nobody would know it by looking at the results.

Welch and Tudor, the starters for Tuesday night's Game 3 of the World Series, have been among baseball's most successful pitchers in regular seasons but flops in the postseason.

"I don't think that really plays a role," Tudor said Friday of past problems. "There are a lot of big games throughout the season, and I've done well in them."

"Sure, it crosses your mind," Welch said of his failings. "But it's something I can't dwell on."

The Oakland Athletics need Welch to reverse the pattern Tuesday night against his former team. Oakland trails the Los Angeles Dodgers 2-0 in the series, and no team has ever rallied from a 3-0 deficit.

Welch is 0-1 with a 10.39 earned-run average in four World Series

games and 1-2 in seven playoff outings, giving up 13 runs in 11 2/3 innings. He's much wilder than usual, too, walking 11 in 17 postseason innings.

This year, his first in the American League after 10 seasons with the Dodgers, Welch won a career-high 17 games. Yet in Game 3 of the playoffs against Boston, he did not survive the second inning and allowed five runs on six hits.

"Bobby can't change anything in the past. The only thing he can control is now," Oakland pitching coach Dave Duncan said.

"When he's out on the mound, he's going in a million different directions," said his former catcher, Mike Scioscia of the Dodgers. "Bobby's problem has definitely been one of keeping him under control out there."

Scioscia now works with Tudor, who has won 105 games but hasn't been able to win the big one.

# Bear killer has struck again

## Richardson was A&M's best option Saturday

**Player of the Week**  
Bucky Richardson

**By Doug Walker**  
Assistant Sports Editor

It was only a matter of time. As the third quarter drew to a close in Texas A&M's 28-14 victory over the Baylor Bears, it became clear that the only way Texas A&M was going to win was to wear down the Bear defense.

It was a similar situation to the one that occurred the previous week against the Houston Cougars.

In both situations the Aggie offense succeeded. And, in both situations, the reason was the same — A&M quarterback Bucky Richardson made a big play and led his team to an important win.

Helped in great part by an impressive offensive line, Richardson engineered two scoring drives in the game's crucial moments to lead Texas A&M to a sloppy victory over Baylor.

Richardson keyed the drive to the go-ahead touchdown midway through the fourth quarter by racing 39 yards on the option. He then scored the touchdown himself on a 15-yard keeper around the right side of the Aggie line with 4:43 remaining.

Richardson's leadership and a stern talk from A&M head coach Jackie Sherrill aroused the Aggies out of an uninspired performance after the emotional game against Houston last week.

A&M rushed for 318 yards against a defense that was allowing only 83.5 yards rushing per game.

In rushing for 86 yards on 16 carries and coming through in the clutch, Richardson reaffirmed what Sherrill has been saying all season long — Bucky's greatest asset is his will to win.

"Bucky always finds a way to win," Sherrill said. "And, he did it again this week."

In light of the problems A&M has experienced in the kicking game this year Sherrill didn't want the outcome of the game to hinge on a field goal attempt. Thus, he decided to attempt to go for a first down on fourth down plays five times Saturday.

