

# Sports

## TANK McNAMARA



by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds

# Group trying to move bowl game to Houston

United Press International  
HOUSTON — Houstonians and Dallasites enjoy debates over which is the better Texas city. Now comes the debate over which is the better site for the Southwest Conference's Cotton Bowl.

The proposal to move the game to Houston, which might give the Cotton Bowl a \$5 million payoff by the 1983 game, pits two successful businessmen — Lan Bentsen, the son of Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, against John Scovell of Dallas. Both attended Harvard Business School after their undergraduate studies at Southwest Conference schools.

Lan Bentsen, president of the Greater Houston Bowl Association, said Tuesday his group's offer of \$1 million a year to the SWC to move the game from Dallas is a "add-on" to the annual multimillion-dollar payoff from the game's revenues.

He countered the scoffs of Scovell, Cotton Bowl Athletic Association president, saying Southwest Conference schools — not Scovell's organization — will determine whether the traditional New Year's Day game is moved to Houston.

"It's not that we're trying to steal something from the South-

west Conference, Bentsen said. "We're offering to give the game a new home."

A move of the Cotton Bowl would require a vote of six or seven member schools.

"In reading the bylaws, we're unsure exactly how many schools have to vote to change a bylaw," Bentsen said.

Scovell has said, "They've (Houston Bowl Association) got a better chance of picking up the Cotton Bowl itself than moving the game to Houston."

Bentsen said he had an hour conversation with Scovell Sunday and it "got pretty rough."

Bentsen tried to counter arguments about the game being traditionally played in Dallas by saying, "Tradition is a measure of the past. What we're talking about is the future. People who don't differentiate between the past and the future are in trouble."

Bentsen's group for years has sponsored the Bluebonnet Bowl and he said that game would be replaced by the Cotton Bowl if the game was to move.

"We want to establish a major conference relationship," Bentsen said. "That's the only way to get into the Big Four of bowl games."

Officials of the Houston bowl

group apprised the nine SWC members of their proposed payoff Saturday and a decision whether to change the SWC bylaws, which associate the game with the Dallas stadium, probably will not be made for months.

"My gut feeling is this thing is going to come down to the alumni living in Dallas pulling against the alumni living in Houston," Bentsen said. "I can envision an alum calling his school and saying, 'Move the game to Houston and I won't contribute anymore.'"

A large portion of the Cotton Bowl payoff is divided among SWC member schools. Bentsen said his \$1 million a year payment would be made on top of that payoff and in advance of the game.

The Bluebonnet Bowl, which annually is played on New Year's Eve between two at-large teams, had a payoff last year of approximately \$400,000 a team.

The Houston bowl group has given the conference until Jan. 11, 1982, to give an answer so its members can raise the \$1 million. Members believe they can have the money distributed in \$110,000 increments to the schools by April 1982 before the first game would be played in Houston after the 1982 season.

# Rangers outlast Mariners

United Press International  
SEATTLE — Locker room conversation by the Texas Rangers after their win over Seattle Tuesday in the Kingdome centered on the exploits of two rookies, even though veterans had supplied most of the heroics.

Bobby Johnson and Wayne Tolleson each collected their first major league hit during a two-run, ninth-inning rally that gave their club some extra cushion in the 6-2 decision.

Johnson was pressed into service when starter Jim Sundeberg was ejected for arguing over whether he had swung at a third strike during the seventh inning. Johnson's hit came in his second time at bat in a Ranger uniform.

Tolleson filled in at third for Buddy Bell, and his first major league safety came on his third trip to the plate in the game and sixth of the season.

Still, it was a pair of 32-year-old right-handers who combined their pitching skills for the win, and it was third-year outfielder Bill Sample's bat that provided the punch.

Starter Doc Medich, 10-6, went seven innings, limiting the Mariners to six singles. Jim Kern finished up, giving up one more harmless hit as he registered his sixth save and second in as many nights.

Sample's three-run homer was the game-winner, coming in the second inning after Sundeberg and Leon Roberts had walked.

