

TCU Skiff

etCetera

October 26, 1981

Homecoming '81

Inside...

Slingin' Sammy Baugh didn't really want to be a football player. For the story of TCU's most powerful quarterback of all time, see page 3.

A TCU ex and Houston Oiler great recalls the 81-16 loss to U.T. in 1974. For more on Mike Renfro, see page 7.

The man on the sidelines running the time clock has been involved with TCU football for a long time. See photos and story on pages 4 and 5.

Fifty years from now, what will TCU look like? Those who asked that question 50 years ago visited campus last week to find out. See page 6.

Cover Art by Sharon Jones

'Traditions' change with the times

By Anne Stabile

No one knows exactly when Homecoming began, and if you try to go too far back, all you end up with is a lot of "I don't remember."

But Homecoming has been an important event from the 1930s to the 1980s.

There are differences in the way Homecoming was celebrated in the past, but the spirit, excitement and importance haven't changed.

"As I remember, Homecoming was always Thanksgiving," said Ellsworth Chappell, a former TCU football player. Chappell played in the 1929 game that won TCU the Southwest Conference championship.

"That was a gala day because it was the first time in history," 31 graduate Lesbia Roberts said of the championship. "Mainly because of the depression very little was done except go to the football game."



This year TCU students, including spirit organizations such as the Spirit Wranglers, TCU Cheerleaders, TCU Show Girls and the band, are eager to support not only the football team, but the school itself.

Dale Young, the faculty adviser of the Spirit Wranglers, said he feels spirit is very important, which is why he formed the group four years ago.

"Spirit develops pride in the school and when you have pride in the school, the students do better in whatever they do," he said.

At Frog Follies this year the Spirit Wranglers will show slides of things that have happened on campus since school began.

"What we really want to do is keep spirit going on TCU campus and develop pride in the university," he said.

Spirit is no stranger to cheerleaders, though cheerleader Debi Bell said she feels sports are more than just playing a game.

"I think sports, especially football, is important to any university. It brings in money and it brings students and faculty together at a fun event," she said.

"I feel Homecoming is a time for those students who've graduated to come back and reminisce and meet old friends and become involved in something that was a very important part of their life," said senior Mark McCluney. "It's kind of a big class reunion of all classes," he said.

Athletic Director Frank Windegger stressed the togetherness of Homecoming. "It's one of the big events that allows alums to come back to campus for the various reunions," Windegger said.

This year Windegger is celebrating his 25th reunion. "You look forward to things like that," he said. "I see a lot of classmates at different times but never collectively."

Don Layman, the chairman of the 25-year reunion, recalled some of the ways his class celebrated Homecoming. "One thing that we did was give girls mums, and the girls dressed up in heels and hats. That was the only time," he said.

Spirit and support also come from the band.

The band is more enthusiastic this year than last year, said Director Curt Wilson.

"We've gotten a lot of recognition this year. The kids in the band are so turned on. I think there are times when we're the only thing going on in the ball games."

Wilson sought to improve the band by enlarging the percussion section and placing the brass so it can better be heard. Because the band is small, Wilson said, he tries to play to the west side of the stadium rather than going up the middle where the sound would be lost.

One special aspect of the band is its musical arrangements. Lew Gillis, an orchestration professor, is responsible for many of the band's arrangements. Wilson writes some and buys others.

Wilson asked Mike Vax, a nationally known trumpet player, to play a special arrangement of "MacArthur Park" for the Homecoming game. He said he wants to make this Homecoming "the most exciting Homecoming we've ever had."

Wilson also said the TCU Show Girls are a part of spirit rousing.

"The Show Girls have a reputation as the best dancing group in the Southwest Conference," Wilson said. "People look forward to seeing them."

This year the band made a spirit sign for the first time in several years. "We just thought the band should assert itself as a visible group on campus," said sophomore Wayne Owen, a percussionist.

"We wanted to show the alumni how great the spirit is and what we're doing," said Bryan Andrade, a sophomore who plays the euphonium.

The stress is on alumni, he said, because they contribute a lot of money to the organization. "This Homecoming is more important, especially this time, because we're playing a lot of different music. It's gonna be great—I'm really looking forward to it."

Steve Stoughton, a sophomore tuba player, said the band's job is

important for the team. "Spirit is proportional to the way the team plays," he said. "There's only so much you can do without the band."

Head football coach F.A. Dry agreed. "Any event where there's more people in the stands and more importance placed on what (the team) does is recognized," he said. "They depend on it—all athletes like to hear a cheering crowd."

"You need that spirit," said sophomore football player John Preston. "You need to be psyched for the game. It makes you play better," he said.

The athletes aren't the only ones to benefit from the cheers, said Bell, partner to head cheerleader Chad Schrotel. "People feel better when they can scream at a game."

That's part of the reason McCluney said he goes to the games. "I enjoy the games," he said. "It's a chance to cut loose and scream and yell."

There's been a lot of talk about winning Homecoming this year, and no one sees the importance of it more than Dry.

"Winning is what the game is all about. The more you win, the more you gain confidence," he said.

"You always want to win Homecoming," said Preston, strong safety on the team. "That's the big game. If we play up to our potential we should just beat the hell out of Houston."

"I think we're gonna kill Houston," said Bell.

Windegger agreed. "We beat one of the top teams in the country and we can beat anyone on the schedule," he said.

Homecoming has always included special events. Through the years the events have changed according to the time period and the interests of the students.

Chappell recalled the big bonfire and pep rally common to Homecomings in the 1930s.

"One time we were gonna have a big bonfire and SMU came over and set it beforehand."

Clyde Foltz, chancellor's assistant and 1944 graduate, remembered, "When I attended TCU it was during the war years and it was an entirely different spirit in many ways."

Homecoming, Foltz said, focused around athletics with one difference. "There were no scholarships—everybody was in the military."

Though the environment outside of school looked dim, the homecoming activities didn't suffer.

