Fouke: Father of Coogs

United Press International
HOUSTON — In less than three
months, retiring University of
Houston Athletic Director Harry Fouke will leave behind a brilliant record of hiring dedicated, successful coaches to the almost traditionless urban school. He laughs, however, at his deci-

sion not to hire an eager football coach who became one of the finest in college football.

"Bob Devaney was right here (in 1960) and ready to accept the job," Fouke said. "He had flown down from Wyoming, where he was coaching, and we were sitting around watching the Gotham Bowl. I think it was Utah State, a team from his conference, playing Baylor.

"Bob kept telling us all afternoon how good the football was in the Western Athletic Conference. We knew, of course, that Baylor wasn't one of the greatest teams in this section of the country. But that afternoon Baylor made Utah State look

"It was a little thing like that made us decide not to hire him." Instead, Fouke helped choose Bill Yeoman, a highly successful coach who will begin his 18th season

"I won a few football games," Yeoman said. "But Harry won the war. He deserves credit for building

this fall but his first one without

Devaney eventually landed a job at Nebraska and there he built a

powerhouse 'When I look back, I tell myself I couldn't lose in that situation," said Fouke, perhaps putting into words the theme of his athletic administration. He worked hard to give the school winning options.

Fouke, 66, moved from his job as the athletic director of the Houston

Rangers win, §

Astros lose

owned university near downtown when it began intercollegiate ath-letics in 1945.

"It was something that was pretty natural," he said. "But goodness what a challenge it was. There were 3,000 students. The war was winding down and in November we were playing basketball without any-

From the beginning, Fouke said, getting Houston into the prestigious Southwest Conference was his goal. Hiring coaches who could win was crucial to reaching that goal.

"Right off you notice one thing about the men I hired," he said.
"Every one of them wanted to be a part of building something. There wasn't anything here to take over.' Fouke hired professor Dave Williams to teach golf part time in

"He was always a good teacher. He worked well with students. He related well to them and to his players. He was a tremendous recruiter," Fouke said. Williams won

13 NCAA national golf titles.
Of basketball coach Guy Lewis, Fouke said, "He played here. He was one of those first ones. Guy had just come out of the Army. He was a little older. He was a great competi-tor. And sure enough we won the conference that first year. It must have set a pattern for us.

Working outside sports in Tyler at the time Houston needed an assistant coach, Lewis responded to Fouke's call in 1953. "The logical decision when Alden Pasche left (in 1956) was to move Guy into his position. He's been here ever since,' Fouke said.

The first time Bill Yeoman called Fouke to show an interest in coach-

city school district to the district- ing the Cougars was in the late

We were becoming known at that time as a comer, a school with possibilities," Fouke said. "Bill was that same type person. He has been a most innovative coach.

Yeoman's "veer" offensive scheme was credited by Fouke with saving both their jobs after a 1-5 start by the football team in 1965.

"We were down to our last four games and things looked hopeless," he said. "But we lost a close one to Tennessee, then beat three teams — including Mississippi and Kentucky — and tied Florida State. Those games saved our jobs. Heck, those games saved our program.'

Soon thereafter, Fouke's teams shattered the color barriers erected to keep prominent black athletes from playing at major Texas universities. Elvin Hayes starred in bas-ketball and Warren McVey starred in football at Houston.

In 1971, Fouke saw two of his career dreams become reality. His alma mater — staid, tradition-rich Rice University — acknowledged after 26 years that Houston existed by scheduling a football game between the crosstown schools. Later that year Fouke accepted an invita-tion from the SWC to join. "That was the icing on the cake,"

he said. "But we worked hard to

After official retirement Aug. 31, Fouke said he and his wife Virginia will remain in Houston.

'I've been everywhere in the United States but I've not seen anything like Houston," he said. He leaves behind strong friend-

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ships from 34 years in the same job. "Even Bob Devaney is my friend," he said.

SWC players fit racial mold

sociology study focusing on 1978 Southwest Conference football rosters indicates there are racial overtones in the determination of who plays what position but that the situation stems more from stereotyping than discrimi-

Dr. J. Steven Picou, associate professor of sociology, and Richard Lewis, a black graduate student, found that black athletes are more likely to play the skill positions that require

speed, agility and quickness.

They say racial stacking seems to be the result of a "self-fulfilling prophecy" in which recruiters and coaches may subconsciously be influenced by racial stereotypes.

The result is that black athletes are often recruited for positions such as offensive and defensive backs, wide receivers and ends. White athletes are often envisioned as more suited for such positions as quarterback, center, guard or linebacker.