# Women's soccer team beats SWTSU 8-0

The Texas A&M University women's soccer club shut out Southwest Texas State University 8-0 Saturday in San Marcos, as new coach Jim Butts opened the season with an easy win.

Carol Smith led the effort with three goals, while five of her teammates scored one goal apiece. Aggie goalie Lucy Bourne stopped several Bobcat shots on goal en route to the shutout.

Also scoring for the Aggies were Jenny Engler, Carol Gittinger, Sue Niles, Laura Estes and Lynn Vester.

The club hosts Stephen F. Austin State University Saturday in Kyle Field at 1 p.m. in its first home match of the 1981 season.

# Major League Baseball

American League				National League			
East				East			
Detroit	28	20	.583	St. Louis	26	21	.553
Milwaukee	28	21	.571	Montreal	26	22	.542
Boston	27	21	.563	Chicago	22	25	.468
Baltimore	25	22	.532	Philadelphia	22	25	.468
Cleveland	25	24	.510	New York	22	26	.458
New York	24	24	.500	Pittsburgh	20	29	.408
Toronto	20	24	.455				
West				West			
Kansas City	27	21	.563	Houston	31	17	.646
Oakland	24	21	.533	Cincinnati	29	18	.617
Minnesota	23	26	.469	San Francisco	27	20	.574
Texas	21	25	.457	Los Angeles	25	23	.521
Seattle	21	27	.438	Atlanta	22	25	.468
California	19	27	.413	San Diego	14	35	.286
Chicago	20	29	.408				

# Astros lose home finale

United Press International  
HOUSTON — San Diego Padres pitchers Rick Wise and Gary Lucas combined to make the Houston Astros' regular season home finale a downer and to send the firstplace Astros from town a little less sure they would return to play ball.

Starter Wise pitched 6 2-3 innings Tuesday allowing four hits, and Lucas pitched near spotless relief the rest of the way for a 2-1 win, and unless the Astros hold their 1½ game lead over the final five games, the game was their last at home this year.

Houston plays two games against the second-place Cincinnati Reds Wednesday and Thursday, and three final games against first-half winner Los Angeles Dodgers. Holding the lead means Houston would open a best-of-five divisional series in Houston next Tuesday.

"Going to Cincinnati is like playing the Los Angeles series last year," Astros right fielder Terry Puhl said. "It's a different style series, though. Cincinnati is a different style team than L.A. They're a team that can blow you out. They're a scary team. If they're up for a series, watch out."

The Astros feel they must split the two-games at Cincinnati so they do not venture to Los Angeles trailing the Reds by ½ a game. To play against the Reds as they did against the Padres — 10 Astros hits in two games — would be trouble, Puhl said.

"We're got to play the same way they came into Houston. They played very, very tough," he said of the Reds' last series in the Astrodome.

While Houston's bats were slumbering, the Padres got to pitcher Bob Knepper, 9-5, for two runs in the first inning. Luis Salazar's triple knocked in Gene Richards, who had walked. And then Salazar scored on Barry Evans' single.

Wise, 4-8, got the win, and the only mark against him was an unearned run in the second. Errors by shortstop Ozzie Smith and second baseman Juan Bonilla allowed Cesar Cedeno to score from third off Craig Reynolds' rifice fly.

Wise got Alan Ashby to pop out with Jose Cruz on third in the sixth, and then with Bert Campaneris on first and two out in the seventh. Lucas came out and pinch hitter Gary Wood pitched.

Lucas picked up his 12th and drew high praise from manager Frank Howard.

"We've had a rough year. I don't know where we'd be. Every one ought to be fortunate enough to manage a Gary Lucas."

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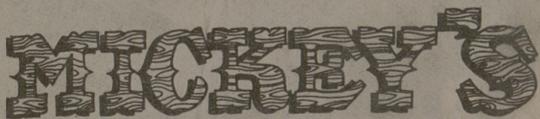
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