

Hogs hoping to meet Sooners

United Press International
There have been only two things the people over at the Cotton Bowl have been afraid of for their Jan. 1 game:

— A chill factor of minus 14 like they had last New Year's Day.
— And Texas vs. Oklahoma.

They still have to sweat out the weather, but that second possibility has been wiped out. Neither the Longhorns nor Sooners, who meet each other in the Cotton Bowl every October, will be making a return appearance this season.

A Texas-Oklahoma rematch had been one of the chances Cotton Bowl officials took when they made a deal to take the runner-up in the Big Eight Conference.

"But it was a chance we had to take," one of them said last week. "You just look around and see what was left for us to do."

Oklahoma took the heat off Saturday afternoon, however, by knocking off previously unbeaten Nebraska, 17-14, and earning a trip to the Orange Bowl as winner of the Big Eight. That leaves Nebraska coming to the Cotton Bowl Jan. 1.

Then, on Saturday night, Arkansas' 31-7 victory over SMU in Little Rock not only wrapped up at least a share of the Southwest Conference championship for the Razorbacks, but it knocked Texas — which suf-

fered two key injuries in its win over Baylor — out of the Cotton Bowl race.

If Texas wins next Saturday against Texas A&M, Arkansas will be the host team in the Cotton Bowl. If Texas loses and Houston beats Rice, Houston will come to Dallas.

So there is another week to wait before the bowl is filled, but if it turns out to be an Arkansas-Nebraska matchup it would be just fine with the merchants of Dallas.

Arkansas and Nebraska have two of the largest, most loyal followings in college football and businessmen in Dallas still remember with fondness the matchup between those two teams in the 1965 Cotton Bowl.

Arkansas, Texas and Houston all won their games last weekend by doing what they do best — the Razorbacks seizing on enemy errors and moving the ball crisply, the Longhorns bashing the opponent over the head with their awesome defense and the Cougars coming from behind, as they have had to do in six of their nine victories this year.

The Hogs ran over mistake-prone SMU, 31-7, with quarterback Kevin Scanlon throwing three touchdown passes; the Horns shut out Baylor, 13-0, allowing only two first downs; and the Cougars overcame a 10-0 deficit against Texas Tech on Friday to win, 14-10. In the other game on

the schedule, Texas A&M had a surprisingly easy time whipping TCU, 30-7.

That left Arkansas, Houston and Texas in a virtual tie for the league lead with one conference loss, but Arkansas is through with its season and thus can be declared a champion.

"We have our share of the title," said Arkansas coach Lou Holtz. "Someone else may share it with us. When something is that good, maybe it ought to be shared."

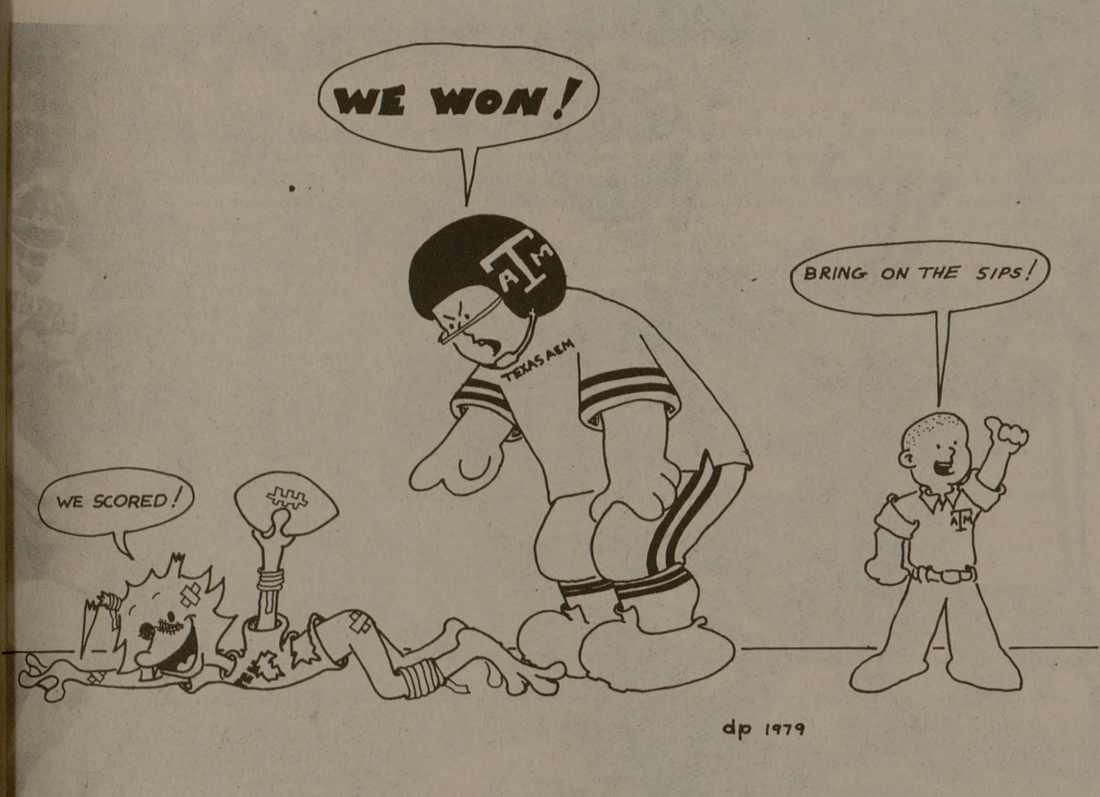
"It was great to win a championship, especially in a year the league is considered tougher than it's ever been."