"We had a pep rally in downtown Fort Worth and the snake dance," Foltz recalled. The "snake dance" started downtown after the pep rally parade. University Drive was blocked off and one person got behind the other. In this way the "snake" moved toward campus.

"It was very effective on

University Drive because it was very long and blocked traffic quite a ways," Foltz said.

The team itself was different then, he said. "Even in my senior year we went to the Cotton Bowl, and we had probably the worst team in the conference," he said.

Though some of the homecoming traditions stayed the same, such as the bonfire and the parade downtown, the '50s marked still another era and another way to celebrate Homecoming.

One place that Layman and other students in the '50s often went to dance (and probably did after the Homecoming game in 1956, though Layman says he's not sure) was "Jack's Place." If "Jack's" doesn't sound familiar to you, don't worry because it burned down 20 years ago.

Freshmen in the 1950s were forced to wear green, purple and white beanies until Homecoming. If you were caught without it, no telling what might happen to you.

But Layman put homecoming for undergrads in the background. "I feel homecoming is more for alumni than undergrads," he said. "When I was an undergrad I didn't pay a whole lot of attention to it, frankly."



The beginning of the '60s, like the beginning of the '30s and '40s, was one of turmoil. In 1963 President John F. Kennedy was shot. In that year Homecoming was canceled, but the man elected to take charge of the festivities was 1950 alum Harold Achziger who took charge the next year.

Achziger said he decided it was time to "spice up" homecoming with a barbecue. "I thought we might get a better turnout," he said. "Then I decided it might even be better to get it underwritten—you know, get a freebie."

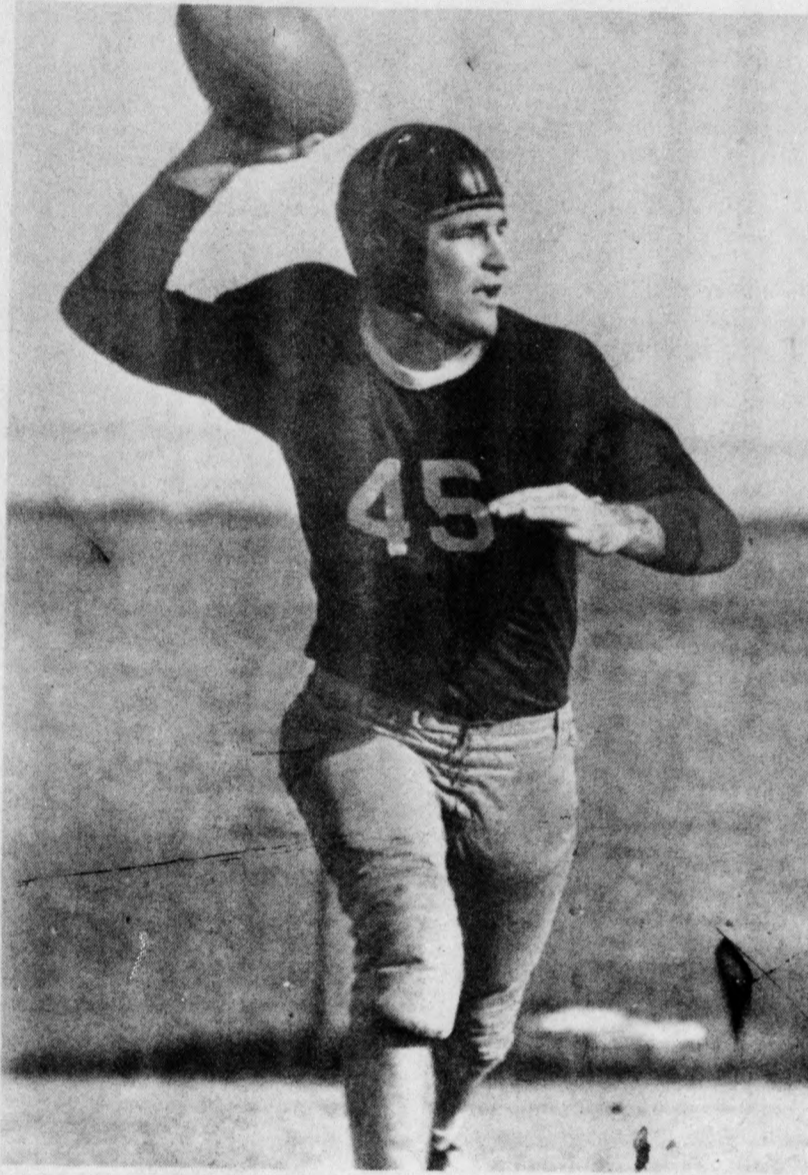
Achziger and Foltz spoke to J.C. Pace, who was head of the Winn Dixie grocery chain. Eventually Pace decided to support TCU's barbecue with a free side of beef.

"It was just a big kind of circus atmosphere and generated a big excitement," Foltz said of the first barbecue.

"As for traditions," Foltz said, "some stick and some don't, according to students' values and mores. Some change, as well they should."

etc.

Former Frog still enjoys football



SLINGIN' SAMMY BAUGH, hoping for a career in baseball, became a legendary player in TCU's Hall of Fame. At right, Baugh, in 1981, enjoys a Dallas Cowboy game on television.

Photo by Ben Noey

By T.J. Diamond

With one socked foot propped up on a living room easy chair and one hand periodically reaching for his pouch of Carl Garrett chewing tobacco, Slingin' Sammy Baugh was doing what he has done all his life — enjoying the game of football.

While watching the Cowboy-Ram game on the television of a long-time Fort Worth friend, the former TCU and Washington Redskin great reminisced over his playing days of the 1930s through the 1950s.

The 67-year old legend, heralded by many as the greatest college and professional quarterback of all time, spoke little of himself. Instead, he shared humorous and heart-warming stories of the golden days of sports.

He wouldn't bring up the fact that he was twice named an All-American, or that he still holds several National Football League records, or that he was the first quarterback inducted into the NFL Hall of Fame.

