

Pokes beat Giants

United Press International
— The New York Giants learned an old Texas proverb the hard way Sunday: The Dallas Cowboys aren't out of the game while Roger Staubach and Drew Pearson are still around.

The Giants riding a four-game winning streak and new-found respect before a record home crowd of 76,490 completely throttled the Cowboys' league-leading offense for over 57 minutes in building a 14-6 lead. A few minutes later a stunned audience moaned in unison at the Staubach and Pearson aerial show.

"All of a sudden we get 10 points after doing nothing all game" said Pearson, who made the key receptions to set up Rafael Septien's game-winning 22-yard field goal with three seconds left in the Cowboys' 16-14 victory.

"The Giants were fired up all day and we were lucky to have enough left."

Among the most fired-up of New York's players was rookie quarterback Phil Simms, who scorched the Cowboys for a pair of touchdown passes that gave the Giants a seemingly comfortable 14-6 lead midway

through the fourth quarter.

Then the show began. Staubach, who completed 20-of-30 passes for 266 yards, hit Pearson for a 32-yard touchdown pass with 2:24 remaining to pull Dallas within 14-13. The Giants recovered the on-side kick but were forced to punt and pinned the Cowboys back to their nine-yard line with 1:49 left. "You wouldn't think we'd score 10 points so quickly," said Dallas Coach Tom Landry. "We showed the mark of a champion."

Staubach hit Pearson for gains of 12 and 27 yards and then floated a screen pass to Tony Dorsett for 32 more down to the Giants' 12 with 53 seconds remaining. Four plays later with a howling crowd trying to disrupt his concentration Septien calmly kicked the game-winning field goal.

The Cowboys improved to 8-2 while the Giants slipped to 4-6.

The victory marred a fine performance by Simms who suffered his first NFL loss as a starting quarterback. Simms, in his fifth pro-start, completed 10-of-16 passes for 150 yards.

I THINK
A DECENT BURIAL
WOULD BE IN ORDER!



ony backs have tough day

MARK WILLIAM PATTERSON
Battalion Sports Staff

is began as a story about SMU's men running backs and their ss against the Aggie defense yday afternoon. But when I ed writing, the story was only ches long.

wasn't a good day for the rookie ing corps of the Mustangs.

the game's beginning it looked raig James, Charles Wagoner, Dickerson and Lott McIlhenny all four d run wild against the Aggies. Class AA by James's 41 yards, McIlhenny shall fel 40 yards and Wagoner's 33 lass AA, SMU gained 158 yards rush- e Wylie led 26 attempts in the first half. d Class Aggies, going into Saturday's Rose fill had allowed an average of 148 rushing a game this season.

things changed drastically in econd half. Suddenly trailing n points with 5:38 left in the quarter, SMU Coach Ron ridge was forced to go to his air

U's running backs carried the 6 times in the final two quar- taining 63 yards. In the second Wagoner gained 36 yards on six es. James got six yards on four ellhenny gained two yards s only rushing attempt of the Dickerson was held to 16 yards r carries and Michael Charles ree yards the only time he ed the ball.

hey didn't shut us down in the d half, we did," Meyer said. "We ourselves down when we were d to go to our throwing game. ere trailing and we needed to

score quickly to get back into the game.

"We had pretty good success on the ground in the first half, but their line adjusted and closed off the middle. They started running a 6-1 defense, moving people inside and slanting, cutting off our fullback counter play."

The Mustang air game accounted for 170 yards of offense, 142 yards in the second half. Quarterback Jim Bob Taylor, listed as doubtful before the game began with a hip injury, was forced into action early in the first quarter when starting quarterback Mike Fisher was hit on a pass play and suffered a shoulder separation.

"We didn't lose that much with Taylor in there," Meyer said, "but he didn't get to workout with the team until Thursday afternoon. He was forced to play the game with limited preparation. We had prepared to play the Aggies with Fisher as our quarterback."

With the injured Taylor playing quarterback, the Mustangs depended on their running backs to carry the load. Four freshmen handled the duties with each seeing equal playing time.

"We have our running backs on a rotation system," Meyer said. "We do it for two reasons. First, we try to keep two fresh backs in the game at all times. And second, because we use tear-away jerseys and they need to be changed frequently."

Craig James, the 6-foot-1, 215-pound all-state fullback from Houston Stratford High School, logged the most game-time for the Mustangs Saturday. Against the Aggies he gained 47 yards on nine carries.

"When we came out today, everything we tried was working," said James, who gained 26 yards on his

first three carries. "We were execut- ing on every play. But then the bad breaks started to come our way again and that was it."

For the fifth week in a row, the Mustangs stopped themselves with fumbles. SMU fumbled five times, losing four to A&M. Two of the lost fumbles stopped Mustang drives deep in Aggie territory.

"We just can't seem to eliminate fumbles," Dickerson said of the Mustangs' offensive problems. "We've thought about it, but we can't seem to find out what our problem is."

"I think one of the main things is that the coaches keep talking about the importance of holding on to the football. Now, every time we get a handoff, we're thinking about fumbling the ball. I think if they didn't emphasize it, we wouldn't fumble so much."

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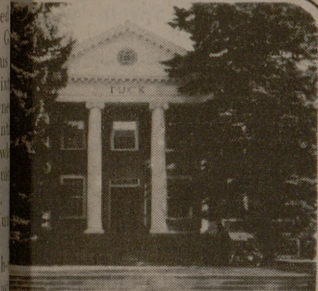
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GERALD CARTER

This week's SWENSEN'S player of the week is Texas A&M flanker Gerald Carter. Carter, a 6-1, 183-pound senior from Bryan, caught seven passes for 117 yards and one touchdown against the SMU Mustangs. Carter transferred from Tyler Junior College last year and is a Recreation and Parks major. Other Aggie notables this week who have received the SWENSEN'S player of the week award in past were quarterback Mike Mosley and defensive end Jacob Green.

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