

the sports

Cowboys ride Colts

United Press International  
IRVING — In the rubble of Dallas' almost embarrassing 38-0 dismemberment of the Baltimore Colts Monday night there was a great deal of talk about what a different game it might have been if Bert Jones had played.

"You just don't lose a quarterback like that and regroup overnight," is the diplomatic way Dallas coach Tom Landry put it. "Baltimore surely wasn't the team it would have been if Bert had been in there," added safety Charlie Waters.

Their passing game would have been a whole lot better if Jones had played," chimed in defensive tackle Jethro Pugh.

But over in his particular corner linebacker Thomas Henderson, who is well known for marching to his own music, was in no mood to dish out sympathy.

"What can you say? We have a dynasty," Henderson began. "I am not ashamed to say it and I'm not scared to say it. We do have a great defensive team and we are going to beat a lot of people."

And since this game was on Monday night football a lot of teams around the league got a chance to see what a world champion looks like.

Without question Baltimore was in an almost intolerable posi-

tion without Jones, the free spirited quarterback who had to sit out the season opener with a slightly sprained shoulder. That left things to Mike Kirkland, a third-year player with little experience who was in over his head.

But Jones does not play defense and on Monday night not many others played defense for the Colts, who the Cowboys made their 14th straight opening game victim. It was also the 150th victory for Landry, moving him into a fifth place tie with one-time New York Giants coach Steve Owen on the all-time winning list.

Among the highlights: — Dallas rolled up 583 yards total offense, second best performance in its history.

— Staubach threw four touchdown passes, including a 91-yarder to Dorsett — second longest in the Cowboys' 19 years. Staubach completed 16 of 22 for 280 yards and had a streak of 11 straight completions (equaling his own club record) when he left the game late in the third quarter.

— Dorsett not only caught the 91 yarder for a score but broke off runs of 46 and 78 yards. He gained 147 yards on the ground (the best performance in the NFL's opening weekend) and caught 107 yards worth of passes.

SWC membership No. 1 goal

Improving NTSU wants in

By MARK PATTERSON  
Battalion Staff

Just what does it take to become a member of the Southwest Conference? Don't pose that question to North Texas State University Athletic Director and head football coach Hayden Fry if you hope to get an answer. He's been trying to find what it takes for the past six years. And he still doesn't have a solution.

"Becoming a member of the Southwest Conference is our number one goal at North Texas, it's what we live for," said Fry after his team's 49-0 victory over UTEP Saturday night. "But the main problem we have to overcome is the image this school holds. Most people, especially those in positions important to our gaining admission into the conference, don't think we merit conference membership."

"And that's what I can't understand. Since I've come to North Texas (in 1973 after an 11-year head coaching job at SMU) this athletic program has developed into one of national caliber. Our recruiting has been upgraded along with our athletic budget and facilities. I just don't know what we need to do to get recognized."

Recognition is inevitable if the Mean Green continues to improve as they have the past four years. After a disappointing 2-7-2 season in 1974 NTSU bounced back to seasons of 7-4 in 1975 and again in 1976. But 1977 was the year for the Eagles as the team progressed to 10-1 record. Included in last season's performance was a victory over Fry's old employers, SMU, the first time a North Texas State team has defeated a SMU team since 1933.

Even though the Eagles received national recognition, finishing 16th in the final UPI poll, still the SWC teams fail to give NTSU the recognition it deserves.

"I know we can make a solid contribution to the conference," said

Fry. "We can play with any of the teams any day if they just give us a chance to prove it."

"That's one of the problems we face. We just can't get the conference teams to put us on their schedules. But I hope that will change pretty quickly. This season we're traveling down to Austin to play Texas and I'm hoping other schools will follow UT's lead."

"You can't blame Texas for giving us three more games on their schedule. The last time we played them (a 17-14 Texas victory in 1976) we took the largest out-of-town crowd down there that season, about 11,000 people. After that game Darrell (Royal) gave us three more games."