But that's all common knowledge. Since the day the whip-arm passer from Sweetwater, Texas, stepped onto the Horned Frog field in 1934, the gridiron has never been the same. Baugh launched football into

a new era, where the pass became an effective and exciting tool and not just a risk taken in last-ditch efforts.

And Baugh had the arm needed to turn the game around.

The story is told of Baugh's first day of workouts with the Redskins. The Washington coach, in an effort to deflate the former collegiate star's ego, asked the rookie quarterback how good he was.

"I can throw a little," said Baugh.

"Let's see how good. Hit that receiver running down the field in the eye," said the coach.

"Which eye?" replied Baugh, cocking back his arm.

But the passing revolution began in Fort Worth. Baugh came to TCU the same year as legendary coach Dutch Meyer and led the Horned Frogs to a three-year 29-7-2 record.

Baugh shattered, set, and reset nearly all school records, not only in passing, but also in punting and interception returns.

"Back in those days, players had to go both ways — offense and defense. Teams weren't so big that they could field two different squads," drawled Baugh. "What everybody was looking for was a fellow who could run a little bit,

kick, and throw. The triple-threat is what they called it."

Baugh was that type of player. In 1935, his second season as a Frog, Baugh led TCU to 10 straight victories as it headed into the Southwest Conference championship playoff.

The Frogs faced Southern Methodist, another undefeated SWC team, in what has been called the "greatest college game ever played."

Baugh brought TCU back to tie the score after SMU took a 14-0 halftime lead. But late in the game, the Mustang's quarterback lofted a bomb to his receiver, who got past Baugh (playing safety) and caught the winning touchdown.

Despite losing the conference title, TCU beat Louisiana State 3-2 in the Sugar Bowl and was ranked number one in the nation by the only national poll.

The next season, The Frogs went 9-2-2, and beat Marquette to win the first Cotton Bowl game ever played.

"Those games did a lot for TCU, and so did all those wins a few years later when Davey O'Brien, Ki Aldrich, I.B. Hale and that bunch played for Dutch," said Baugh, interrupted by a breakaway touchdown run on television by Tony Dorsett.

"I think they made a lot of people across the country, and especially those eastern sportswriters, know that there's something down here in Texas," he added.

Ironically, Baugh came to TCU with the original intention of playing baseball.

"I always wanted to play big league baseball. You know how some kids want to be firemen and all, I wanted to play baseball," he said while reaching for his make-shift spittoon, preparing to tell another story.

"I played one year of pro ball. After I took my last exam and got out of TCU, I had a job in Pampa, Texas, with a lumber company and playing on the Pampa Roadrunner baseball team," he said. "I didn't even stay around for graduation.

"In August, we were playing a tournament up in Denver. Rogers Hornsby was playing for a team at that tournament and scouting for the St. Louis Cardinals. He saw me, and took me out to dinner, and asked me if I'd sign a contract to report to St. Louis that spring . . . I signed," he said, suggesting it was an easy decision to make.

"At that time, St. Louis had a shortstop named Marty Marion, and he was the best doggone shortstop around. I knew that while he was around, I'd never have much of a chance with the Cardinals, since I was also a shortstop," he said.

"While in the minors, I had to make a choice between baseball and football because the Cards' organization wasn't going to let me

play both, and so I chose football. But if I'd thought I even had a chance to get into the big leagues, I'd have stuck with baseball," he said.

So Slingin' Sam signed with the Redskins in 1937, and his rifle-like passing took the NFL by storm.

In his rookie season, Baugh brought the Redskins into the championship game against the Chicago Bears. In that game, the 6-foot 2-inch beanpole from Texas threw two touchdown strikes to help lift Washington to a 28-21 win.

That day, the first-year signal-caller threw for nearly 350 yards, establishing himself as the premier quarterback of his time.

He led his Redskins to the title game four more times during the 1940s, and in his 16-year career, Baugh set dozens of NFL records, some of which still stand.

Football historian Roger Treat said of Baugh, "In his worst game . . . he was as good as the rest of the quarterbacks on their best days."

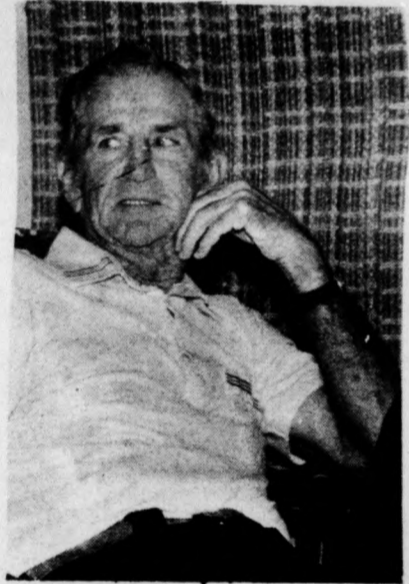


Photo by Ben Noey

Baugh led the league in passing six seasons, while being selected All Pro the same number of years. He threw for 21,886 yards and 186 touchdowns during his pro career. His completion record of 70.2 percent in 1945 still stands in the books, along with his 51.3 yard punting average of 1940.

In 1945, Baugh set versatility records by leading the league as a defensive back with 11 interceptions.

When he retired in 1952, the 38-year-old veteran also set the record for the longest-playing career in NFL history.

"I don't think being a professional athlete back when I played was as prestigious as it is today," Baugh said. "You get so much publicity this day and time because of TV. If I had the choice, I'd rather be playing right now."

Although most every football fan remembers Baugh as one of the most brilliant and prolific quarterbacks the game has ever known, few remember Baugh the matinee idol. (See Sammy, page 8)

Long-time fan keeps TCU time

Story by Susie Bridges
Photos by Ben Noey

Some people can't get away from Horned Frog football, no matter what the win-loss record. Harry Taylor is one of those people.

"I'm a Horned Frog fan," he said. "I couldn't be anything else."

Taylor, 81, has been involved with TCU football periodically since 1923, when he entered TCU on an athletic scholarship.

