



It's all in the hat

Tommy Connell (above), a former Aggie from Beaumont, defeated Charles Emley, another former Aggie, 6-2, 6-1 to win the class A Men's Singles in the first annual Texas A&M Open. The tournament, which was played Aug. 10-12, was the biggest ever held in Bryan-College Station and featured top players from around Texas. The 300 players ranged in age from 12-year-old boys and girls to 45-year-old men and women.

Battalion photo by Sean Petty

Cowboys lose and limp into season

United Press International
DALLAS — Charlie Waters, who teamed with Cliff Harris to make up one of the top safety combinations in the National Football League, underwent successful knee surgery Monday and will be lost to the Dallas Cowboys for from two to three months.

Waters' right knee gave way Sunday night when he made a cut in the open field while trying to chase down a Seattle Seahawks' ball carrier.

He was flown from Seattle to Dallas immediately after Dallas' 27-17 exhibition loss to the Seahawks and was then taken to the clinic of Cow-

boys team doctor Marvin Knight in the small North Texas town of Muenster.

Knight performed a two-hour operation on Waters before noon Monday and said afterwards his patient had suffered torn ligaments in his right knee. There was no cartilage damage.

Following the operation a Cowboys spokesman said Waters' right leg would be in a cast for six weeks and that current estimates were that he could possibly regain playing form in a minimum of two, but probably three, months.

In past years such an injury would ensure a player missing the entire

season because once a player was put on the injured reserve list he could not be recalled.

This year, however, the NFL will allow each team to recall up to three players after they have been placed on the injured reserve list.

Waters will be replaced in the starting lineup by Randy Hughes, a five-year veteran from Oklahoma who is considered one of the best backup safeties in the league.

Waters' injury was the latest in a series of freakish ailments and injuries to hit the Cowboys.

Running back Tony Dorsett could miss one or more regular season

games with a broken toe. He sustained his injury when he dropped a bus in Canton, Ohio two weeks ago.

Backup quarterback-punter Danny White will also be out for the next few weeks with a fractured thumb he picked up during workouts last week in Thousand Oaks, Calif.

Linebacker Thomas Henderson was sent home from training camp last week with what doctors called a hiatal hernia — a condition brought on by acid forming at the point where the esophagus meets the stomach.

Meanwhile, the rest of the boys were trying to figure out what was going wrong on the field. They had yet to put together a quality pre-season outing.

Following Sunday night's loss in Seattle, the Cowboy players had a team meeting without the coach.

"We just decided it was time to stop griping and stop worrying about individual things and concentrating on a team effort," Cowboys defensive line coach Stalls said.

"We feel it's time to start moving toward our goal, which is the Bowl."

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