

Kush suit continues in Arizona

United Press International
PHOENIX, Ariz. — The father of the football player who is suing Coach Frank Kush for \$2.2 million testified this week his son seemed "ashamed and humiliated" after alleged run-ins with Kush and an assistant coach in 1978.

Gordon Rutledge, whose son, Kevin, played for Kush at Arizona State University, said his son was "not enjoying good health" because of injuries suffered in an automobile accident and wanted to be red-shirted.

"He was not the normal outgoing boy he had been all his life," the elder Rutledge said. "I thought he felt ashamed and humiliated."

The suit charged Kush punched the younger Rutledge after a poor punt during a game at the University of Washington in 1978 and Kush and former assistant coach Bill Maskill, also a defendant, harassed him into quitting the ASU team.

Under cross-examination, the elder Rutledge, employed in the insurance business, said before the first game of the 1978 season his son "looked tired, he looked sick, he looked like he had been mistreated and didn't know what to do about it."

"He appeared to me to be confused. His words to me were he needed to get his head screwed on right. He needed a fresh start."

While testifying his son appeared to have health problems related to the automobile accident in January 1978, he visited a doctor only twice. One of those visits, he said, was in February 1978 and the second visit was not until a year later.

Rutledge also testified it was a week after the alleged punching incident his son first showed him the cut lip he said he suffered.

"He pulled his lip back and said 'Coach Kush hit me' and showed me the laceration," the elder Rutledge said.

Kevin Rutledge had testified he was not allowed to punt in any more regular season games after the alleged punching incident and was not allowed to work with any particular group of players during pre-game workouts.

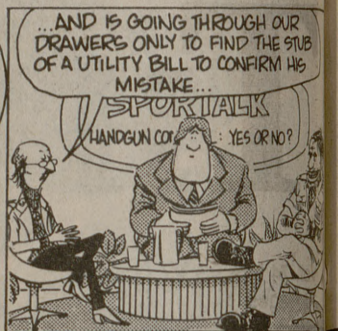
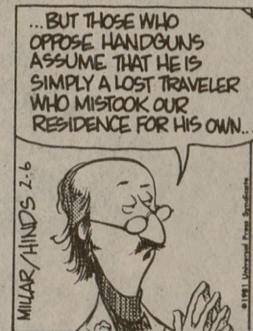
The elder Rutledge said he was "infuriated" by his son's treatment at the next home game.

"He was wandering around the field, trying to make himself unseen, I guess," he said.

Kush finished up two days of testimony on Wednesday, but will be recalled to the witness stand when the defense begins its case.

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Nastase is nasty once again

United Press International
TORONTO — Ilie Nastase has been loud before, he has resorted to certain obscene hand signals before and he has been heavily penalized for his conduct before. But seldom, if ever, has his behavior elicited a scold from John McEnroe.

Nastase, the 34-year-old truant of tennis, was assessed a default in second set of his opening-round match against McEnroe Wednesday as the \$500,000 tennis extravaganza got off to a tempestuous though not exactly inspiring start.

"He went too far," said McEnroe who has been on the receiving end of a few penalties himself. "I was beating him badly but it (Nastase actions) can bother you subconsciously and cause you to lose your concentration."

Nastase was given the default after he initiated a series of intense disputes with match umpire Karl Allison during the second game of the second set.

The Romanian pro, punctuating his remarks with obscene gestures, was given five successive warnings. On the third warning, under the Grand Prix tournament code of conduct, Allison fined him one point.

After Nastase failed to temper his behavior, he was penalized a game, then, after another warning, he was penalized a set thus making McEnroe the victor.

Nastase did not deny using abusive language, but contended officials "treat players like slaves" and insisted his gestures were misunderstood.

"He doesn't know what this means," said Nastase, extending a fist with only the pinky of his right hand extended. "I ask you: Is that an obscene gesture?"

Pictures taken during the ruckus showed it was another finger that had been extended.

There were other matches Wednesday that reached their conclusions through competition.

Jimmy Connors avenged his loss to Wojtek Fibak of Poland last week by rallying from a three-game deficit

in the first set to post a 6-3, 6-4 victory.