A four-year letterman in football, basketball and baseball, Taylor was inducted into the TCU Hall of Fame five years ago.

And for the last 10-12 years, he doesn't remember how long, he has run the time clock at Amon Carter Stadium from the sidelines.

Perched just south of the TCU bench during the games, he has seen TCU win a few and lose a few more.

"TCU plays a fine game," he said. "They've been playing good ball for a long time. It just seems the big breaks are against them."

Head coach F.A. Dry has changed the team's attitude, Taylor said. "You can tell by the expression in their eyes whether it hurts them to lose. You can tell it hurts them more now."

The coaches should be given time to develop an attitude and recruiting strategy, he said. "When you're not winning it's hard to get top boys."

Football has changed since Taylor was a Horned Frog halfback under coach Matty Bell.

"They blocked and tackled then just as they do now," he said, "but there's a lot more passing now."

He said in the 1920s teams used more single- and double-wing formations than the formations used today.

Keeping track of players "in training" was the team's responsibility, not the coaches, during his football years, Taylor said. "We didn't want a weak link."

"We didn't have many men," he said, adding that during his senior year there were only 13 players on the team.

"We played offense and defense both. They could wear you down if they had more men," he said.

Professional football wasn't as popular - or as profitable - in the '20s, so he played professional baseball on San Antonio's Texas League team, he said.

He later quit baseball to coach, and moved to San Angelo, where he coached on the high school level for 14 years.

He also officiated for the Southwest Conference over the years, "but not for TCU, because I had played for them," he said.

Taylor is one of two athletes in TCU history to letter in four sports in one year. As a freshman, he was on varsity football, basketball, baseball and track teams.

The football field was located behind what is now the library when Taylor played for TCU, and the baseball field was beyond that, where Dan Rogers Hall stands.

"We collected bugs for biology class where the stadium is now," he said, laughing.

Taylor's close ties to TCU don't interfere with his timekeeping, he said.

"You've got to fight getting involved, and concentrate on what's going on," he said. "You just disregard what team it is on."

Keeping up with the officials, especially when the action is on the north end of the field, is sometimes difficult, he said. "As many people as are swarming around, it's hard to see everything."

Taylor said that to "keep from loafing" he substitute teaches at area high schools and hunts. He was headed to Bandera, Texas, a few Fridays ago to take advantage of an away game and a weekend away from the time clock.

Taylor drives a gray pickup with a camper, and he wears cowboy boots. The skin of his face and hands is weathered, with a sign of healthiness.

Taylor said his favorite sport is "whichever one's in season."

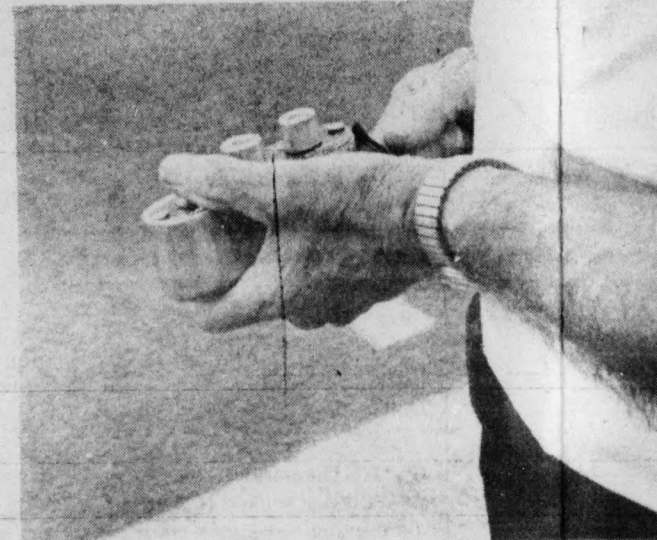
Taylor and his wife celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in May at a party held in the Letterman's Room - where the Hall of Fame is located - at Amon Carter Stadium.

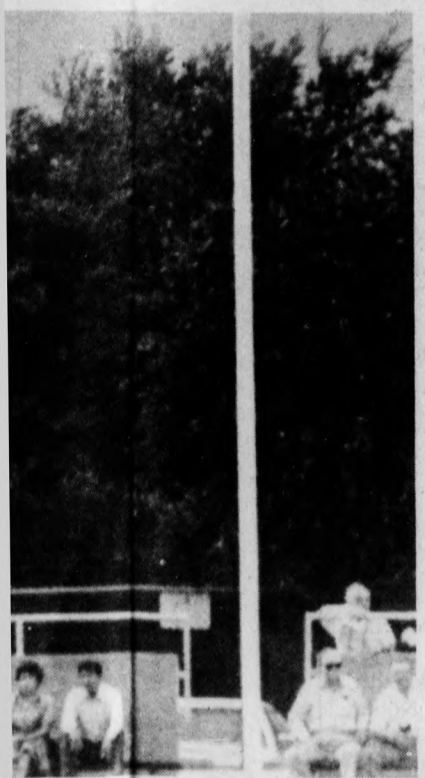
"A lot of people don't even live that long," said Taylor, adding many marriages break up before 50 years. "It's a shame. The family is the foundation of our nation."

The Hall of Fame, and being inducted into it, is special to Taylor.

"That's something that money can't buy," he said. "You earn that by just hard work."

etC.





Fifty years later, the class of 1931 unites

By Anne Stabile

In 1931, when the Depression settled in and so many people had to leave school, 194 students managed to graduate from TCU.

Of that number, 125 returned to TCU Oct. 17 for their 50-year reunion.

"I found all classmates except 38 all over the United States," said Lesbia Roberts, chairman of the 50-year reunion committee.

The first reunion for the class of 1931, The Quinq Club as they call themselves, was their 30-year reunion. Roberts said the class hadn't really been recognized before because the "noticed" reunions are the 25-year and 50-year.

"This is our first real recognition at TCU," she said.



