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Richards traded

United Press International
DALLAS — Wide receiver Golden Richards, who caught the touchdown pass that clinched the Dallas Cowboy victory in Super Bowl XII, Tuesday was traded to the Chicago Bears for two undisclosed draft picks.

The Cowboys indicated Richards, 27, in his sixth year with the Cowboys, had not requested the trade.

Richards and Butch Johnson, also a wide receiver, were used last year to shuttle in plays from Coach Tom Landry to quarterback Roger Staubach.

This year, however, Tony Hill won the starting wide receiver slot with an excellent spring training and impressive performances in the pre-season games.

With Drew Pearson as Staubach's primary receiver, Hill second and Johnson third, Richards was the fourth receiver on the team and considered expendable.

Richards said he felt he could

have made it back into the starting lineup but indicated he was not bitter with the decision.

"I wanted to help the team, and if it meant being a backup, I would have done that," he said. "I didn't want to cause any problems. I've been a company man and I didn't want to rock the boat."

"I take nothing from Tony Hill. He had a tremendous preseason. He was a great receiver and all those sort of things. But I felt that on the last night I'd be out on the field and it didn't work out that way."

"Landry called me and said it was a difficult decision. (He said) to help me in my career the best thing would be to go somewhere I could play. Chicago wanted me as a starter."

"Landry is one of the finest men I've ever been associated with. He shoots straight. He never lied to me before, so I believe it when he says it's the best for one."

In the Super Bowl last season

Richards was on the receiving end of a pass from Robert Newhouse and raced into the endzone to put the Cowboys ahead to stay against the Denver Broncos. The Cowboys finally won the Super Bowl 27-10.

Last year Richards scored three touchdowns on 17 receptions, picking up a total of 225 yards. His best year in a Cowboy uniform was in 1974 when he scored five touchdowns on 26 receptions for a total of 467 yards.

Cowboy General Manager Tex Schramm indicated the two draft choices the Cowboys received from Chicago were in the "top five."

Schramm said he thought Richards "was hurting" after the decision, but said "that's part of the game."

The Bears, which have had an empty slot on the team roster since defensive back Allan Ellis injured his knee last week and was put on the injured reserve list for the year, indicated they were pleased with the trade.

"We are very happy to have a player the caliber of Golden Richards with the Bears," Bears Coach Neill Armstrong said. "He's been a big playmaker for the Cowboys for the past five years."

Prior to joining the Cowboys, Richards was a premier punt returner as a junior at Brigham Young University in 1971, leading the NCAA that year in that category.

Richards was drafted out of the University of Hawaii, where he had transferred to after his junior year at BYU. At Hawaii he saw limited action because of a knee injury.

With Richards' departure from the Cowboys the squad was at 44, one below the NFL limit. Officials indicated the team is currently talking with an unnamed player who is to be signed and was expected to begin practice with the Cowboys today.

Cowboys watching their helmet sizes

United Press International
DALLAS — Having run up the biggest offensive total in the opening weekend and having recorded the only shutout thus far in the season, what do you do for an encore?

Try not to let it go to your head says the man charged with the responsibility of seeing that does not happen.

"You have to be realistic and understand Monday night's game was not a true measurement of the Colts and Cowboys," said Dallas coach Tom Landry Tuesday. "Baltimore can still be a contending team. And we hope we don't think that we are really that good."

"If we do we are in for a surprise and that surprise will probably come against the New York Giants next Sunday."

Dallas' 38-0 win over Baltimore, however, gave the Cowboys a wad of confidence as the long 16-game schedule began.

"It is the kind of game you hope to have once or twice a year," Landry said. "You have to be sympathetic with the Colts. That's a situation you just never want to be in."

But no matter how tainted the margin of Dallas' victory might have been, the Cowboys still displayed a well-tuned offensive machine and did nothing to lessen their role as favorites to return to the Super Bowl this season.

"I kind of like being the favorite," Landry said. "If people are saying we should be in the Super Bowl that's all right with me. We are trying to get to the Super Bowl no matter what people say."

Landry had praise for the obvious people — wide receiver Tony Hill, whose 49-yard catch led to Dallas' first touchdown, and Tony Dorsett, who put together his best overall performance as a Cowboy.

But he also lauded the performance of offensive tackle Pat Donovan.

"Pat probably played the best game a tackle has ever played for us," Landry said. "And that is saying a lot because he was going up against John Dutton."

"And we have a chance to be even

more explosive on offense than we have in the past. Hill and Dorsett can be explosive. They can turn a short play into a big play in a hurry."

Dallas avoided the upset that hit several NFL clubs on opening week and Landry said the surprises should not have been all that surprising.

"The loss of quarterbacks around the league had a big effect on opening day," he said. "And I think the four-game preseason instead of six games had an effect. No team is as sharp as it usually is."

"There were big plays being made on the kicking game and important turnovers which decided games and when that happens it just shows that teams are not smoothed out."

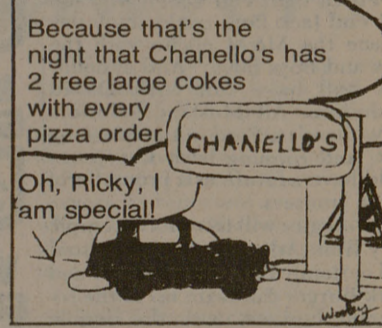
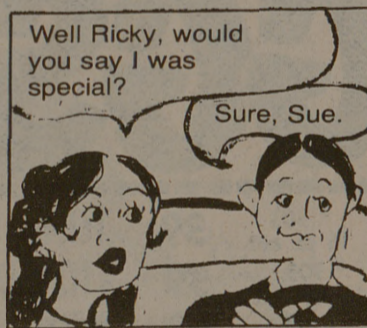
Astros win

United Press International
HOUSTON — Jose Cruz doubled in one run, then scored the game-winning run on pinch hitter Bob Watson's sacrifice fly in a two-run ninth inning rally Tuesday night that lifted the Houston Astros and J.R. Richard to a 3-2 win over the Cincinnati Reds.

