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the sports

Horns, Coogs ready for war

United Press International  
The game that will decide whether the Southwest Conference race is over — or just beginning — comes off Saturday night in the Astrodome.

The Texas Longhorns represent the last major hurdle between the Houston Cougars and a trip to the Cotton Bowl.

And those two teams will gang up on each other under the dome in what could be one of the fiercest defensive struggles of the year.

"It'll take some freak things to break this one loose from the defenses," said Houston coach Bill Yeoman.

"Their defense is similar to ours," added Texas coach Fred Akers. "They are strong and both have excellent people up front and in the secondary. They are capable of making the big, big plays."

Houston is unbeaten and ranked fourth in the nation. The Cougars are 5-0 in Southwest Conference play and if they beat Texas they would

have to lose both of their final games against Texas Tech and Rice to be denied their third Cotton Bowl trip in four years.

A win by Texas, however, would throw the league race into a possible four-way fight with the ultimate results probably being delayed until the final games are played Dec. 2.

The eighth-ranked Longhorns, ninth-ranked Razorbacks and 16th-ranked Bears are all a game behind Houston in the loss column.

Arkansas and Baylor have their own critical meeting Saturday afternoon in Fayetteville. Baylor (6-2) is enjoying one of its best seasons in history and a win over the Hogs would all but wrap up a bowl bid of some sort for the Bears.

A win for Arkansas and a decision by Texas over Houston, however, would leave the Razorbacks in the best position for a possible Cotton Bowl trip.

Also on the SWC schedule Saturday will be a visit to Texas Tech by TCU and Southern Methodist —

trying to break a five-game losing streak — will play the league's last intersectional game of the season at Wichita.

University of Texas officials led the fight among SWC members to admit Houston to the league. But it has not taken long for those two schools to build up a heated rivalry.

Earlier this week Yeoman was asked if he thought Texas would rather beat Houston than any other club in the league.

"That's what they tell me," Yeoman said. "But I've never gotten involved with these pre-conceived rivalries. I guess I learned to look at the situation at hand when we were an independent and there was very little hoopla surrounding the games. We concentrated on what it took to win."

Yeoman, however, said one thing had changed since the Cougars were admitted to the Southwest Conference.

"My approach to the game since we got in the conference is more conservative," he said. "The confer-

ence settled me down. I don't call the same game to. I'm not quite as wild as I used to be. I'm a little bit more careful. I haven't thrown from our line lately because you live right mistakes longer when you're in a conference."

Texas is a slight underdog game, perhaps because of the playing in the Astrodome, perhaps because of the fact that the horns quarterback situation is as sturdy as Akers would like.

Akers took starter Donnie out of last Saturday's Texas game and later admitted the caller had been rattled.

Freshmen Herkie Walls and McIvor played at quarterback. McIvor threw a touchdown pass.

"We don't have a definite substituting anybody during the game," Akers said. "We just plan for moving the ball. We do substitutions we make will be by plan, but by the feel of it happening."

Bulldogs Gator-bitten  
Horns to kick Cougars

By FRED McMANE

United Press International  
The strangest team in college football this season would have to be the University of Georgia.

The Bulldogs, a pre-season choice to battle Alabama for the Southeastern Conference title, have lived up to that billing by posting a 4-0 record against league competition.

Outside the league, however, it's been another matter. The Bulldogs are 0-4 against non-league foes, including three losses to Atlantic Coast Conference teams.

What has to irk the sponsors of the Sugar Bowl is that they might be saddled with the Bulldogs on New Year's Day. If Georgia can win its last two SEC games — against Florida and Auburn — it would represent the SEC in the Sugar Bowl regardless of what Alabama does since the Crimson Tide went last year.

It doesn't make the Sugar Bowl very attractive to a national television audience to have a team with four losses in it, so you can bet your shoulder pads the Sugar Bowl committee will be pulling hard against Georgia the next two weeks.

