

Sports



Looking for some room

Staff photo by Dave Einsel

Tailback Johnny Hector looks for running room on his way to the Boston College goal-line in Saturday night's game with the Eagles. Hector scored the only Aggie touchdown of the

game on the play, but that was not enough as the Eagles beat the Aggies 13-12. The Ags will host Louisiana Tech at 7:30 p.m. Saturday in the first home game of the year.

Dolphins hand Oilers first setback of year, 16-10

HOUSTON — Let it be known Don Shula is firmly in control of the Miami Dolphins and that he is still pulling the right strings — just in case there is anyone out there who thinks a coach with 196 NFL wins is getting too old to keep his grip.

Shula's team bottled up the Houston Oilers and Earl Campbell Sunday as it rarely done to beat the Oilers 16-10 and remain unbeaten in three games.

Despite the awesome defense led by middle guard Bob Baumhower, Miami might not have been able to beat Houston in the Astro dome without Don Strock's three-yard touchdown pass in the fourth quarter. Earlier in the game, Shula had benched a quarterback who led the Dolphins to two wins in favor of Strock.

Shula did not explain the move except to say regular quarterback David Woodley was healthy and that Strock was more experienced at reading defensive movements.

"The Oilers gave us a lot of different coverages and Strock had more experience," Shula said.

Second-year pro Woodley started the second half standing by his coach despite his team leading 9-7 on three Uwe von Schamann field goals. He had overthrown several wide-open receivers, had completed 11 of 22 passes and had not been intercepted.

He did not question Shula's right to make such a move.

Strock, who had completed 24 of 26 passes in preseason, came on to complete 7 of 10 passes against the Oilers including the game-winner, an easy 3-yard toss to running back Audra Franklin with 6:40 to play.

"I was surprised to go into the game because we were winning," Strock said.

The defense, which sacked quarterback Ken Stabler eight times and held Campbell to 78 yards on 19 carries, gave Strock the opportunity to win it by holding Houston inside its 10-yard line late in the game. Houston's punt came out to the Miami 49, and Tommy Vigorito returned it 11 yards to the Houston 40.

On third-and-6, Strock passed 19 yards to Duriel Harris on the right sideline. Then three plays later he found Franklin slipping out of the backfield.

Miami offensive guard Bob Kuechenberg, a 12-year Dolphins veteran, said Shula's move to Strock was not surprising at all.

"It may seem bold to you but in baseball if you have a two-run lead with two innings to go and you have a Goose Gossage in the bullpen, you use him. Don Strock has been terrific every time he's gone into a game," Kuechenberg said.

Volleyball team returns home after California tournament

By GAYE DENLEY

A strong 24-school field that included the 10 top-rated women's volleyball teams in the nation dashed the Aggies' hopes for a national ranking in last weekend's San Diego State Tournament in San Diego, Calif.

Texas A&M dropped matches to Pepperdine, UCLA, sixth-ranked Cal-Poly San Luis Obispo and Cal-State Fullerton, defeating only Utah in the three-day event. UCLA, second in the pre-tournament ratings, won the competition and a probable number one ranking.

Lasting for three games against

UCLA in their second match was the highlight of the tournament for the Aggies, Coach Terry Condon said. Texas A&M bounced back from a 15-0 trouncing in game one to take the second game, 15-11, against the Bruins-starting lineup. Although UCLA rebounded to win the third game, 15-8, Condon said she was pleased with her team's effort.

"It was good that we went three games against them, being the number two-ranked team in the nation," she said.

The Aggies dropped their opener to Pepperdine, 15-11, 15-2, followed by losses to UCLA and to Cal-Poly San Luis Obispo, 15-4, 15-2. A 15-13, 15-2 victory over

Utah hinted at an Aggie comeback, but Cal-State Fullerton silenced that threat with a 15-11, 16-14 win in extended play.

"We played up and down, which is lack of experience," Condon said. "We have a fairly young team."

Texas A&M kicked off the California road trip with an encouraging scrimmage against Long Beach State last Wednesday. "We won every time but one they played," Condon said. "They played real well."

With a 4-6 season record, the Aggies next face Lamar University 7:30 Wednesday night in C. Rollie White Coliseum.

SMU, Texas and Arkansas jump to head of SWC race with wins

Neither Texas Tech nor Baylor have been overly impressive in the early going, but for those two teams the preliminaries are over.

Tech and Baylor, which managed to fight each other with as much gusto as any two teams in the Southwest Conference, face each other next Saturday in their league opener and for the defending league champion Bears it is an almost must game.

