

# Dietzel-Baylor rumors unfounded

BY DOUG WILLIAMS  
Sports Editor

In Wednesday's issue of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram, writer Clifford King released a story that Baylor head football coach Bill Beall was on the verge of losing his job. This is nothing new in college football. But what King did mention was that three people had been rumored as possible successors: Iowa State head coach Johnny Majors; Louisiana State mentor Charlie McClendon; and USC's Paul Dietzel.

Having spent a perfectly delightful afternoon on the telephone, tracking down every conceivable source, I came to the conclusion that a lot of people had no idea what was going on, and the one man that did, King, wasn't saying a thing.

"Dietzel was just one of the names going around Waco," King said. "I cannot divulge my source, but it was a competent one, close to the scene. However, this person was in no way connected with the University. The athletic council meets Monday, then we'll get a definite word from the University."

Another writer for the Star-Telegram, Dick Moore, tried to put the situation into its proper perspective. "These three names just leaked out of Baylor," Moore said. "The situation here is really bad. Baylor has won three games in three years. This year's freshmen won one game. The officials at Baylor say they have only four varsity prospects among the freshmen."

"The school is after a name coach," Moore continued. "That's why Dietzel's name probably came up. The past three head coaches here have been assistants. Bill was the top assistant to McClendon at LSU."

My jaunt around the nation then led me to David Campbell, the Sports Editor of the Waco News-Tribune, who supposedly has the inside track on Baylor football. "These three names are totally far-fetched," Campbell stated flatly. "I have no idea where they got their names, or who the source is. The whole thing is purely speculative. I personally feel that the Star-Telegram just picked their names out of a hat."

Campbell did state, however that Majors' name has been frequently mentioned in reference to the possible position of Baylor head coach. But according to the Iowa State athletic department, nothing could be farther from the truth.

"I know that Johnny Majors is not one bit interested in a new job," Sports Information Director

Harry Burrell simply said. "We play Oklahoma State this weekend, and it's one hell of a big game. That's all we know here."

Rodgers confirmed that the whole thing was somewhat foreign to him, too. "I haven't got any information to give to you, because I don't know what they are talking about. I didn't even know that Baylor was looking for a new coach, or that the old one was being fired."

The confused scene then switched to LSU, where everyone from the head coach to the team mascot thought the whole story was a put on. "Coach Charlie McClendon has two more football games against Notre Dame and Tulane," said SID Paul Manasseh. "He is coaching in the East-West Shrine game, and in the Hula Bowl. The timing of this announcement was very poor from our point of view. The affair isn't even worthy of a denial from this office."

Finally, the Baylor athletic department came through. "I have no idea where all of this came from," SID Don Oliver moaned. "To my knowledge, there has been no contact with Mr. Dietzel or any of the others. He was probably just as surprised as I was when I read the story."

"Any time there's a rumor of a coaching change, everyone starts throwing out names," Oliver explained. "I haven't heard anything even remotely related to the story, even from our own rumor factory here in Waco."

As curiously comical as all this may seem, there is still a topper. While talking to Campbell, I was informed that Texas A&M was considering Dietzel as a possible head coach. "I don't know what you're talking about," Spec Gammon, the A&M sports publicity man replied rather testily. "It is probably only a rumor."

What does Dietzel have to say on the subject? "I'm not hunting for a job. This University has been very nice to me. I like it here at South Carolina. To be quite frank, both schools (Texas A&M and Baylor) have offered me jobs in the past. But I'm happy where I am."

What does all this prove? That a veil of secrecy which pervades the entire subject is hindering any search for the concrete truth, while allowing strange rumors to run rampant. Whoever suggested the three names quite obviously had no idea of what he was talking about. Baylor doesn't know what he is talking about; two prominent Texas papers don't know what he is talking about; three nationally known coaches don't know what he is talking about.