Florida could be the team that turns the Bulldogs' Sugar dreams sour. True, the Gators haven't won a game this season, but they've played a much tougher schedule than Georgia and they certainly didn't embarrass themselves against the likes of Houston, LSU and Auburn.

Besides, this week's game is in the Gator Bowl in Jacksonville, Fla., and the home crowd should give the Gators that little extra they need to beat the Bulldogs. We like Florida, 17-14.

Here's how we see the major games across the nation:  
The East

Navy 20 Syracuse 14 — Bill Hurley will have trouble running against Middies' defense.

Pittsburgh 28 West Virginia 20 — Dan Marino might just be the coolest freshman since Tony

Dorsett. Rutgers 25 Army 17 — Knights due for some kind of down after last week's victory in Tennessee.

Yale 26 Princeton 10 — main unbeaten and unranked.

The South  
Florida 17 Georgia 14 — been living on borrowed time.

Florida State 22 South Carolina — Seminoles might be getting cocky.

Penn St. 23 North Carolina — Lions recover from Miami.

Notre Dame 24 Tennessee — Vols know what a Rutgers Irish will let them know are, too.

The Midwest  
Michigan 20 Purdue 14 — ines devour Mark Herrmann.

Ohio St. 27 Iowa 8 — moment of reckoning coming week against Michigan.

Michigan St. 30 Minnesota — Both teams should move the will.

Indiana 36 Illinois 19 — offense has really developed.

The Midlands  
Nebraska 45 Kansas St. — nhuskers won't work up a sweat.

Oklahoma 40 Kansas 8 — Sims cranking up in chase for straight Heisman Trophy.

Colorado 16 Oklahoma St. — Buffs find a Big Eight team to beat.

Missouri 24 Iowa St. 19 — regained confidence in state against Cornhuskers.

The Southwest  
Texas 15 Houston 13 — Long defense should stop Cougars' game.

Arkansas 23 Baylor 12 — backs waiting patiently in the for that Cotton Bowl bid.

Alabama 26 LSU 17 — 'bout the Snake Pit.

Texas Tech 34 TCU 13 — rough schedule has hardened for this kind of competition.

The Far West  
Southern Cal 21 Washington — Paul McDonald's passing will be key.

Stanford 30 Oregon 20 — als offense has been devastated recent weeks.

UCLA 23 Arizona St. 17 — can contain Mark Malone.

Brigham Young 33 Long Beach 7 — Marc Wilson shows off to the West Coast scouts.

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<b>THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese - Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing - Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee		
<b>FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL</b> BREADED FISH FILET w/TARTAR SAUCE Cole Slaw Hush Puppies Choice of one vegetable Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee	<b>SATURDAY NOON and EVENING SPECIAL</b> Yankee Pot Roast (Texas Style) Tossed Salad Mashed Potato w/ gravy Roll or Corn Bread & Butter Tea or Coffee "Quality First"	<b>SUNDAY SPECIAL NOON and EVENING ROAST TURKEY DINNER</b> Served with Cranberry Sauce Cornbread Dressing Roll or Corn Bread - Butter - Coffee or Tea Giblet Gravy And your choice of any One vegetable

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**SMU's James bucks Ponies**

United Press International  
DALLAS — Southern Methodist Coach Ron Meyer denied freshman running back Craig James is entering transferring but James' mother repeated that the former state player is considering a transfer. James, one of several freshmen running backs on the Mustangs' roster, was one Texas recruited high school player last year but recently was demoted to second team running back.

SMU, meanwhile, has been plagued with injuries and is struggling through a season that is not meeting the expectations of the Mustang Mania promotion.

"I'm not as unhappy as I was yesterday but the fact is that I've been told I was No. 2 before I was hurt a lot."

James' mother, Nancy Bickel Houston, was more firm.

"If things don't change for the better between now and the last games of the season, he will transfer. I promise you that," she said.