"We also have a contract with SMU, and Texas Tech has given us games starting in 1985," Fry added.

"The trouble with scheduling the other conference schools is that we're given promises that never come through. I'm hoping that will change and the other six conference schools will let us on their schedules."

"Texas A&M is the hardest one we've come up against in trying to schedule. I've tried for the past six years to get a game with them and Emory (Bellard) won't even give me an answer one way or the other. They're the hardest school to communicate with."

All Fry and the Mean Green can do in their quest is to keep their ath-

letic program on the upswing and be patient. If they merit conference membership it will come.

"I know it will take a while to be asked to join the conference but we'll wait," said Fry. "We're just hoping it takes us a shorter time than it took Houston (20 years) or Texas Tech (10 years). And if Arkansas drops out like they've been talking about I'd say we stand an excellent chance of gaining membership."

"But we don't want that to happen. We don't want to come into the conference with our hat in our hand. We can make the Southwest Conference a better, stronger conference with our membership. All we're asking for is our shot to prove it."

Aggie notes

Educational television

Who taught Tony Franklin to kick? "no one," says Franklin. "I picked it up from watching Jan Stenerud (Kansas City) on TV." Defensive end Eddie Heath says Texas had the best offensive line he faced last year. "They executed their blocks better than anyone, although Arkansas also was very tough." Adds Heath, "Our defense this year will play much smarter football."

Early last spring, safety Carl Grulich was preparing for spring training and contemplating his senior season at A&M. Coach Emory Bellard informed him about the freshman red-shirt rule (which was retroactive) and asked if he'd like to take the extra year for which he was eligible. "I was thrilled," Grulich recalls. "I want to play pro ball and the extra year will be invaluable for me to improve my strength and speed. Right now speed is the big question mark. I've been timed at 4.7 for 40 yards, which is adequate but not great. I've added a lot of weights and was on a protein supplement diet and added 10 pounds." Grulich, who did not play as a freshman, is a junior this fall. He's 6-0 and 195.

Mike Whitwell is a walk-on who was given a scholarship last spring. Bellard says: "Whitwell came to us and said 'I can run a 4.5 and run it every time. I'm tough and can play.' We timed him and he ran a 4.5. Then he did it again. He is tough

and he can play, so we put him on scholarship." Defensive end James Zachery is the lone scholarship football player in the Corps of Cadets at A&M. Says Zachery, "Football, classes and Corps duty leaves me no idle time." A&M fullback David Brothers and Texas punter-kicker Russell Erxleben were high school teammates at Seguin, Brothers a running back and Erxleben a quarterback. Nothing odd about that? Only that Brothers was the team's punter.

Craig Glendenning, 1976 co-winner (with Tank Marshall) of the Aggie Heart Award, is in land-development business just outside Dallas with former Aggies Jimmy Dean (Houston Oilers) and Dennis Swilley (Minnesota Vikings) and former Rice Owl Tommy Kramer (Minnesota Vikings). Guess who's doing all the work? Doug Holmes, a 5-10, 227-pound offensive guard for A&M and Bellard says: "When people start looking for an all-conference guard they look for people 6-3 or 6-4, but I think Doug Holmes is playing as well as most anyone. He's exceptionally quick and strong and should be considered for honors."

A&M sophomore quarterbacks Mike Mosley and David Beal weren't serious about becoming Aggies

until they visited the campus. Then they were sold on A&M. Both say football wasn't their favorite sport in high school. Mosley leaned toward basketball and Beal favored baseball. SWC Press Tour member John Hollis of the Houston Post: "Everywhere we went, they said it was the hottest fall weather ever and their team was in the best physical shape ever. All of the squads have a lot of real big, strong players. All of which means we should have one helluva race in the Southwest Conference this season."

With the Southwest Conference Fall Tournament the first crack out of the barrel, Texas A&M golf coach Bob Ellis is busy qualifying 11 players for the six open spots. The tourney will be held Monday and Tuesday at Texarkana Country Club in Texarkana.

