

Sports

Oilers shut down Browns in tough defensive battle

United Press International
CLEVELAND — A lot can happen in the remaining 14 games of the NFL season, obviously, but hardly anyone expected the AFC Central Division standings to look like they do today: Houston and Cincinnati tied with 2-0 records and Cleveland and Pittsburgh tied at 0-2.

The Oilers almost completely shut down the Browns offense Sunday for a 9-3 victory, but Houston coach Ed Biles isn't ready to reserve rooms in Pontiac, Mich., quite yet.

"It's a long year and two games don't make a season," he said. "A lot of people are going to write off Pittsburgh and Cleveland but it's much too early for that."

The Browns dropped their first two games last year, including a 16-13 decision to Houston in the second game, and still went on to win the AFC Central title with an 11-5 record.

However, if Cleveland is to repeat, Coach Sam Rutigliano must locate his missing offense, which has scored only two touchdowns in two games.

"I think we were putting a little too much pressure on offense with all those passes," Rutigliano said.

He was speaking of the 53 passes by Brian Sipe, the second week in a row Sipe has thrown more than 50 times.

Though he completed 25 for 234 yards, only four were to wide receivers and the Oilers

defense pounded him the entire day. "We were in a '3-8' defense most of the afternoon, keeping those defensive backs deep," said Houston safety Mike Reinfeldt. "Our goal was to take away all the deep passes and make (Sipe) dump it off to his running backs."

"That way, they have to work to sustain a 70-yard drive and a lot of things can happen." Sipe, who always has had problems with the Oilers — even when Cleveland has won — said the game was "typical" of recent battles between the two clubs.

"We moved the ball better than we have against them in the last few years, but we couldn't get the big play to score," he said. "They did pretty well at getting people in my face. I had to play games with my eyes so that they didn't have people in them."

The Oilers sacked Sipe four times for 31 yards in losses, including twice in a row when the Browns were driving early in the third quarter.

The first half ended in a 3-3 tie, with Houston's Toni Fritsch kicking a 42-yard field goal in the first quarter and Cleveland's Dave Jacobs hitting from 29 yards out late in the second.

Fritsch added two more field goals in the second half — from 27 and 36 yards — for the winning points.

Jacobs, who won a spot on the roster when

13-year veteran Don Cockroft was cut the final week of summer camp, had two attempts blocked by Elvin Bethea and another was wide to the left.

Bethea, who has played more games for the Oilers than anyone else in the team's history, was jubilant about the blocked kicks.

"Never in my life have I blocked two field goals," he said. "It's not too often you do that at my age (35)."

Bethea said the two kicks had a low trajectory, an observation which was shared by Fritsch, who also said Jacobs took too much time.

"He is too slow," said Fritsch. "He has to learn to speed up his approach and get under the ball. It's tough to get kicks up on that field, anyway."

Rutigliano said he was pleased, though not surprised, with the defense.

"We said all along in the preseason that when we play with intensity, our defense can be very good," he said.

The Browns topped the Oilers in virtually every offensive category and put a clamp on Earl Campbell, but it was little consolation for Rutigliano.

"It was no surprise containing Campbell, I didn't do any backflips," he added.

Campbell gained only 42 yards in 17 carries and was removed in the fourth quarter with a sore neck.

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Women's volleyball team falls to avenging Golden Bears

By GAYE DENLEY
Battalion Staff

It was a matter of the tables being turned on the Aggies.

The University of California women's volleyball team avenged its football squad's Sept. 5 loss to the Aggies by wearing down the Texas A&M women 3-2 in a two-hour and 22-minute match Friday night in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Denise Allen spearheaded a persistent offensive attack by the Golden Bears with six point-winning spikes in the 15-11, 7-15, 12-15, 15-12, 15-4 victory.

"It was more mental than physical," Aggie coach Terry Condon said of her team's letdown in the last two games of the match. "They just cracked."

Senior Wendy Wilson and sophomore transfer Jennifer Geise highlighted a solid, alert offense that kept the Aggies close until the last few points of game five.

The first 11 points of game one were indicative of what was to come, since neither team led by more than two until the Golden Bears scored four unanswered points to win the game 15-11.