Bjorn Borg, having trouble with a wayward serve, got by Sandy Mayer, 6-4, 3-6, 6-2, while Vitas Gerulaitis outlasted Johan Kriek, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3.

Connors had been upset at losing to Fibak for the first time in his career in the quarter-finals of the U.S. Indoor championships last week. And Fibak seemed on the verge of repeating that upset when he ran off 12 straight points in the first set.

"I think I was so hyped up that I was giving away points. I had to slow down a bit," said the Connors.

The 28-year-old Floridian gained

control of the match when he hit Fibak in the fourth game of the set to begin a streak of six consecutive games.

Mayer was the first player tried for the \$25,000 bounty for hitting Borg.

"Borg has unbelievable return said the 28-year-old right-hander who attended the post-match conference with a bandaged elbow.

He has beaten the 24-year-old Borg once, but that was before (Borg) hit puberty," he said.

The tournament runs all through this weekend.

Tennis teams in action here today and Saturday

By RICK STOLLE

Battalion Staff

Both Texas A&M University tennis teams are in action this weekend as the women begin their spring competition and the men have their second and third matches.

The men play both today and Saturday. This afternoon, North Texas State University comes to the Omar Smith Tennis Center. The match is scheduled to begin at 1:30.

"North Texas is a quality team," said coach David Kent. They are tough and can get rowdy when they are yelling for a teammate.

Kent said he believes the Ags are ready for the challenge.

"It will be a great match," he said. "At least we will find out how we stand early in the season."

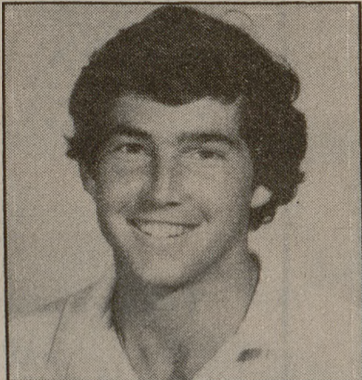
Kent said he enjoys tough challenges early in the season in order to find out how his team will do later.

"We have quality players on both the men's and women's teams," he said. "If we can find out how they stand early, we will be on the right road to success."

The line-up for the men will be: Brian Joelson, Reid Freeman, Trey Schutz, Max King, Ron Kowal and Tom Judson in singles.

In doubles, the teams are scheduled to be: Joelson-Freeman, Kowal-Judson and Schutz-Leonard Smith.

On Saturday, both teams see action beginning at 1:30 p.m. The men take on East Texas State University and the women play Southwest Texas University.



Trey Schutz

An interesting match form has developed with both matches beginning at the same time. Doubles will be played first with the teams alternating courts.

The men will have court 1, the women court 2 and so on.

"We thought it would be a good idea to give the fans a treat and let them see both teams in action at the same time," said Kent.

He said the first singles would be played on the first court available and they would again alternate courts.

"They (East Texas) have all new personnel, so we really can't say how well they do," he said.

The Ags will change the line-up against East Texas. Trey Schutz, Max King, Brian Joelson, Reid Freeman, Ron Kowal and Tom Judson will be the singles players.

The doubles teams are: Kowal-Judson, Joelson-Freeman and King-Leonard Smith.

"Our whole team is very even," said Kent. "This is an added bonus so I can play with the line-up and see how they will do at different positions."

Kent said Smith has improved tremendously and has won the right to play in the doubles matches for both days.

"He is our most improved doubles player," he said. "He works hard and deserves the chance."

"He is a welcome addition to the doubles teams."

The match with Southwest Texas will be the first match of the young spring season for the women.

"We are really looking forward to this match," said coach Jan Cannon. "The girls are getting tired of playing themselves and need the competition."

Cannon said the two days of rain have hurt their preparation for the match but she believes the team is ready.

The women's line-up will be: Lilianna Fernandez, Pam Hill, Maylen Hooten, Amy Closs, Sonja Hutcherson and Laura Hanna.

The doubles teams are: Closs-Hanna, Hill-Hutcherson and Fernandez-Hooten.

The Omar Smith Tennis Center is located near the police station on the campus of Texas A&M. Admission is free.

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