

SWC PREVIEW

Baylor starts season with conservative offense

Coaches plan on the defense to carry team

By Brian Coats and Mark Smith
THE BATTALION

In Waco, it could be a long rebuilding year, or Baylor could contend for the Southwest Conference championship. It depends, do you like offense or defense?

On offense, there are only five returning starters. J.J. Joe, Baylor's starting quarterback for the last four years, is gone.

Charged with following Joe at quarterback is sophomore Lamont Moore. Baylor coach Chuck Reedy describes Moore as "tough."

"One thing I've been impressed about Lamont is he makes good decisions," he said. "And also, he's one tough son of a gun. He took some real shots (in spring) and got right back up."

Moore could be challenged for the job when two-a-days start in August from A&M Consolidated product Jeff Watson.

"Jeff Watson is an outstanding athlete with good credentials," Reedy said. "We're going to go with the guy that we think will get us to the Cotton Bowl."

Last year Baylor used many different running backs extensively throughout the year. This fall's campaign will probably be different, however, as junior Brandell Jackson will be called upon often. Jackson rushed for 899 yards on 171 carries in 1993.

Baylor's wideouts may be lonely if the present plans for conservatism and short, safe passes stay intact. Senior John Stanley will start at the split end position after walking-on in January 1993.

Baylor's offensive line is one of the lone bright spots on the offensive side of the ball. Fred Miller, a junior right tackle, is a pre-season All-SWC pick. Sophomore David Davis and senior Will Davidson will return to their line positions.

The tight end spot will be filled by 1993 backup Damon Rhynes. Last season Rhynes caught two passes for 30 yards.

With every returning starter from last year coming back, this unit could be one of the strongest in the conference. Reedy likes what he sees. He said they should be a very good defensive team.

"I don't think we have any critical holes on defense," he said. "We just have to keep getting better."

Baylor has a great deal of depth at the de-

Baylor at a Glance

Schedule		Two-deep Chart	
Sept. 3	Louisiana Tech		
Sept. 10	at San Jose State		
Sept. 24	Oklahoma State		
Oct. 1	at USC		
Oct. 8	at TCU		
Oct. 15	at Texas A&M		
Oct. 22	at Texas Tech		
Oct. 29	Houston		
Nov. 12	at Rice		
Nov. 24	Texas		

Offense		Defense	
TE	Damon Rhynes	LE	Charles Horton
	Donnie Laurence		Daryl Gardener
LT	David Davis	NT	Steve Strahan
	Bruce Nowak		Roderick Kinney
LG	Will Davidson	RE	Scotty Lewis
	Jerome Jackson		Bryan Tanner
C	John Turner	SLB	Robert Mason
	Marty Dunbar		Phillip Kent
RG	Hunter Hunter	MLB	Tony Tubbs
	Curtis Draper		Dean Jackson
RT	Fred Miller	WLB	LaCurtis Jones
	Ricky Heard		Malcolm Hamilton
SE	John Stanley	BLB	Glenn Coy
	Chris McCloud		Gary Brandy
QB	Lamont Moore	RCB	Raynor Finley
	Kevin Rhea		Kendrick Bell
FB	Shawn Washington	LCB	George McCullough
	Bradford Lewis		Tyrone Smith
TB	Brandell Jackson	SS	Adrian Robinson
	Kalief Muhammad		Anthony Taylor
XB	Dustin Dennard	FS	Chris Lewis
	Gerald Patterson		Michael Benjamin
K	Jarvis Van Dyke	P	Willie Shupp
	Darren Dobbs		Ty Atteberry

Quick Facts

Coach: Chuck Reedy
 Nickname: Bears
 1993 Record: 5-6
 Home Stadium: Floyd Casey Stadium (48,500 cap.)
 Site: Waco
 Enrollment: 12,500
 Colors: Green and Gold
 Last SWC title won: 1980

Key Losses

TE Craig Bellamy, SE Marvin Callies, FB John Henry, QB J.J. Joe, OG David Leaks, C Chuck Pope

Players to watch

DE Scotty Lewis: Lewis led the Bears with seven quarterback sacks in 1993. He also recorded nine tackles for a loss, with 41 total tackles.
LB Chris Dull: Dull was the Bears' leading tackler in 1993, with 96. He had 62 unassisted tackles and five tackles for a loss.
SS Adrian Robinson: Robinson led the Baylor defense with four interceptions in 1993. He also recorded 44 tackles, three of which were for a loss.

