



January 1, 1973

Texas 17, Alabama 13

Attendance - 70,000

GAME SUMMARY



Alabama	10	3	0	0	-	13
Texas	0	3	7	7	-	17

First Quarter:

Alabama-Greg Gantt 50 FG, 10:06, 17 yards in 7 plays following pass interception by Steve Wade
Alabama-Wilbur Jackson 31 run (Bill Davis kick), 4:49, 31 yards in 1 play following pass interception by Wade

Second Quarter:

Texas-Billy Schott 24 FG, 13:34, 71 yards in 16 plays following kickoff
Alabama-Davis 30 FG, 0:03, 66 yards in 7 plays following missed field goal

Third Quarter:

Texas-Alan Lowry 3 run (Schott kick), 4:43, 59 yards in 15 plays following punt

Fourth Quarter:

Texas-Lowry 34 run (Schott kick), 4:22, 80 yards in 7 plays following pass interception by Terry Melancon

OUTSTANDING PLAYERS

Randy Braband, Texas
Alan Lowry, Texas

COACHES

Paul "Bear" Bryant, Alabama
Darrell Royal, Texas

WEATHER

Partly cloudy, cool

Not even an inflamed pair of tonsils could prevent Texas from springing a 17-13 surprise on No. 4 Alabama. The tonsils belonged to Texas quarterback Alan Lowry who spent a sleepless New Year's Eve and at game time was on the verge of admitting that he just couldn't play. For the Longhorns sake, it never reached that point. For it was Lowry who made the difference in the end.

The Horns were spending their fifth straight holiday in Dallas, and were determined to put an end to their two-game losing streak in the Classic. No doubt, Texas partisans were relieved to see Alabama jump onto the scoreboard first when Greg Gantt kicked himself into the Cotton Bowl record book with a 50-yard field goal. Scoring first was not a profitable practice. In the last three Classics, the team that scored first, and coincidentally by a field goal, went on to lose the game. So, Gantt's record three-pointer couldn't have been more encouraging.

However, when the Crimson Tide moved in front 10-0, things suddenly didn't look so promising. The game was barely 10 minutes old when Wilbur Jackson took a pitchout, turned the corner, and zoomed 31 yards into the end zone. All 10 Alabama points were the result of a pair of Lowry interceptions. Steve

Wade snagged both of them, his second return went for 42 yards and set the stage for Jackson's sprint. Billy Schott got Texas on the scoreboard in the opening minutes of the second quarter with a 24-yard field goal, but the Tide's Bill Davis answered right back as the gun sounded to end the first half with a 30-yard effort that just cleared the crossbar. At the half, Alabama was comfortably in front, 13-3.

While everything seemed to go against the Longhorns in the first half, things finally began to click in the second. Running back Roosevelt Leaks, the Longhorns' sophomore sensation, was outstanding. Leaks gained 37 of his 120 total yards in Texas' 59-yard scoring drive early in the third quarter that shot the Horns back into the picture. Lowry got the touchdown to move Texas within three. The score remained 13-10 as the game rolled into the final quarter. Then Lowry began to work his magic. Terry Melancon had just intercepted his second pass of the game, this time in the Texas end zone to kill an Alabama scoring threat. The clock was down to 7:42 when the Horns put the ball in play at the 20. Soon, Texas had crossed midfield to the Alabama 42 on the strength of two long pass completions. Two rushing plays moved the ball to the 34, and Lowry was ready to pull off the day's biggest play.

It was by design all the way. Lowry took the snap on the third and two, hid the ball on his hip and executed the bootleg to perfection. Lowry rolled to his left, then cut sharply to the sideline and outran everyone for the goal line and the game-winning touchdown. It was a gutsy call. Some claimed Lowry had stepped out of bounds at the 10. He said no, his teammates said no, and the officials said no. The end result speaks for itself.

FUN FACT #37

Like father, like son. With his telecast of the 1999 Classic for FOX Sports, Joe Buck moved into the trivia books alongside his famous father, Jack Buck. The elder Buck handled the play-by-play duties for the 1965 Classic on CBS. With Joe's move to the game's broadcast booth on FOX in 1999, they became the only father and son team to have served as the "television voice" of the AT&T Cotton Bowl.

GAME STATISTICS

TEAM STATS	Alabama	UT	RUSHING
First Downs	15	20	Alabama - Jackson 10-64, Bisceglia 11-30, T. Davis 9-20, LaBue 4-15, Beck 5-6, Billingsley 3-3.
Rushing	8	15	Texas - Leaks 15-120, Lowry 16-117, Landry 11-37, Ealey 11-24, Fleming 5-18, Moore 1-1.
Passing	7	4	PASSING
Penalty	0	1	Alabama - T. Davis 10-17-2, 174 yards; Sharpless 1-1-0, 12 yards.
Rushes-Net Yards	42-138	69-317	Texas - Lowry 5-11-2, 61 yards.
Net Yards Passing	186	61	RECEIVING
Passes	11-18-2	5-11-2	Alabama - Wood 5-81, Wheeler 2-57, Jackson 1-21, LaBue 2-15, T. Davis 1-12.
Total Plays	60	80	Texas - Moore 2-24, Kelly 1-20, Whittier 1-16, Ealey 1-1.
Total Net Yards	324	378	
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	0-0	
Penalties-Yards	4-30	0-0	
Punts-Average	5-29.4	2-44.0	
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS			
PUNTING			
Alabama - Wade 5-29.4.			
Texas - Lowry 2-44.0.			

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