FASHIONS change through the years, but some of those modeled for the class of '31 were curiously like today's "preppie" clothes. Brenda Almes and Kelly O'Donnell were among models from the TCU Student Foundation. Photo by Bill Hoff

For the occasion Roberts, with other members of the 50-year reunion committee, arranged programs for the alumni to show them how TCU has changed in 50 years.

Alumni—some with their spouses, some with their grandchildren and some with old friends—gathered to share memories with people they hadn't seen in half a century.

Noble Atkins was captain of the football team in 1930, captain of the basketball team in 1931 and

was later elected to the TCU Hall of Fame. His wife recalled the administrative mistake made when he first entered the university.

"When he came to TCU he was supposed to be in Jarvis. They had him as 'Mable' Atkins, and he was supposed to room with Betty Glenn—one of the cuties of campus," she said with a laugh.

Roberts, in coordinating the reunion, roused some not-forgotten memories. She recalled that as a senior she was accompanied to her government class, taught by Dr. Duncan, by a German Shephard named Jack.

"Once Forrest White, a member of the class (now deceased) annoyed Dr. Duncan to the extent that he admonished White with, 'Mr. White, if you were half as attentive as our dog friend Jack, you might make a passing grade,'" she said.

For some, the memorable experiences don't seem to be much different than the experiences students face today.

"All I remember about going to TCU was trying to get through," said Laura Lee Barclay of Fort Worth.

"What scared me most was my piano recital," said the woman beside her, Thelma Lawrence of Tyler.

But the issues students faced in the 1930s were different from those important to students today.

As part of the reunion program Suzie Batchelor, director of student activities, talked about the differences between students of the 1930s and the 1980s.

"Students are a little more serious today," Batchelor told the alumni. "The impact of the media has made a difference. Students today are bombarded by media."

Barclay echoed these sentiments. "We belonged to an era in which we had a lot of respect for our elders. We didn't go out for causes."

Jay D. Williams from Atlanta was editor of the Skiff in 1931. He recalled the time he got in trouble for a "controversial" editorial.

"I became quite controversial as an editor because I was against the TCU band having a sweetheart," Williams said. "I thought it was silly and I wrote an editorial about it." Williams' article didn't accomplish what he had hoped it would, as the band got to name its sweetheart, Emma Nell Handy, anyway.

Batchelor also said that technological advances such as transportation are partly responsible for the change in TCU's student body.

"The most significant change is where people are from," she said. "Nearly half the student body is from out of state. There's a nice mix of Southerners and Yankees."

After a "re-introduction"—a time to talk and reminisce—the alumni took a bus tour of TCU campus. Among the most recent changes



TENNIS AND POLITICS—John McDiarmid, graduate of the class of '31, was ranked seventh on the national tennis circuit in 1936. He also has worked as personnel director of the United Nations. Photo by Bill Hoff

they saw were the Starpoint School, The Moudy building and the additions to the library.

After the tour, the group posed for pictures on the student center steps, and then attended a luncheon.

Ann Gee, director of alumni affairs, began the program with a 1930s fashion show.

Nine models—all members of TCU Student Foundation, the undergraduate alumni association—modeled 12 outfits from the 1930s. They were all authentic, lent by class of '31 members or their friends.

There were common clothes such as a gym suit, a party dress and a classroom dress, and there were oddities: a rain slicker autographed by football team members, a wool swimming suit and a bug-catcher's outfit. The bug catcher's outfit was reminiscent of the days when biology students had to catch their own "guinea pigs."

Fifty years is a long time to be out of school. Some of the alumni have been very busy in their careers since graduation.

John McDiarmid, member of the TCU Hall of Fame, was captain of the tennis team in 1931. In 1936 he was ranked seventh on the national circuit, playing Wimbledon winners Bobby Riggs and Sidney Wood.

He recalled how he got into tennis, as "a skinny 16-year-old struggling to earn a letter in freshman basketball." McDiarmid wrote, "I left the basketball squad in my sophomore year when coach Francis Schmidt yelled, 'McDiarmid, you're slower than the second coming of Christ!' and took up tennis immediately."

McDiarmid later taught political science and coached tennis at Northwestern University in 1936,

Princeton in 1938 and the University of Southern California in 1940.

McDiarmid worked for the United Nations as personnel director. In 1964, he was sent to India as a residential representative of the United Nations. He stayed there 10 years.

Though retired, he still spends time overseas for the United Nations, traveling to Rome, Jordan, Japan, and Africa.

Another figure at the reunion was Perry Gresham, president emeritus of Bethany College in West Virginia.

Gresham has received 15 honorary doctorates and has published seven books.

He was the first minister of University Christian Church and was involved in the church's 50-year anniversary celebrated the same weekend as the Quinqs' reunion.

The Quinq Club went to the TCU-Utah State game and then had dinner at The Shady Oaks Country Club.

Dinner festivities included a skit and "funny" awards, like who lost the most hair.

A "talk show" was performed, based on a 1931 radio show broadcast from the Hotel Texas (where the Hyatt Regency is now). Two TCU "graduates" were guests on the show and 11 popular songs of the day were sung.

Chancellor Bill Tucker and Chancellor Emeritus James Moudy also attended the dinner.

"It was a pleasure to work with these people in 1931," said Noble Atkins, "and to see these people that I worked with, it's a double pleasure."

Frogs' losses didn't stop Renfro

By Robert Howington

Yes, Mike Renfro said, he remembers that overcast, chilly day in late November 1974.

Of course, he'd rather forget it. But he can't. The memory of that 81-16 loss to the University of Texas is too vivid to blank out.

On that wintery afternoon, the Horned Frogs suffered their most humiliating defeat since U.T. beat them 72-0 in 1915. Renfro said it was the worst feeling he's had as a football player.

"That was a dark, dark day," Renfro said. He recalled the four years he spent as a Horned Frog. "We got beat a lot, but not that bad."

Renfro now has a home in Houston, where he is a starting wide receiver for the Houston Oilers. A game with Cincinnati Nov. 1 will keep him from Homecoming this weekend.