Geise's seven straight serves in the second game, complemented

by the fine defense of Wilson and sophomore Lisa Johnson, took the Aggies to a 15-7 win to tie the match. Texas A&M boosted the number of consecutive unanswered points to 12 by taking a 5-0 lead in the third game, eventually winning it by a 15-12 margin.

California took over from there, winning the fourth game 15-12,

and the fifth game 15-4, from a tiring Aggie team.

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Cowboys continue to roll

United Press International
IRVING — The Dallas Cowboys came to a boil in a hurry Sunday which was not too surprising considering the temperature in Texas Stadium.

The St. Louis Cardinals, meanwhile, simply melted in the heat.

With a late dose of summertime weather beating down on the artificial surface creating temperatures in excess of 100 degrees Sunday, Dallas raced out of the starting gate to score the first five times it had the ball and fought off the stumbling Cardinals, 30-17. It was the second win for Dallas and the second loss for St. Louis, which, with rookie quarterback Neil Lomax starting his first game, went for the big play at almost every opportunity.

"Sure," said St. Louis coach Jim Hanifan, "we were gambling. We tried some things. We thought that they might have a chance to work."

"We thought they would have

to try to win on big plays," admitted Dallas coach Tom Landry. "They had to do that to stay in the game the way we were scoring. They couldn't just go with their regular running game."

Lomax' debut as a starter, brought about by a knee injury suffered by Jim Hart last week, had its moments. He completed only 14 of 41 throws but he picked up 295 yards in the air.

And if it had not been for some dropped passes, one in particular in the early going by Dave Stief, things might have been closer. St. Louis tried the bomb early and often, ran a handoff on the opening kickoff and tried an inside kick after its first touchdown.

It was hard for St. Louis to stay too close, however, with Dallas scoring on all of its first-half possessions.

Dallas drove 73, 55, 88, 41 and 65 yards in the first half to score three touchdowns — all by full-back Ron Springs on runs of 1, 4 and 1 yards — and a pair of field goals by Rafael Septien measuring 47 and 32 yards.

St. Louis countered with a touchdown pass of 62 yards from Lomax to Willard Harrell and an 11-yard scoring run by Theotis Brown. That left the halftime score at 27-14 and each side managed only a field goal each during the long second half — a 25-yarder by Septien and a 24-yarder by St. Louis' Neil O'Donoghue.

Both teams obviously wilted in

the heat as the afternoon went along.

The Cowboys' front office has made it a policy of not starting home games in September before 3 p.m. because of the likelihood of searing conditions. The club was asked by officials of CBS-TV to move the game up to noon in order that the championship match of the U.S. Open tennis tournament could be shown in the Dallas and St. Louis areas. The Cowboys refused.

"If we had played this game in the sun there might have been serious consequences," said Cowboys president and general manager Tex Schramm. "It's the first time after a game that I have seen players stop for a minute and go down on one knee waiting until they could catch their breath."

By the second half most of the field was covered in shadows, giving some relief to the beleaguered players.

Through the heat Dallas quarterback Danny White completed 21 of 29 passes for 240 yards while Tony Dorsett picked up 129 yards

on 16 carries. Springs, who scored three touchdowns for the first time in his career, gained 45 yards on 15 carries.

Dallas succeeded in slowing down Ottis Anderson, who had averaged 122 yards a game against the Cowboys in his first four games against them. Anderson picked up 80 yards on 16 tries.

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Texas A&M	1	0	0	1.000	29	28
Houston	1	0	0	1.000	21	10
Arkansas	1	0	0	1.000	14	10
Baylor	1	1	0	.500	55	18
Texas Tech	0	1	0	.000	27	45
TCU	0	1	0	.000	16	24
Rice	0	1	0	.000	3	31

LAST WEEK'S RESULTS:
Arkansas 14, Tulsa 10; Baylor 38, Bowling Green 0; SMU 34, North Texas 7; Colorado 45, Texas Tech 27; Texas 31, Rice 3.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE
Northwestern at Arkansas (Little Rock), 7:30; Baylor vs. Louisiana Tech at Shreveport, 7:30; Houston at Miami, 7:00; Rice at Missouri, 1:30; North Texas at Texas, 7:00; Texas A&M at Boston College, 6:10; Texas-Arlington at TCU, 7:30; New Mexico at Texas Tech, 7:30; Grambling at SMU, 7:30.

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HEALTH NEWS
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By Dr. Stephenson
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