Picou and Lewis compiled statistics which show that in 1978 in the SWC, 86 percent of the black athletes were offensive or defensive backs, flankers or tight ends, while 14 percent played

quarterback, center, guard or linebacker. Their figures show 47 percent of the white players in the latter positions and 53 per-cent in the category including backs, wide receivers and tight

Racial distribution in the SWC last year was 58 percent white, 41 percent black and 1 percent Mexican-American or not iden-

The Texas A&M study indicated that 43 percent of the "starters" in the conference last

season were black. "It's not the fact that a certain

player is in a certain post 101. 12 is important," Lewis said 0 Page is important is that some happening dynamically in of that position, and that

He says blacks who pla tral positions in the SWC cellent athletes, general qualified than their white

terparts. "The implication is that player who occupies ac sition must be bette white player to be con Picou said.

Ali to tackle Alzado in Mile High

United Press International
DENVER — He may be retired,
he may be slower, but the hyperbole is as quick as when he first became heavyweight champion in 1964: Muhammad Ali said Wednesday he is out for blood against Lyle

The Ali-Alzado bout has been scheduled, and rescheduled, and rescheduled for some time. The eight-round bout is now up for July 14 at Mile High Stadium in Denver.

Alzado, an All-Pro defensive end for the Denver Broncos, has been training hard for the bout in an abandoned firehouse on South Broadway in Denver. He says he will not be embarrassed by Ali.

Ali says he will not be embar-

rassed by Alzado.
"Tell the world he must fall," Ali said in a conference call from Los Angeles Wednesday. "I'm the greatest fighter of all time and no

I'm out to rumble. I cannot go out of boxing being defeated by a football

Ali had scheduled a news conference in Denver for Wednesday but said he could not get a flight out of Los Angeles before today. He reset the news conference for 11:30 a.m. MDT at the Mariott Hotel in Den-

'I am very serious and Alzado better be ready to be hit hard on the jaw because I'm out for war. He's fighting the greatest fighter in the world. I cannot play football, and he would not have a chance with a straight, hard-punching Muham-

"I'm hitting the heavy ball," Ali continued. "He's not a boxer. I am a professional boxer and the greatest fighter of all time. He cannot hit as hard as a boxer. He is in trouble. I want this to be a lesson to all football players — never mess with a great

Ali, 37, who on Tuesday announced his "official" retirement, nounced his "official" retirement, feated by no Denver, said again Wednesday that he would white boy. I can't be delay not return to professional boxing.

defeated by a football player," said Ali. "I'm coming for war. I will be ready; I will be dancing. The man is in trouble. Just tell him to show up. I am out for blood. "I'm training, I watching my weight an exhibition. This is in trouble. Just tell him to show up. 'I cannot go out of boxing being

"He will fall. He will fall. I'm is scheduled to box in gonna hit him hard in the nose, in exhibitions against New the mouth, in the belly. There will be no excuses. We are going to war. I'm talking like this because I'm get-

"I'm training, I'm run watching my weight. The an exhibition. This to me I'm looking at this as some

white boy.

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United Press International ARLINGTON — Oscar Gamble, batting .606 in his last dozen games, Open 10:45 a.m.-1:45 p.m. Mon.-Fri. drove in three runs with a single and a towering home run Wednesday night to boost the Texas Rangers to a 4-2 triumph over the slumping California Angels and into first place in the American League West PIPES SNUFF SPITTONS PIPE RACKS ROLLING PAPER CIGARS - IMPORTED AND DOMESTIC LIGHTERS/FLUID IMPORTED CIGARETTES CUSTOM BLENDED TO Texas won its fifth straight game and handed the Angels their sixth consecutive loss. California which led the division by five games five days ago — fell a percentage point behind the Rangers with the loss.

Carney Lansford gave California a 1-0 lead off Steve Comer in the first inning with his ninth homer and the Angels' final run came in the fourth on Brian Downing's run-scoring single. Comer, 7-6, allowed only four hits over 8 1-3 innings before yielding to Jim Kern — who notched his 13th save.

Gamble drove in Bump Wills with a single in the Texas half of the first inning off loser Nolan Ryan, 9-5, who yielded seven hits, walked six and struck out six. After Buddy Bell walked in the third, Gamble hit a Ryan fastball deep into the right field seats for his seventh homer.

In San Francisco, Willie McCovey's bases-loaded single drove in the tie-breaking run and Darrel Evans added a two-run double in a six-run eighth-inning rally Wednesday night, giving the San Francisco Giants a 6-3 victory over the Houston Astros



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