Like many TCU alumni, Renfro said he would like to see TCU come out its comatose state on the football field.

Renfro, who played under F.A. Dry his senior year, said he believes in Dry's program. "The short time I was there he did a lot of butt-kicking," he said. "He got rid of the guys who didn't care. He's running the program the way it should be run."

Four-and-40. That was TCU's won-lost record from 1974 to 1977, the four years Renfro starred at TCU as a wide receiver.

It was appropriate that the low point of Renfro's career came at TCU, because the era in which he played was the darkest in the school's 85-year football history.

When people talked about Horned Frog football from '74-'77 they talked about Renfro. He was TCU football.

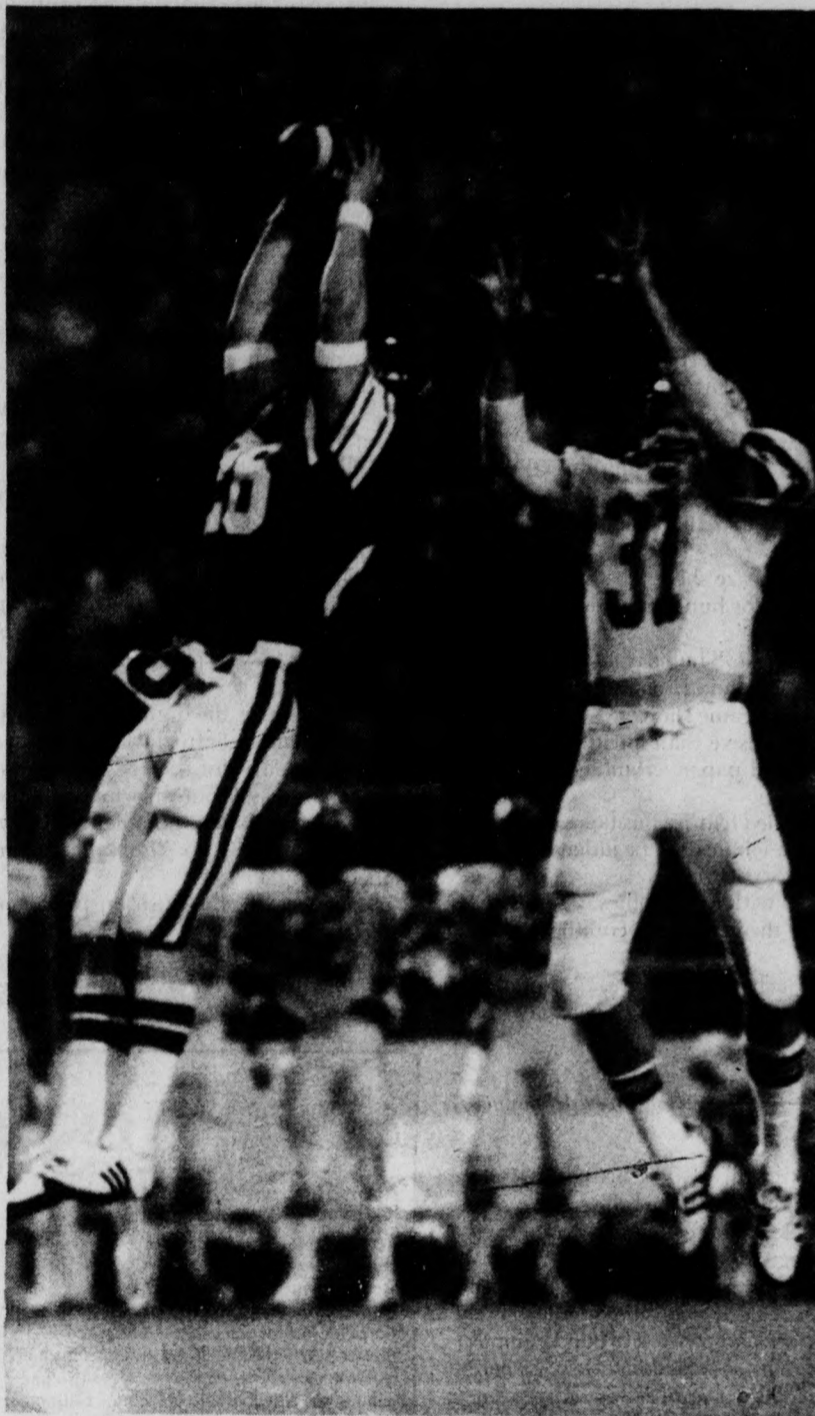
When a roar came from Amon Carter Stadium during those years, a passerby could trust it was for Renfro, who no doubt had caught another Steve Bayuk touchdown pass.

Renfro was named an All-Southwest Conference player his sophomore, junior and senior years. He was named TCU's Athlete of the Decade. He set receiving records at TCU for most receptions (162), most yardage (2,739) and most touchdowns for a receiver (17).

In 1977, Renfro set a SWC record for the most touchdown receptions, 10, in one season. That record still stands, though Stanley Washington, TCU's current star receiver, may challenge it.

Despite all the records and honors he collected as a Horned Frog, however, Renfro told a *Texas Sports* reporter in 1980 that "if the good Lord had come down and told me I'd only play in four winning games in four years of college, I don't think I'd have gone to TCU."

One reason Renfro signed a letter-



ANOTHER MIRACLE CATCH—Mike Renfro caught his way from TCU to Houston, earning a starting position with the Oilers.

of-intent to TCU was that Jim Shofner, then in his first year as the Frogs' head coach, was planning to install a passing offense.

"My main interest in college was to catch a lot of balls," Renfro said.

Renfro said he knew that if he was going to impress scouts enough to get a shot at playing in the National Football League, he'd have to have the ball thrown in his direction.

But Renfro also had Baylor, Rice and Colorado State on his list. He could've gone to one of those schools because they all passed the ball. So why TCU?

Renfro's father, Ray, had something to do with that.