SMU and TCU, meanwhile, will renew their old rivalry in the other SWC game on a schedule that has all nine conference clubs in action.

Baylor was supposed to use a

relatively easy non-conference schedule to tune-up for the tougher times ahead, but the Bears wound up losing to Lamar and having to scratch and claw to survive against Louisiana Tech last Saturday night in Shreveport, 28-21.

"We're still just a so-so football team," said Baylor coach Grant Teaff, whose team went unbeaten through conference play a year ago. "We won't be a great team until we become more consistent. I mean on both offense and defense."

"We will do certain things good one game and then bad the next. Even our kicking game has been inconsistent. But the thing I do

like about this team is that it has a lot of want to. And that will give them a chance to get better."

Tech comes into its conference opener off a 25-21 victory over New Mexico, a much needed win that followed its embarrassing 45-27 loss to Colorado.

SMU finished its non-conference schedule with an impressive 59-27 mauling of Grambling, a game turned into a rout by the running of Eric Dickerson and Craig James. Those two players have combined for more than 800 yards and 14 touchdowns in their first three outings.

TCU, meanwhile, won its first game of the year, a 38-16 decision over Texas-Arlington. The Mustangs and Horned Frogs will tangle in an evening battle in Fort Worth next Saturday.

The rest of next weekend's SWC slate is of an intersectional nature.

Arkansas, which ran its record to 2-0 last weekend with a 38-7

conquest of Northwestern, will meet Mississippi in Jackson, Houston, a 12-7 loser to Miami, will return home to face Utah State. That Miami Hurricane club will come to Austin for a confrontation with the Texas Longhorns, who compiled a less-than-overwhelming 23-10 win over North Texas Saturday night.

The Rice Owls, winless after a 42-10 whipping administered by Missouri, has to go to LSU, and Texas A&M, which was a 13-12 upset victim at the hands of Boston College, will play Louisiana Tech in College Station.

Baylor and Tech have a habit of turning out good games and Teaff — with his team still struggling — expects another one.

"It's like always," said Teaff. "Tech has very good personnel. I've always been a big fan of (Tech quarterback) Ron Reeves."

"We're ready to start playing for real now. I'm anxious to see how we stack up in the league."

Haynie returns to pro golf with LPGA triumph

HIGH POINT, N.C. — Sandra Haynie made a stunning return to professional golf Sunday by winning a \$165,000 LPGA tournament — her 40th career victory and her first triumph in nearly six years.

The 41-year-old Texan came from four shots off the lead to shoot a 4-under-par 68 in the final round to finish 7-under-par for 72 holes and one shot ahead of Judy Clark, who had a closing-round 69 over the 6,249-yard Willow Creek course.

Marlene Floyd, who like Clark was bidding for her first victory, held a three-stroke lead going into the final round, but soared to a 74 Sunday, to finish in third place at 5-under for the tournament.

The victory meant more than money to Haynie, who all but gave up professional golf in 1976. In the past four years, the LPGA's 11th all-time leading money winner has played in only 17 tournaments. Haynie returned to the tour full-time this year.

Mears wins Detroit Grand Prix

BROOKLYN, Mich. — It was Rick Mears' weekend at Michigan International Speedway.

The Bakersfield, Calif., driver won the pole, won the race and won the PPG Indy Car World Series Championship for 1981. Mears takes home \$19,015 for his Detroit News Grand Prix victory and later this year will receive a \$75,000 bonus for the series championship.

Mario Andretti of Nazareth, Pa., almost spoiled Mears' day. Andretti took the lead on lap 66 of the scheduled 75. Mears retook the lead on the white flag lap and crossed the finish line about 1 1/2 feet ahead of Andretti's nosecone.

Because of a malfunction in the display equipment used by the flagmen to count laps, the white flag fell on the 73rd lap and the checkered fell on the 74th, just as Mears nudged the nose of his race car into the lead. Under CART rules, the race was declared complete.

Al Unser, Bill Alsup and Gordon Johncock rounded out the top three finishers of the problem-shortened Indy car event.

"There was a time when I didn't know if I would ever play golf again," said Haynie, who collected \$24,750 for the victory to bring her career earnings to \$600,874.

Back problems forced her to drastically curtail her tournament schedule, but she said there were other factors in her decision to "more or less retire."

"I was a little bit mentally burned out," said Haynie, a former U.S. Open and LPGA Championship winner. "I had played golf for so many years, I was really burned out."

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