

the sports

Landry displeased with kicking

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. — Dallas Cowboys coach Tom Landry Monday he was disappointed with the performance of the kicking units during the weekend preseason game with San Francisco.

The Cowboys, who are seeking a replacement for NFC leading kicker Efrén Herrera, missed one extra point, had one punt blocked and another tipped during their 41-24 victory over the 49ers Saturday. Herrera has refused to report to

training camp because of a contract dispute.

"I think our kicking game is behind what it ought to be at this point and I think we need to stress it a great deal," Landry said, calling the kicking units' performance "poor."

The Cowboys returned to two-day workouts Monday following the weekend win at Texas Stadium. Landry indicated rookie free agent Jay Sherrill would handle the field goal and extra point placements against the Denver Broncos Saturday while Ove Johansson would do the kicking off.

"We'll reverse Sherrill and Johansson's roles against Denver and see how Sherrill handles the pressure of being the No. 1 kicker going into the game," he said.

The Cowboys waived two free agent rookies Monday — safety Mike Kramer of Alabama and running back Barrett Paige of Central State (Ohio).

Landry said rookie guard Tom Randall from Iowa State has tonsillitis and has been confined to his room until team doctors make a decision on his condition.

Several veterans missed workouts in pads Monday, but were expected to be ready for Saturday's exhibition game with Denver. They were Larry Cole (twisted knee), Harvey

Martin (bruised hip), Tom Rafferty (strained calf), Jim Eidson (jammed neck), Larry Brinson (strained groin) and Jay Saldi, who is recovering from dehydration suffered in the game Saturday.

Doctors said Phil Gregory would continue to work out just once a day and Rafferty did not work out as a precautionary measure.

Texas coach hospitalized

United Press International
AUSTIN — University of Texas baseball coach Cliff Gustafson underwent surgery Monday for removal of his gall bladder and doctors said he was doing well.



David Boggan
Sports Editor

Picking time

Ah, the smell of freshly mowed Astroturf. Yes, it's almost that time of year. A time of giving odds and placing bets, of standing in line for tickets and of reading about Lou Holtz in the They Said It section of Sports Illustrated. Saturday Afternoon Fever. College Football 1978. Five Southwest Conference teams begin their 1978 season one month from tomorrow. By now, interested fans have mentally ingested as much of Dave Campbell's Texas Football as their systems can hold. They have read the multitude of predictions that have been presented to them and have begun to form opinions of their own concerning the upcoming football season.

So have I. Herein are the Battalion sports editor's predictions for this year's college football season:

In picking a likely national champion, I have to go against the two earliest preseason prognosticators of high reputation. Both Texas Football and Playboy selected Notre Dame to be the country's top football team last year, which it was. This year Campbell is torn between USC and Penn State, while Anson Mount of Playboy picks Alabama.

I like the University of Texas at Norman, better known as Oklahoma University. Quarterbacked by San Antonian Thomas Lott and led defensively by Greg Roberts of Nacogdoches, Daryl Hunt of Odessa and George Cumby of Tyler, I believe this is the year the Sooners boom all the way to the top of the polls. Of course, this won't be decided until after the post-season bowls.

The Southwest Conference championship will be decided much earlier. Successfully picking an SWC champion for the past few years has been no easy task. Predict Texas A&M and Texas wins it. Go with Texas and Houston winds up in the Cotton Bowl. This year, as several SWC coaches have pointed out to me, there are five teams that could win the conference. Most people lean towards Arkansas, and so do I. Barring upset and injury, which realistically cannot be barred, the Razorbacks should be in the Cotton Bowl this year.

Speak of a 1978 Heisman Trophy winner and many people look at LSU's Charles Alexander. Look a little further west. With a good season this year, Texas A&M's Curtis Dickey could be well on his way to taking home a set of bookends a la Archie Griffin.

Finally, one prediction concerning professional football. With the regular season schedule increased by two games, I predict that we will be informed at least 16 times by Pat Sommerall this season that Tom Landry is the only coach the Dallas Cowboys have ever had.

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