The SWC coaches voted for a new format which will feature team and individual match play. The Aggies will meet Baylor in a first round match Monday morning. The second match will be Monday afternoon with the championship match Tuesday.


The Aggies are presently playing qualifying rounds at three different courses. The low six scores will qualify for the tournament.

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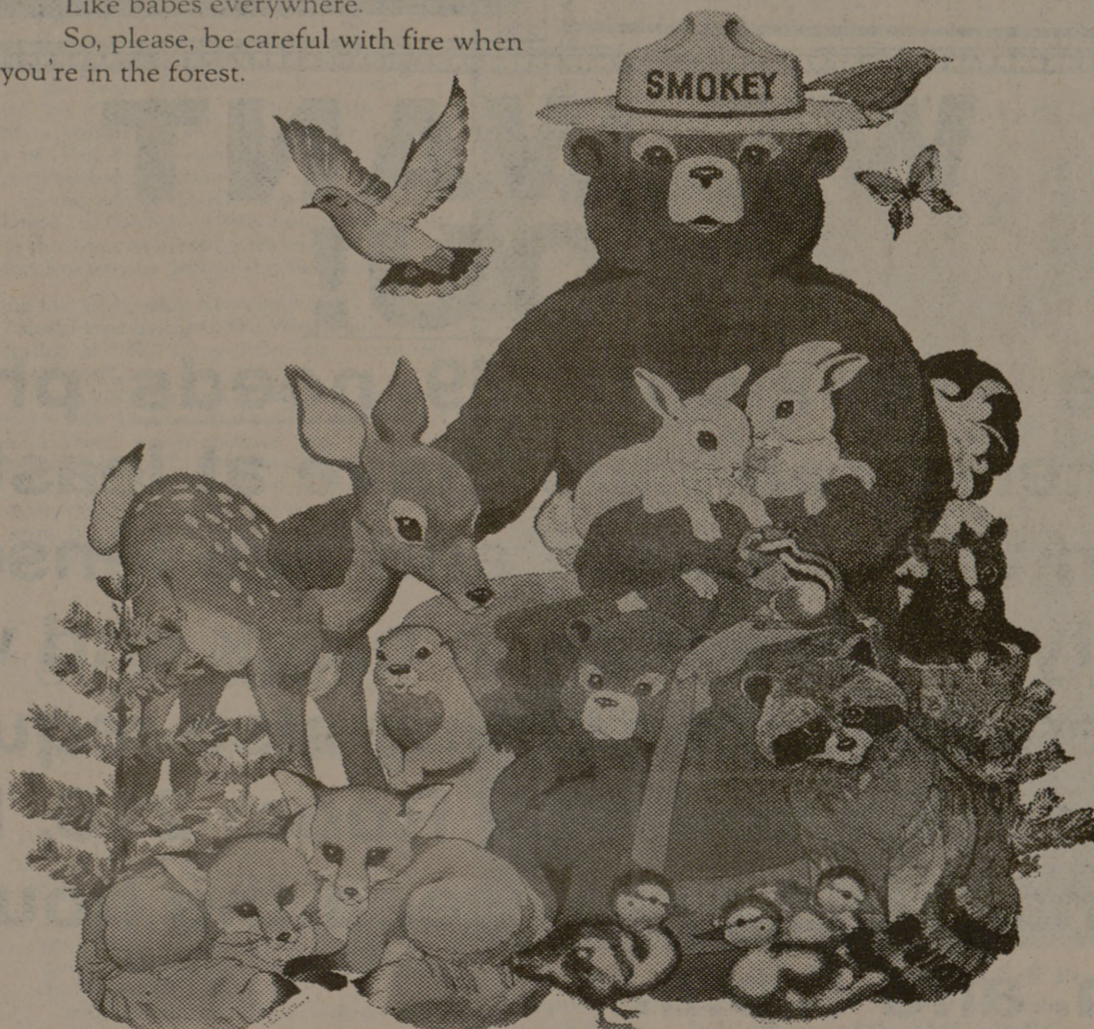
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