Ray Renfro and Shofner had become good friends when they played in the NFL at Cleveland. The night before Mike made his final decision about which school to go to, his dad told him that if he ever

had another child, he would like for him to be like Jim Shofner.

"That kinda stuck in my mind," Renfro said.

The next morning he signed with TCU.

Of course, Renfro said, he found the losing tough to handle. While at TCU, Renfro survived 20- and 15-game losing streaks.

"It was tough every week to get up for the game," he said. "As the years progressed, it was tougher to put on the pads."

But Renfro, through his dream of playing in the NFL, found a reason to keep those pads on. "Before my junior year, I thought I had enough talent to make a living being a wide receiver," he said. "So that motivated me."

Shofner's passing offense helped get Renfro his job in the NFL.

At 6-foot and 184-pounds, Renfro

didn't have the size NFL scouts look for. And nobody ever mistook him for a world-class sprinter.

The one thing he did have was hands.

Renfro showed the scouts he was sure-fingered by breaking receiving records. He never seemed to drop a ball. He was consistent and reliable.

"The number-one thing is to catch the ball," Renfro said. "I've developed the ability to do that. It's concentration, hands and quickness."

TCU's losing seasons also may have helped him get drafted. He stood out among TCU players. When scouts watched TCU play, they watched Renfro.

Today, four years into his professional career with the Oilers, Renfro is the most recognized TCU-ex playing in the NFL.

In his first three years at Houston, Renfro played on teams that had 10-6, 11-5 and 11-5 records.

All three years, the Oilers made the playoffs.

Renfro said he enjoys the winning. It's a far cry from his days as a Horned Frog.

"There's nothing better than winning," he said. "It's one of the biggest satisfactions as an athlete. The TCU days of losing were really tough. It's a lot better winning than losing."

Renfro joked that one of his biggest thrills as an Oiler was to "be able to get out of bed Monday morning after a game with Pittsburgh."

But what happened to Renfro in the 1979 AFC championship game against Pittsburgh was no joke.

In that game, Renfro was involved in one of the most controversial plays in NFL history.

With the Steelers leading, 17-10, late in the third quarter, Renfro looked as though he had caught a game-tying touchdown pass from Dan Pastorini.

The referee who was responsible for making the call, however, said Renfro did not have possession of the football as he slid out of the right corner of the endzone.

Renfro raged, but to no avail. The Oilers had to settle for a Tony Fritsch field goal and lost, 27-13.

A camera replay showed that Renfro did have possession of the football. But there was nothing anybody could do except complain.

"Obviously, I was hot for weeks and even months afterwards," Renfro said. "I caught the ball. I have no doubts about that. After I saw the replay, I knew the ref had blown it. It got me national attention for sure."

The Friday before TCU upset Arkansas, 28-24, Renfro said that TCU was "on the verge of overcoming it. It's been a long eight years since the so-called 'jinxes.'"

And, for Mike Renfro, it's been a long time since that awful November day in 1974.

etC.

Homecoming celebrations 'jazzed up' in '81

*A drum roll: d-r-r-r-r-tch!
Thank you, and welcome to the gala event of the year: Homecoming.
And now, for your listening enjoyment, we're going to "jazz it up TCU style" with the TCU Jazz band . . .*

There's probably no other single campus event with as much participation, importance and excitement as Homecoming.

A party today from noon to 1 p.m. in the Reed-Sadler Mall will be the official kickoff for homecoming. The jazz band Kinesis will be the feature attraction.

At the party, Programming Council will give away purple lollipops and purple garters with "I Love You TCU" buttons on them.

Homecoming elections for the queen and her escort will be held Tuesday and Thursday in the student center and in the Worth Hills cafeteria.

Homecoming court nominees will be introduced at Frog Follies Friday, and the court will be presented during a pre-game show.

Homecoming Committee chairperson Janet Tyler said the committee is trying to "increase support in all old events and increase additional support through three new events."

Posting of spirit banners, dorm decoration and the kickoff party are additions to homecoming this year.

Spirit banners are made by painting a queen-size sheet. The banners, which can be made by any campus organization, will be hung in the stadium the day of the game by the homecoming committee.

The annual spirit sign competition will begin Thursday at 3 p.m., when organizations may begin displaying the signs around Frog Fountain. Winners of the competition will be announced at the pre-game show.

Spirit signs are more detailed and more expensive than spirit banners. They are usually made of chicken wire and colored paper, crumbled to create a design.

Dorm decoration competition is another added feature this homecoming.

All dorms are invited to decorate their main lobbies and be judged Thursday night.

Another change in homecoming this year is with Frog Follies, a series of 10-minute musical skits that revolve around the theme of homecoming. "Jazzing it up TCU style," Tyler said.

"We felt it was not meeting the standards it should," she said. "A lot of (last year's) skits weren't of good quality and maybe shouldn't even have been done."

Sammy

(Continued from page 1)

Perhaps the most enjoyable story the Hall-of-Famer likes to tell doesn't pertain to sports at all.

"Some guy called me here at my ranch shortly after the 1940 season and said they wanted to fly me out there to Hollywood and talk about making a movie. I went out to see them. Just me. No agent! No lawyer! Offered me \$4,500 to do a 12-part serial called "King of the Texas Rangers," he recalled.

"They gave me a script. I studied it . . . well I read it over the first night until I got the hang of it. We went out the next day to shoot the thing and they shot the middle of it—not what I studied at all, and that was the last time I looked at the book," he said.

"They just told me what to say and I said it. That's the way we made it," he said. "I don't even know what it was about, but I had a good time."

After his playing days, Baugh coached for several college and NFL teams, including Oklahoma State, Tulsa, the Houston Oilers and Detroit. In 1967, he retired from coaching and returned to his 8,000-acre cattle ranch in West Texas.

Baugh was in town for the Utah State game and a golf tournament (he plays nearly every day). He doesn't return to TCU often, but when he does, it brings back many memories, he said.

