

Butler on athletic directors' bad side

United Press International
HOUSTON — Twiss Butler is the nemesis of almost every male athletic director whose college fields a major football program in the United States.

She has heard their arguments that football makes the money to pay the bills for "lesser" sports and that equal spending for women athletes would bankrupt athletic budgets and force a restructuring of football programs.

Those arguments, she says, are myths which can be debunked by financial statistics from the NCAA but usually aren't because athletic administrators don't call attention to them and the male-dominated press is too lazy or too close to the athletic programs to use them.

A representative of the League of Women Voters on the Bay Area Title IX Coalition, the League City, Texas resident wants to provide an alternative view about high school and college football, which she said "is something that is so overwhelmingly accepted as masculine that everybody is allowed to be completely babyish about it."

The NCAA asserted that at many schools the profits from football pay for the rest of the sports programs, including women's sports," Butler said. "But by the NCAA's own figures, 81 percent of the athletic departments are not making money. Does that indicate football supports the other sports?"

The heart of the controversy is Title IX, the federal plan for equalizing athletic expenditures without regard to sex.

Butler says athletic directors of major college football programs have ignored implementation of federal guidelines to equalize spending for men and women athletes.

"Women in college sports are receiving more money (since the federal government authorized the Title IX equal spending guidelines) but so have the big football programs," she said. "There has been an increase in spending all across the board."

Colleges without major football programs have easily adjusted to bring their spending in line with Title IX, she said.

She was skeptical about the NCAA's 19 percent figure for athletic departments making money because of football.

"It makes you wonder whether at the apparently successful schools that there isn't some really creative bookkeeping. The kind of things that turn up in their comments show some disregard for being meticulous," she said.

She said common misconceptions held by Title IX critics were that equal spending guidelines would force colleges to start women's football teams or force colleges to support a woman swimmer with the same financial considerations that it does a male football player.

"What we might get for a female swimmer is a better all-around competitive situation and program," Butler said. "We might get the coach put on full time instead of half time."

Title IX became law in 1972 and the Department of Health, Education and Welfare was charged with enforcing it.

"In July, 1978, the universities were supposed to be in compliance. But the HEW did not have guidelines that they were willing to go to the wall for," she said, explaining that that pleased the athletic directors and left the HEW with a reputation of "gutlessness."

The 1978 policy interpretation "was a way to try to nail down some of the uncertainties so that HEW could perhaps get up its courage and go after some of these complaints," she said.

The U.S. Civil Rights Commis-

sion recommended to HEW that it drop a recommendation backed by the NCAA that would have given schools five more years to bring spending for football into line with Title IX guidelines.

"Before they dropped the football exemption, the (civil rights) commission's position with respect to this football exemption was inconsistent with every other position they had taken on behalf of justice under the law," Butler said.

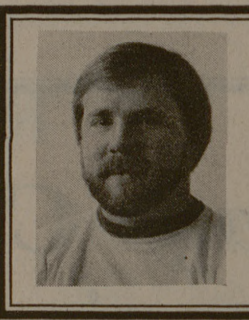
She said athletic departments also have argued they were exempt from the equal spending guidelines because alumni contributions rather than federal funds kept their departments running.

"They don't show us any figures on how this works," she said.

Admittedly not a fan of football, Butler characterized the sport in Texas high schools and the major colleges as "farm teams."

Her views were formed despite having "50-yard-line seats" to University of Minnesota football games when she was growing up. Her father was a Minnesota professor and representative to the school's athletic committee.

"I always wondered where these football factories got their start," she said. "Maybe back at Harvard a hundred years ago some college administrator looked around and said, 'The boys look a little peaked. Maybe if we got them out and ran them around a little they would have sounder minds and healthier bodies.' Somewhere it got out of hand."



viewpoint

By Mark Patterson

Holtz keeps fans laughing while he cuts up opponents

"I'm going to lift weights frequently this year. I may have to fight the alumni. We're going to be better than the prognosticators believe but not as good as the alumni think."

— Lou Holtz, Sept. 3, 1979

If Lou Holtz isn't the best coach in the nation, he's surely the funniest. The football genius from the University of Arkansas has taken his wit from East Liverpool, Ohio to Miami, Fla., from New York, Hollywood, and has come away with scores of fans and followers.

