

Lumberjacks Big Test at W. Texas

The Lumberjacks are up for this one! Last night they had the best practice the Axers have had this season.

Coach John Symank watched the workout with enthusiasm and made the comment "We're looking good tonight, and should be ready for a top notch performance."

The 'Jacks, underdogs by 17 points now, aren't overly-impressed with that rating. The key to the whole contest may



ED DULEY
DEFENSIVE TACKLE

lie in three big names this week. Mark Lomas, Ed Duley and Bob Stewart.

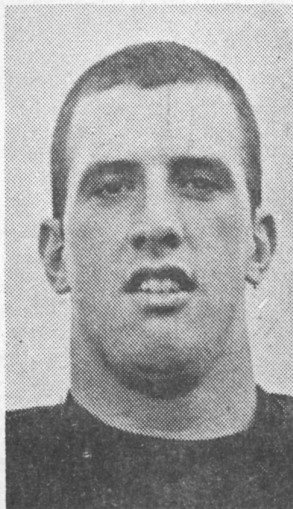
They realize, of course, that the Buffs are a strong team and they will have to play to the best of their abilities if they are to win. But they also feel the Axers have the horses to do it with.

Coming in off a 38-7 win over Cal Poly last week, both the offense and defense having a good game then, the feeling is 'there is much to improve on if the Lumberjacks are to come up with the first victory, after nine defeats, over West Texas.

Ed Duley, 6-7, 260 pound senior, plays left tackle on defense. He played against the Buffs in 1966 when he was a freshman at New Mexico.

When asked how he felt about the team's defensive performance last week he answered "It was good. We picked up the confidence we didn't have before the game and were well satisfied with our secondary coverage."

About his own performance he stated "I started off slow but picked up as the game progressed. I did get a little



MARK LOMAS
DEFENSIVE END

tighter as the game went on, but I think that was just the idea of adjusting to Cal's unbalanced line."

Duley mentioned that "We only used a couple defenses last week-end, but I managed to pick up a new technique that I'm sure will help me at Canyon (West Texas).

Talking about the game Saturday with the Buffs Duley added, "We have great confidence in our offense and about being underdogs, I've played on teams that have been underdogs before and we've won."

He was asked just what he had planned when the opening kickoff took place and he commented, "I'm going down there to play football and we'll see what happens when the game is over."

Mark Lomas, 6-4, 230 pound senior, holds down the left defensive end position. This is his first crack at West Texas but he has his own ideas about what will happen Saturday.

Lomas' remarks about the outcome of last week's contest were similar to Duley's. But he felt the defense kind of drifted after the Jacks took a commanding lead. "We started out with caution and then picked up the tempo" was his reply, "but after we took a good lead I think



BOB STEWART
QUARTERBACK

everyone just played an average game. There was no big contest after that third period."

Lomas felt the defensive backs gave the team the momentum they needed, but overall he thought "The defense really wasn't crisp on the field. We couldn't figure out just why the Broncos kept running at the line last week but this week we're looking forward to those Buffalo backs coming at us," said Lomas, "and if we play up to our team's capabilities, we should do a real good job."

The biggest thing Lomas talks about when they meet West Texas on Saturday is "If we can just key and we don't let down we'll be all right. This is going to be the biggest game of my life and I'll be in there to win."

Bob Stewart, 6-2, 205 pound QB, will be at the reins Saturday. After an excellent performance last week Stewart will be out to upset the Buffalos and probably will go to the long pass to do it.

Stewart's comments on last week's game were, "It was good

to get the starting call. I did make a number of mistakes on the field but I did learn not to make them again. Some of the calls I made were bad, but I didn't recognize it until after the play had been run."

This week he intends to rectify those errors. "This will be the big test for me and with the protection the line is giving, it sure makes it easier to work back there" said Stewart.

"Our receivers are top competitors, especially Bobby Grey and I think we'll give West Texas all they want in this one" Stewart stated as he headed for the practice field.

The practice sessions this week haven't been anything special as far as defending West Texas, because there had been no exchange of films or information from the Buffalo country. But the QB did mention that "the mental mistakes were being eliminated and everyone seemed physically ready to go."

One play stood out in particular in last week's action against Cal Poly and that was when Stewart checked off at the line of scrimmage and went over center for 22 yards. "I could see the guards pulling away from the center so it looked like the right time to give it a try" was his reply about that situation.

Asked if he had been working on a similar call this week he said "I just wait until I get to the line to see how the defense is reacting. If there is a chance it will go I will probably make the call."

As he stepped into the locker room, the quiet spoken signal caller added, "If we play a heady game, eliminate those mental mistakes and just play our best we can win the ball game."