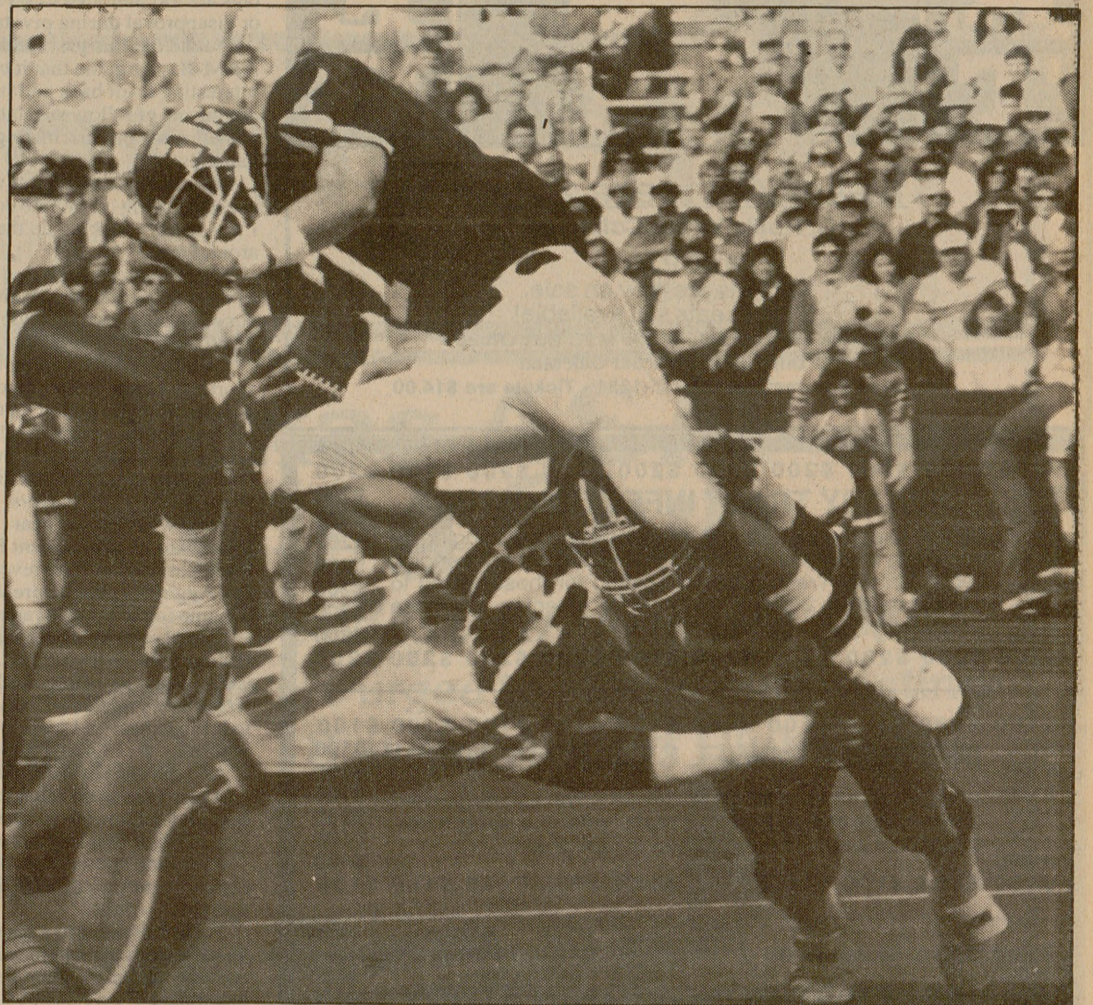
When asked of his feelings about the kicking game in his post-game press conference Sherrill quipped, "We haven't kicked very many field goals. We might let Bucky kick 'em."

According to Richardson, he's got enough on his hands trying to run the offense. He couldn't pinpoint a reason for the team's lackluster first half performance.

"The thing about today is we probably played the worst first half we've played this season and we were still in the ball game at halftime," Richardson said. "It was encouraging to me that, as bad as we played mentally, we were still in the game."

An intentional grounding call on Richardson and a nullified touchdown run by running back Keith McAfee were two big mistakes that epitomized the first half for A&M.

The grounding call pinned A&M deep in their own territory and set up Baylor's first touchdown.



Battalion file photo

Bucky Richardson acrobatics play a big part in his success at running the A&M

offense. Here he dives for yardage in last year's win over Louisiana Tech.

On a third down at the A&M 25, Richardson set up to pass and then scrambled to the sideline under pressure.

He threw the ball out of bounds and incomplete in the direction of wide receiver Gary Oliver. The penalty was left A&M facing a fourth down at their own five yard line. After Sean Wilson's punt was fair caught at the Aggie 36, Baylor needed only six plays to tie the score.

Richardson wasn't happy with the officials.

"It was really a horrible call," he said. "I think he called it because I turned around right before I threw it, but I had a receiver over there."