Perhaps Clifford King's source heard an irate fan who got slightly inebriated and began talking about engine fuels and the source mistook diesel for Dietzel; or someone was talking about famous Civil War generals and the source mistook McClellan for McClendon;

or an Air Force major gave the source the idea of looking for a guy named Majors.

In any event, it was a truly enjoyable afternoon illustrating that

the people who should have known what was going on didn't. Maybe

one of the coaches mentioned will eventually become Baylor's new

coach. And maybe Clifford King's source will get the Pulitzer Prize

for secrecy. And maybe Chicken Little's warning cry will turn out to be true.

## GCSS attempts comeback

Two weeks ago the Gamecock Soothsayer was strutting around campus boasting his second highest percentage of the year, .783. One week later he came bouncing back to earth as he recorded his lowest percentage of the year, .628.

Well, at least he can't be criticized for picking USC wrong. The Gamecocks were idle last week. But this week the Gamecocks are back in action and the GCSS must again make his most difficult pick.

Last week's .628 percentage dropped the season's mark to .737. All hopes of finishing above the .750 were dashed by that pitiful performance. This week the Soothsayer is hoping to bounce back to top form.

Paul Dietzel and his team return to the wars of college football as they host Wake Forest in the Cock-pit Saturday night. The Deacons have a powerful running game and they need but 93 yards to snap the

ACC record for team rushing. Also the Deacon defense is steady and are led by a trio of outstanding linebackers.

The week-long rest the Gamecocks were able to get should help them this week. After playing three tough teams in a row USC should find Wake Forest a bit weaker than the national powers they've met in their last three contests. Carolina still has bowl game aspirations and this incentive should propel them past Wake Forest. Carolina 17, Wake Forest 14.

A few years the Southern California - UCLA game determined the Pacific 8 championship and also had alot to do with the national rankings. The California teams have had rough seasons and the Pacific 8 already belongs to Stanford but the Southern Cal-UCLA game is still a big attraction. Southern California 27, UCLA 20.

The others:  
EAST: Penn State 49, Pitt 16, Columbia 24.

Brown 9, Boston College 23, Massachusetts 14, Villanova 27, Temple 21, Syracuse 21, West Virginia 16, Colgate 17, Rutgers 13, Cornell 42, Penn 9, Holy Cross 22, Connecticut 14, Lafayette 17, Lehigh 14, Yale 21, Harvard 16, MIDWEST: Toledo 28, Kent State 10, Illinois 31, Iowa 16, Purdue 27, Indiana 13, Iowa State 19, Oklahoma State 14, Missouri 21, Kansas 16, Minnesota 23, Wisconsin 20, Northern Illinois 30, Xavier 24, Cincinnati 35, Miami (Ohio) 21, Dayton 28, Bowling Green 17, Michigan 21, Ohio State 10.

SOUTH: Tennessee 24, Kentucky 13, North Carolina 23, Duke 20, Florida State 42, Tulso 20, Memphis State 31, Kansas State 19, Vanderbilt 26, Tampa 17, Chattanooga 20, VMI 14, William & Mary 34, Richmond 24, Southern Mississippi 32, Virginia Tech 26, Ohio University 27, Marshall 24, The Citadel 37, Davidson 23, Clemson 30, North Carolina State 16, Notre Dame 13, LSU 10.

SOUTHWEST: Arkansas 27, Texas Tech 21, Southern Methodist 24, Baylor 20, Texas Christian 14, Rice 9, Texas Arlington 27, Lamar 21, Texas-El Paso 14, Colorado State 10, Drake 16, West Texas State 13, North Texas State 16, Wichita State 13.

FAR WEST: Arizona State 42, San Jose State 23, Stanford 27, California 21, Oregon 27, Oregon State 24, Washington 28, Washington State 21, New Mexico 23, Wyoming 17, Pacific 22, Fresno State 14, Arizona 17, San Diego State 13, Brigham Young 28, Utah 16, Idaho 30, Utah State 17.

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