"You just think about the way it used to be and you look at it now

and it will always bring back old thoughts," Baugh said.

"I've got a feeling that we enjoyed college more than they do this day and time, I really do," Baugh recalled. "It was a lot smaller here, and we had to work around campus for our scholarships. I was here during the Depression, and we were lucky to be able to even go to college."

Baugh became serious when he talked about national football today.

"I've seen too damn many boys want to leave a ballclub and go to somebody else because this ballclub isn't a winner. In other words, he doesn't want to stay there and help build the team up," he said. "I never heard of that in our day. Everybody that started with a team, they didn't care whether it was low down or not, they wanted to stay with that team and make a winner of it."

"In college, it's all a matter of recruiting. I'd like to see TCU come up with about six or seven blue chippers—some of the best darn ballplayers getting out of high school. That would change everything here," he said.

The Cowboy game ended, and Baugh said he needed to get up early the next morning.

Slingin' Sammy was driving home to his ranch in Rotan the next day, hopefully in time to watch Monday Night Football.

This year the Homecoming Committee set up two deadlines: one for the title and synopsis of the skit, and the other for the complete skit. The complete skit was due three weeks before Frog Follies takes place.

"We thought the problems groups were having were that they were waiting until the week before to write and rehearse their skits," Tyler said. The deadline should ensure better show quality, she said.

Another change in the follies was to hire a professional master of ceremonies, comedian Sean Morey.

"We just really worked on making (Frog Follies) a more professional theatrical production," Tyler said.

Though homecoming goes back many decades, Tyler said that most of this year's events have evolved in the last five years. "I guess because attitudes have changed," she said. "Things that were funny 20 years ago may not be funny now," she said.

One thing that has returned from the past is the all-campus party.

This year it's going to be at the Fort Worth Stockyards in Mule Barn 1 at 10 p.m., right after Frog Follies. A free bus service will provide transportation from the student center to the party.

There's no admission fee, but IDs will be checked because alcohol will be served.

A pep rally is also planned for Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the stadium. Coach F.A. Dry and Chancellor Bill Tucker are scheduled to speak.

This year there will also be a trophy given to the group who shows the most spirit. Spirit points will be determined by participation in homecoming events. The trophy is 3½ feet tall and will move year to year to different spirit winners.

And, of course, the highlight of homecoming—the game against the Houston Cougars—will be Saturday at 2 p.m. in Amon Carter Stadium.

But come early for the pre-game show, at which the homecoming queen will be coronated and contests winners announced.

Some organizations complained last year that homecoming was too "Greek-oriented," said Rick Funk, program and fraternity coordinator and homecoming adviser.

"There really is a push on behalf of homecoming to get non-Greeks involved," Funk said.

He said the cooperation, not the competition, of students is important. "The basic idea behind homecoming is to generate loyalty for the university," he said.

etC.

events etC.

Monday 26

- Homecoming Kick-off.** Jazz Concert, noon, Student Center Lobby.
- Horned Frog Golf Classic.**
- Texas Journalism Educator's Conference.**
- Brown Bag Series.** Marni Sandweiss, Curator of Photography at Amon Carter Museum, talking on "Photography of Laura Gilpin," noon, Student Center Gallery.
- Interfraternity Council.** Luncheon, noon, Student Center Room 222.
- Panhellenic.** 3 p.m. Student Center Room 218.
- Interfraternity Council.** 3:30 p.m., Student Center Room 222.

Tuesday 27

- Chris Bliss, juggler.** Reed-Sadler Mall, noon and 8 p.m.
- Student Government.** 5 p.m., Student Center Room 222.
- TCU Spirit Wranglers.** 6 p.m., Student Center Room 207-209.
- Young Life.** 6 p.m., Student Center Room 202.
- BSU.** 6 p.m., Student Center Room 218.
- Vocational Homemaking Teachers Association of Texas.** 6 p.m. Bass Living Room.
- Sophomore Class.** Poster party, 9:30 p.m., Waits Basement.

Wednesday 28

- Unity T-Shirt Day.**
- Last day for ACU-1 sign-up.**
- Little Older Than Average Students.** noon, Student Center Room 216.
- University Chapel.** noon, Robert Carr Chapel.
- Homecoming Committee.** 3:30 p.m., Student Center Room 207.

- Wednesday Night Bible Study Concert.** 3:30 p.m. Frog of Fountain.
- Interdorm Council.** 4 p.m. Student Center Room 202.
- Forums.** 4 p.m., Student Center Room 214.
- Homecoming Rehearsal.** 5 p.m., Student Center Ballroom.
- Programming Council.** 5 p.m., Student Center Room 211.
- Student Foundation.** 5:30 p.m., Student Center Room 222.

Thursday 29

- Homecoming.** Spirit Sign Display, 3 p.m., Frog Fountain.
- Homecoming Spirit Banners.** 5 p.m., Student Activities Office.
- Homecoming Rehearsal.** 5 p.m., Student Center Ballroom.
- The Wesley Foundation Fireside Supper Series.** "The Issues of Life and Death," led by Bill Longworth, professor of christian ethics, 5:30 p.m.
- Nurses' Christian Fellowship.** 5:30 p.m., Student Center Room 215.
- Homecoming Pep Rally.** 6:30 p.m., Stadium.
- Tau Beta Sigma.** 6:30 p.m., Student Center Room 203.
- Time Trip with TB/J.** "Student Activism and Where it Went," Paul Boller, 7 p.m. Jarvis Lobby.
- Campus Crusade.** 8:30 p.m., Student Center Room 202.

Friday 30

- Last Day for Entry Forms.** Intramural Volleyball and Three-man Basketball Tournament, noon, Rickel Building Room 238.
- Homecoming.** All Campus Party, 10 a.m., Fort Worth Stockyards.
- Class Reunion.** Class of '41.
- Nursing Alumni.** 10 a.m., Student Center Room 207-209.
- Homecoming.** Frog Follies, 6:30 p.m., Ed Landreth Auditorium.