In Austin, the Longhorns were extra impressive on defense, but A.J.

Jones, the conference's second leading rusher, suffered a damaged knee and will miss not only the finale against Texas A&M but will not play in the Longhorn's bowl appearance as well. Texas also lost backup running back Rodney Tate with a separated shoulder.

If the favorites — Texas and Houston — win next week, the Longhorns will take on either Alabama or Georgia in the Sugar Bowl and Houston will face Washington in the Sun Bowl.

Should Texas be upset, however, Houston would be in the Cotton Bowl, Arkansas would go to the Sugar Bowl and Texas would be the Sun Bowl team.



dp 1979

World comes to Fort Worth

United Press International
FORT WORTH — In the space of a few magic moments in Montreal three years ago, she became one of the best known athletes in the world. Her brilliant — to the judges, perfect — performances in the 1976 Olympics made her an international heroine and further enhanced the popularity of gymnastics around the globe.

Now, having surrendered her precocity and having matured from a waif-like little girl into a maturing young woman, Nadia Comaneci goes to the top again beginning next week at the World Gymnastics Championships.

The championships, being conducted outside Europe for the first time in the 80 years of their history, commence next Sunday with opening ceremonies featuring 34 nations. Not only will the team, all-around and apparatus titles be decided during the week-long competition, but the event will determine which 12 nations qualify for the Moscow Olympics.

The championships have come to the United States, at least in part, because of a change in the frequency of the event. Previously the world championships have been held every four years. Now, because of the popularity of gymnastics, they are to be held in every odd numbered year. That alternation means that for the first time the world meet will be held in back-to-back years.

"We felt there were few countries that could put together the machinery for hosting these games on such short notice," said Frank Bare, vice president of the International Gymnastics Federation (FIG). "We felt it was our turn to host these games, we were ready and we felt it was time for the Europeans to say, 'OK, America, here's your chance.'"

The city of Fort Worth was chosen as the host site because of the cavernous Tarrant County Convention Center, which will not only accommodate the actual competition, but which will also house all the training

facilities needed by the world's best gymnasts.

The Soviet Union's Nicolai Andrianov is expected to continue his stranglehold on the men's all-around championship and the Russians and Japanese should have a furious fight for the team title.

But it will be the women who draw the most interest and the highlight there will be the attempted comeback of Comaneci.

Between her success in Montreal and the 1978 world championships in Strasbourg, Comaneci gained 20 pounds and grew 3½ inches. She finished fourth in the all-around and her domination of the sport appeared to be over.

But by the time the European championships arrived last May in Copenhagen, she had lost 10 of those excess pounds and again was crowned champion — capturing the all-around, the vault and the floor exercise.

Now, in preparation for the 1980 Olympics, she will try to prove she is again best in the world.

"I saw her last in Strasbourg and she was not in shape at all," said Linda Mulvihill, who will coach the American women at the world championships. "She was heavy then. But I saw her on television recently and she has lost a lot of weight."

"She really looks strong and I think she will win. In gymnastics you

can't stay at your peak forever. People that aren't in the sport don't understand."

"After Montreal, when she made all those 10's, she had been competing at such a high peak level for so long, her body and mind had to take a rest and a break."

"She is at the age where your body puts on extra weight and makes it harder to come back. But I think she will."

"The Russians should win the team title in the women's competition and the Romanian's should be second. We'd like to try to challenge East Germany for third."

"Japan has traditionally won the team title in the men, but we don't know what they have in the way of new talent. The Japanese and Russians should battle for first place. Our basic goal is for third and the East Germans will be our biggest competition."

Kurt Thomas, who won a gold medal in the floor exercise at last year's world championships, and who finished sixth overall, is America's best hope for a major breakthrough.

"We would like to think Kurt has a chance, particularly since the championships are in this country," said Bare. "But Andrianov is defending Olympic and world champion and he has to be the favorite."

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Monday, November 26, 1979
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ENTRIES CLOSE:
Tuesday, December 4, 1979
5:00 p.m. DeWare Fieldhouse
ENTRY FEE: \$5.00 Per Team

PLAY BEGINS:
Wednesday, January 16, 1980
A-B: Corps, Fish, Men's and Women's Dorms and Independent, and Co-Rec. C: Men's, Women's and Co-Rec.

There will be a Team Captain's Meeting
Thursday, December 12, 5:15 p.m. Rudder Theater.

Round Robin League Play in Classes A, B and C, with all teams qualifying for single-elimination playoffs in classes A, B, and C (No class C awards).