

'You Can't Fight City Hall,' Gang Two Assistants Fired At SMU

Southern Methodist assistant basketball coaches Neal Kinlund and Mike Pinkham were fired Wednesday but Mustang head coach Bob Prewitt was given a one-year contract in the wake of a turbulent season that saw the pre-season Southwest Conference favorites sink to a 7-7 record.

Pinkham told The Associated Press, "It's an injustice. I'm a disciplinarian and I tried to discipline the kids and he (Prewitt) didn't. I can't see kids getting by with things."

"Three kids were out drunk before the second Arkansas game with girls and I caught them. I don't think you can win doing things like that. I don't think the players should have been allowed to play."

A statement from the SMU faculty committee on athletics read: "Since the end of the basketball season at SMU there has been a careful re-evaluation of the entire cage program carried on by the faculty committee on athletics with the assistance of Associate Athletic Director Jim Brock."

"Reports of the direction of the new program were made Wednesday afternoon to President Paul Hardin and to members of the basketball squad. Included in the new program will be the appointment of a new assistant

show up late . . . or do anything they wanted to do. There is just no discipline here. I coached most of the kids here as freshmen and they would fire all three. But I'll be better off getting a better program."

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Aggie Football Coach Accepts Texarkana High School Job

Officials at Texarkana Ark. High School announced Monday that Robert E. (Swede) Lee, defensive ends coach at Texas A&M, has accepted the positions of athletic director and head football coach of their school.

Lee, in College Station, said it was a very difficult decision to make.

"I have been very happy in my relationship with Emory Ballard and Texas A&M. I know that the coaching staff here is as fine as any in the country and I'm firmly convinced that A&M is one of the finest schools anywhere. I believe that so strongly that I plan to send my son, now in the ninth grade, to A&M for his college education," Lee said.

For Lee and his family, the move to Texarkana will be "returning home."

"Both my wife, Jeanne, and I grew up in Texarkana. It is where I served as coach and athletic director for three years, 1962-64. My parents still live there and Jeanne and I have many close, personal friends in that area."

Bellard, in Houston where his wife, Mary Kay, is hospitalized,

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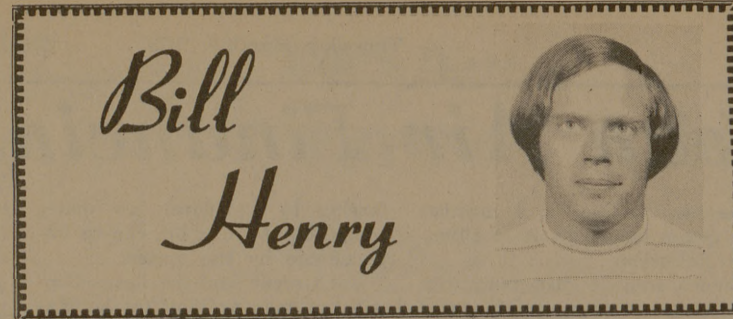
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Bill Henry

Strange things have been happening in athletics lately especially in basketball and football. The most noteworthy being the fact that Randy Knowles didn't make first team All-Southwest Conference in the recent Dallas Morning News basketball poll.

It's also strange that Mario Brown and Mike Floyd weren't even mentioned on the second team.

The first teamers named were SMU's Ira Terrell and Sammy Hervey. Tech placed Ron Richardson and Richard Little. Arkansas placed Martin Terry.

The two names one must question on the basis of play are Little and Richardson. Richardson especially. The only answer is that Tech won the conference and should place members on the elite unit.

If that is true, why were Terrell and Hervey picked? SMU finished the season with a lackluster 7-7 record and lost six of the last seven games after beating A&M in a brawl at Dallas. The Mustangs were a firm pick for the championship crown after tying for it last year and replacing its two lost players with All-America performers Terrell and Hervey.

Where does that leave Knowles? He finished the conference season scoring at a 19.1 clip plus grabbing 9.7 rebounds a game. That put him fifth in scoring and third in rebounding. He outscored Terrell, outrebounced Hervey, outrebounced Terry and outdid Richardson and Little in both categories. You can't blame his team's play. It finished in a second place tie with Arkansas and gave champion Tech one of its two losses and that was in Lubbock.

Then you've got Brown and Floyd. Brown, although having his ups and downs this season, was definitely one of the most exciting players in the conference and finished the year scoring at a 14.9 clip. His performance should have been good for at least a second team berth.

Now look at Floyd. By the end of the season, the sophomore standout was far and away the best guard, with the exception of Terry, in the conference. Only Terry's scoring kept the spotlight away from Floyd. Opponents and fans were in awe of his uncanny ability to stick the ball in the hole from anywhere on the court. He usually took the hard road, taking in where the big men live even though he had an adept touch from outside.

He hit 13.6 points per game and played tremendous defense. He is a true competitor and is the top prospect to land as one of A&M co-captains next year along with Knowles. Having a junior with as much leadership potential as Floyd comes very infrequently.

Maybe other polls will be a little less anti-Aggie and give these performers the credit they deserve.

Another puzzling thing is the reform being sought by Texas Longhorn coach Darrell Royal of late. He has come out and offered to donate \$5,000 to help the NCAA check the recruiting practice of member schools.

Many articles have been distributed quoting Royal that recruiting violations are the worst they have ever been and he wants them stopped.

It looks like sour grapes to me. He and his staff did not sign one single Texas Bluechipper and overall did not have a very good year enrolling new football giants.

It seems because of this that he feels all the other coaches are "buying off" the prospects he wants to enroll at the University of Texas.

A few years ago, my high school days, any normal red-blooded Texas football player would give up his stolen football jersey to play for "The University". That's the way they recruited. They would let you play for them if you were good enough. That's all it took to get a high school prospect to Austin and it has paid off abundantly the past five years.

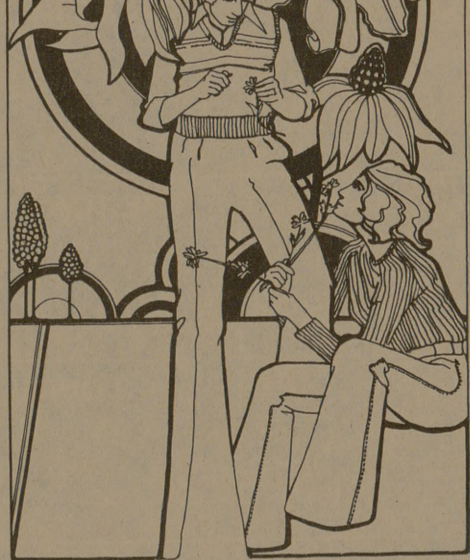
Now things have changed. The Texas coaching staff has to fight for prospects. There are more and better coaches circulating around trying to enroll athletes in their programs. These schools and coaches are no longer a joke and the programs they are selling aren't a loser.

Back in the old days, 1969 high school graduates remember, if you were recruited by Baylor or Rice you must not have been very good. Look at those schools now. They have put resources into their programs and have gotten results.

All schools have better football teams than they had a few years ago but the Longhorn coaching staff thinks no school can compare with its program.

It hasn't lately but things look to be changing to where Texas won't be winning the conference football championship five more times in a row.

Darrell, you're gonna have to fight like the rest of your coaching fraternity brothers to get the top players. They're not going to come automatically like they once did. So, save your money and quit dreaming. Other teams want those good players and are going to do everything they can to get them. There is no more under-the-table money being flashed here than there is in Austin.



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