The nullified touchdown run would have moved A&M back into a tie at 14-14. As it turned out, the drive ended with a missed field goal by Scott Slater from 43 yards out.

Richardson felt the team experienced an emotional letdown.

"Sometimes it takes us a while to get things

going. We were clearly beating ourselves," Richardson said. "They weren't stopping us — we were stopping ourselves."

Richardson's attitude and perseverance are proving to be valuable assets to a team that many believe has nothing to play for. Richardson has proven his value in the last three games after seeing little action in the Louisiana State game and not playing at all against Oklahoma State.

Richardson showed why he is the catalyst for the Aggies with a comment after Saturday's game.

When asked if the NCAA probation had caused the team to lack motivation for the rest of the season he said, "I really don't think it'll be a problem. It's something you can't control. We just have to make it a positive thing and not give up. Besides, we'll probably get more recognition by winning the title this year than if we won it and were able to go to the Cotton Bowl."

### GET SHOT

Juniors, seniors, vet, med and grad students can get their yearbook pictures taken for the

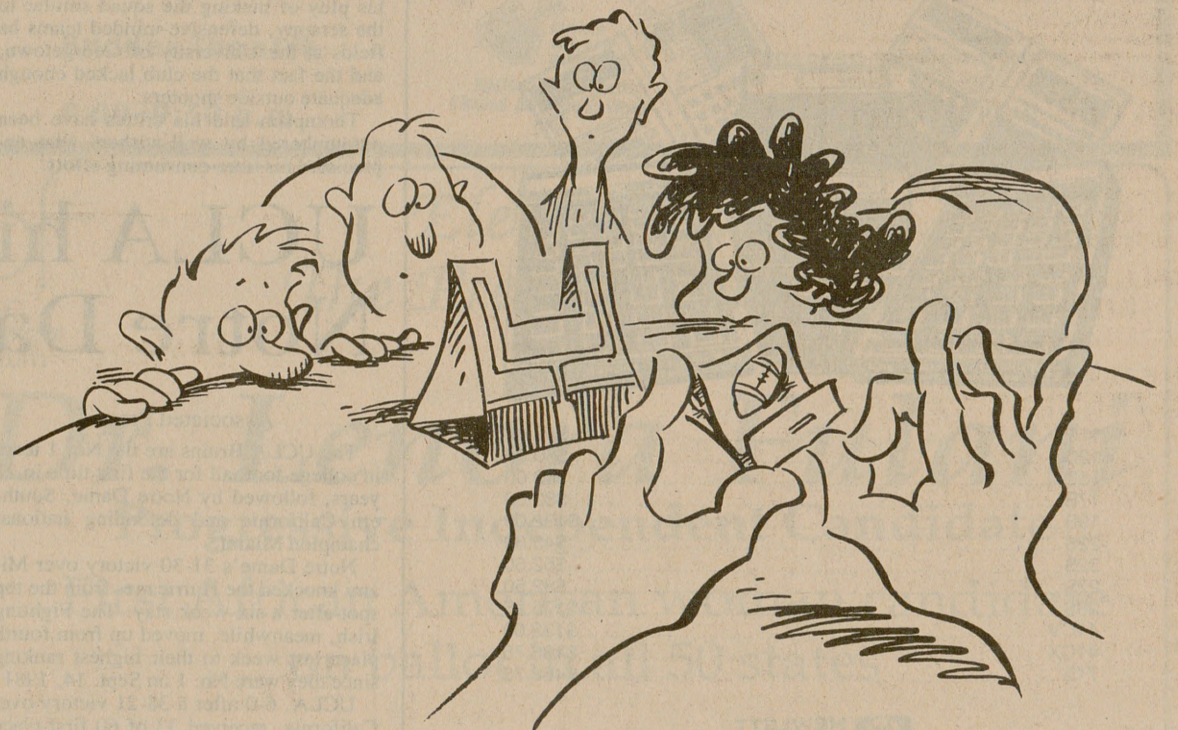
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