His comedic reputation earned him an appearance on the Tonight Show with Johnny Carson before the 1978 Orange Bowl game. When the show was over, Holtz had won over Carson as well.

The little red-headed coach can tell a joke.

"I don't want anybody to ever do a story of my life and call it 'Red work from dawn to exhaustion.'"

Holtz does know when to joke and when to be serious. Like before the Orange Bowl victory over Oklahoma when he suspended the starting players, among them Heisman Trophy candidate Ben Coker, because of a dormitory incident with a UofA coed. His disciplinary action gained Holtz national attention. The 31-6 Arkansas victory made Holtz a national hero.

In his 2½ seasons as head jester at Arkansas, Holtz has compiled a 28-4-1 record, a .848 winning percentage. In his two full seasons, the Razorbacks have gone to two post-season bowl games.

"I didn't care when the fans started throwing oranges onto the field. I'm just glad we weren't going to the Gator Bowl."

Bowl-game invitations have followed Holtz throughout his coaching career. In his first head coaching position — three years at William and Mary — Holtz took the Indians to a 23-20 record and the Tangerine Bowl in 1970.

In 1972, Holtz moved on to North Carolina State University where he turned the Wolfpack into a national power. In his four years in Raleigh, the Holtz-led Wolfpack won 33 games and appeared in four straight bowl games.

Holtz was hired away from N.C. State by the New York Jets in 1977. In his one year as a professional coach, Holtz led the Jets to a 3-9 record. He quit at the end of the season.

Frank Broyles, then the Arkansas coach and athletic director, offered Holtz a chance to return to college football as the coach of Arkansas. Holtz jumped at the chance and became a Razorback.

"Our practices have been so physical, our players are calling it Fayette-Nam."

Holtz brings the Razorbacks to Kyle Field Saturday in quest of an eighth-straight bowl game. Since coming to Arkansas, Holtz has never lost in the month of November. If the trend continues, the Razorbacks will go "bowling" again this season.

With a 5-1 conference mark, a victory over co-leader Texas and share of first place in the Southwest Conference, the Razorbacks are very much in this year's Cotton Bowl picture. Because of their late following, if the Hogs do not make it to the Cotton Bowl, bowl representatives are saying that the Razorbacks will receive an invitation to the Sugar Bowl.

But Holtz is only thinking about the Cotton Bowl and the SWC championship, a title that has eluded him. The Aggies and SMU are the only hurdles in his quest for both.

Whether he makes it to Dallas on New Year's Day or not, you can bet Holtz will take whatever happens in stride.

"I really only ever wanted two things in my life. First, I never really wanted to be rich. Second, I never really wanted to be poor. Actually, all I ever genuinely wanted was to be the best in my field."

Rockets rout Golden State

United Press International
HOUSTON — Calvin Murphey sparked the Houston Rockets to a big early lead, and Dwight Jones and Moses Malone combined for 37 points Wednesday night to lead a 133-92 rout of the poor-shooting Golden State Warriors.

The Warriors, 7-8, hit only 35.7 percent of their shots in the first half. Turvis Short scored 16 points for the Warriors.

Houston had not won by more than eight points this season, but Murphey gave them a big lift in the game's early minutes, scoring 12 quick points and diving on the floor to intercept passes. Murphey scored 20 points before leaving the game with a bruised knee in the fourth quarter.

Malone had 12 rebounds to go with his 18 points. Rudy Tomjanovich chipped in 14 points, Ricky Barry added 15 and Robert Reid scored 12.

The five-game winning streak was the first of that length for the Rockets since March 1977.

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Hogs prepared for Aggies

United Press International
FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — Arkansas Coach Lou Holtz said Wednesday the Razorbacks are in good luck to meet Texas A&M Saturday. Holtz said the Razorbacks will need to pay close attention to the kicking game.

Running back Gary Anderson turned to practice Wednesday being sidelined with a neck injury. Noseguard Alfred Mohammed and defensive tackle Jim Elliott both had limited play. Mohammed had a cium deposit in his right arm. Elliott pulled a groin muscle at practice Tuesday.

Cornerbacks Trent Bryant and Hugh Jernigan are listed as doubtful for the Aggie game. Freshman Ronald Matheny and walk-on man Ken Dameron will start at corners if Bryant and Jernigan play, Holtz said.

Linebacker Mike Massey has a knee injury and is also doubtful for Saturday's game.

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