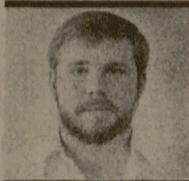
The Astros' winning rally off loser Tom Seaver, 12-14, came when Terry Puhl led off the ninth with a single and Jose Cruz followed with an RBI double into the leftfield corner to tie the score 2-2. An infield out moved Cruz went to third and he scored when Watson, batting for Luis Pujols, lofted his sacrifice fly to center field.

Richard, 15-11, allowed only three hits in pitching his 14th complete game.

THE ADVENTURES OF RICKY & SUE



Something to tell my children



Mark Patterson

When I'm older and have children of my own I'll be able to tell them on my knee and tell them about the time I saw him carry the ball in his first college game.

And then we'll be able to look back at the game and laugh at his falling down on his first two carries and how he was stopped for a loss on his third try. It will be funny then, after he's established himself as one of the all-time great running backs to ever play the game. But it wasn't too funny last Saturday night, the game that marked the premiere of Milton Collins into the ranks of collegiate football. Collins, the highly sought running back out of Blooming Grove High School last season, was held out of Saturday's starting line-up by North Texas State University's head coach Hayden Fry in favor of sophomore Bernard Jackson. Cols made his first appearance five minutes into the contest and on his initial carry slipped and lost yardage. And to add to his problems the 6-2, 225-pound freshman had a total of minus eight yards rushing after his first three carries.

But oh, what a difference a half can make. After settling down and concentrating in the second half Collins ended the game with 86 yards on 11 carries (94 yards on his last eight carries) and scored NTSU's final touchdown of the evening.

So Milton Collins has laid the groundwork for a successful career with the Mean Green. And no one should be more aware of his potential than the Texas Aggies, the team Collins signed a Southwest Conference letter of intent with only to sign a national letter of intent and play for Fry at North Texas.

"Milton just kept his word and came with us," said Fry after Saturday's victory. "Because we're an independent team we can sign players before the conference dates come up. We signed Milton long before Texas A&M did. He just kept his word and came here."

"It was very interesting recruiting Milton. Education was his main objective so we showed him what we had. We did have some pluses that some of the other schools couldn't offer, like a good Black social life and a pretty good radio-TV-film department. We didn't offer him anything that he couldn't see. And that might have been how we got him."

"Many of the schools he visited offered him a lot of incentives to come. We backed off and didn't push him too much and he really recruited us. One school (Texas) even offered to let him wear number 20 and said he'd be another Earl Campbell. But Milton is a smart man. He chose to go where he would do the best as an individual, both on the field and in his life. And luckily he chose North Texas."

Let me echo Fry's statement on Collins and his intelligence. When I went in to interview him following the game Saturday I expected to talk to a nervous, quiet freshman who wouldn't have much to say. Yet I sat down and had a talk with a man who chose his words with care and said just what he wanted to say with straightforward honest answers. I was impressed.

"Texas A&M had just as good a chance at getting me as North Texas," said Collins. "I sat down and evaluated everything and found it wasn't getting me anywhere. It finally boiled down to choosing between the basic offenses the two schools ran. I feel that the wishbone is a dying offense. So I went with the I-formation and the splitback attack because that's what we ran in high school. I felt it was the best for me."

The coaches at A&M told me I'd play halfback. After looking at the people returning like (David) Brothers and (Curtis) Dickey I figured I'd see little action.

With education as my main objective it made my decision that much easier," Collins added. "A&M doesn't have the (radio-TV-film) field that North Texas has. I just felt North Texas was the place for me to go to school and be most comfortable. I came, and I am."

Much to the pleasure of the NTSU fans, who have the opportunity to watch Collins progress through his college career. And anyone who has the opportunity to watch Collins run ought to. He just might leave you with some stories you'll want to pass along.

Rangers rained out

United Press International
ANAHEIM, Calif. — The California Angels' game with the Texas Rangers was postponed because of rain Tuesday night, only the second American League rainout in the 13-year history of Anaheim Stadium.

Tonight's single game was rescheduled as a doubleheader to make up the rainout.

The only other American League rainout in the history of Anaheim Stadium occurred on April 8, 1975, against Kansas City.

An exhibition game against the Chicago Cubs April 4, 1967, was rained out and a power blackout caused postponement of an American League game at Anaheim April 21, 1977, against the Chicago White Sox.

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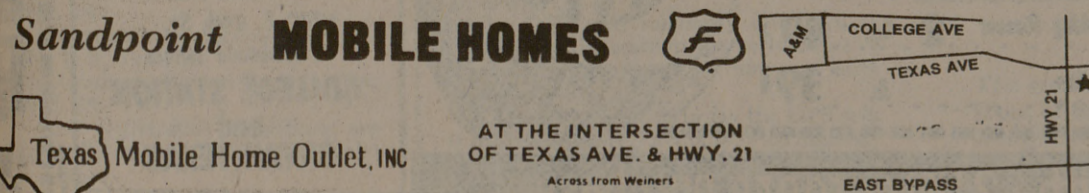
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