Battalion Staff Picks

SWC Results	SWC Coach of the Year:
1. Texas A&M	Ken Hatfield
2. Texas	SWC Offensive Player of the Year: Shea Morenz
3. Baylor	SWC Defensive Player of the Year: Antonio Armstrong
4. Texas Tech	SWC Newcomer of the Year: Trent Driver
5. Rice	
6. TCU	
7. SMU	
8. Houston	

A&M

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Pullig's backup, senior Steve Emerson, has only taken one snap during a college game.

"We've got three quarterbacks," Slocum said. "If something happens to Corey early, then you go into next week's game. You only have two quarterbacks. Say in the first quarter one of those guys gets hurt. Now, you go out and say, 'That's the only guy we've got on this team that can take a snap.'"

"That's a problem. There's just nothing I can do about it this time," he said.

The backfield for the Aggies is as good as any in the country, even after losing NFL first round draft pick Greg Hill. Tailbacks Rodney Thomas and Leeland McElroy return as a one-two punch that other coaches drool over.

Thomas came four yards short of 1,000 last season and scored 13 touchdowns for A&M. McElroy became a sensation last season after returning an NCAA record tying three kickoff returns for touchdowns.

Slocum said A&M fans will occasionally see Thomas and McElroy in the backfield at the same time. For the most part, however, the Aggies will rely on a more traditional set.

"Most of the time, it will be a case of one of them playing and the other one resting and vice versa," Slocum said. "That's really worked well for us."

The Aggies have two experienced fullbacks returning, senior Cliff Groce and junior Detron Smith.

Receivers are at a premium, especially with the added emphasis on passing. A&M lost Tony

Harrison, who holds the school record for receiving with 1,576 yards.

Trying to fill Harrison's shoes will be senior Ryan Matthews. Matthews made 13 receptions in 1993 for 144 yards. In the flanker spot, the Aggies will utilize senior Brian Mitchell. Mitchell finished 1993 with 11 receptions for 152 yards and one touchdown.

The tight end spot should be fairly secure. Senior James McKeehan will fill the position vacated by All-SWC tight end Greg Schorp. McKeehan had eight receptions for 50 yards and scored four touchdowns in 1993.

Keeping with what is developing as a tradition in Aggieland, A&M has a good corps of linebackers. The inside linebackers are young, with Reggie Graham as the only returner with much experience.

The outside linebacker position is strong, with Antonio Armstrong (formerly Antonio Shorter) returning at one spot. Armstrong is a leading candidate for the Butkus Award which goes to the nation's top linebacker.

The A&M secondary should be solid in 1994. From a unit that ranked No. 1 in the nation in pass efficiency, all but one starter returns. Of course, that starter is NFL first round draft pick Aaron Glenn. Junior Ray Mickens has one corner and Donovan Greer and Billy Mitchell will battle for Glenn's vacated spot.

Senior Junior White returns as the starter in the free safety spot where he compiled 64 tackles and six passes broken up in 1993.

The strong safety spot will be filled by senior Michael Hendricks, but he could be challenged by senior Steve Kenney, who was the starter in 1992 but suffered a season ending knee injury in the opener against Stanford.

Texas

Continued from Page 3

but Ellis are underclassmen.

Texas, which has long used the four-three set on defense, switched to a three-four front during the spring. Mackovic

said the new look utilizes Texas' talents.

"By having the extra linebacker, it gives us an opportunity to get four players who can run on the field," he said.

Norman Watkins, Robert Reed and Kevin Watler, who all switched from defensive end to linebacker during the spring,

are looking to take up the slack from the departure of Winfred Tubbs, Texas' consensus all-conference middle linebacker.

On the defensive line, Texas returns a trio of proven starters to head a strong group, led by Tony Brackens, who had 10 sacks last year.

After years of disappoint-

ment, 1994 could be the year Texas returns to the Cotton Bowl and loses its underachieving reputation of mediocre.

Kevin Watlers, Texas' line backer, agrees.

"I really believe this will be the year that turns this program," he said.

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