

# Sports

## Surprises mark SWC race

The wild and wacky Southwest Conference race is in full swing, and it's nothing like forecasters predicted.

Who would have ever thought that TCU would end Arkansas' 22-year reign over the Frogs with a fourth-quarter comeback? Who would consider that Arkansas, having been beaten by TCU and barely escaping from Lubbock with a win, would humiliate the number one team in America on national television after the Horns' convincing win over Oklahoma the week before?

However, those are only a few surprises of this wild year. Arkansas, Texas A&M and Rice (of all teams) are tied for second in the conference with 2-1 records. Baylor is next with 2-2, followed by Texas at 1-1. TCU and Houston (Houston!) have 1-2 records.

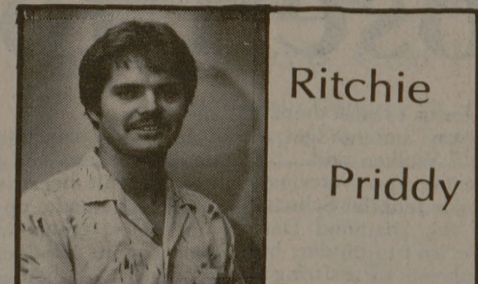
Of course you can't leave out SMU, which is 6-0 (3-0 in conference), blowing smoke and going nowhere after the season is over.

Anything can happen in the race this year and the championship may be decided in the last weekend of the season.

This isn't the race it's supposed to be. Where are the perennial powerhouses that dominated the conference for so long? It looks as if they've either disappeared or gone into hiding for now.

The 95-scholarship limit (only 30 per year) has taken its toll on the former powerhouses. In the past, those teams never had anything to worry about. Now, it's a completely different story.

It's obvious that only the better athletes are



Ritchie Priddy

being recruited for major college football, and only the best of those are awarded scholarships.

Also evident is the lack of one-sided scores. You used to hear of 59-0 wins by Oklahoma, Nebraska, Penn State, Michigan and USC, but those one-sided victories don't occur too often anymore.

It seems that the caliber of competition is so great and equal that you won't find any team that totally dominates another. There are a few left, but for the most part, those days are over. Just look at the "upsets" of this season.

There have been so many number one teams this year that everybody is getting sick of counting them. The reasons for the "top" teams falling all point to the scholarship limitation.

One thing's for sure: the excitement is never-ending in college football, and it's not likely to end anytime soon, especially considering

that on any given day anybody can beat anybody.

One point that bothers me (along with a few others) is the officiating. With the high degree of competition among the teams, it seems that officiating would have to be at a higher level.

I'm not condemning the officials of the Baylor — Texas A&M game, because that would serve no purpose.

The point is that three weeks ago when Houston played Baylor in the Astrodome, the Cougars were penalized for over 200 yards, something that didn't sit well with Bill Yeoman. The next week against the Aggies, UH wasn't penalized at all.

Aggie coach Tom Wilson said after the Houston game that he was amazed at the lack of errors, especially when the Cougars are known for their numerous penalties.

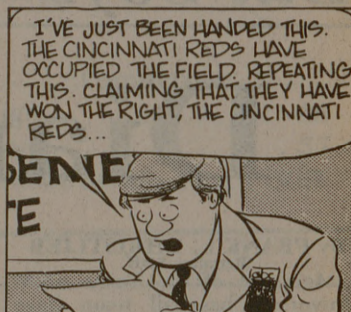
Last week against SMU, Baylor committed many mistakes and Grant Teaff raised hell about the officiating. This week against Texas A&M, Baylor played, officially, error-free ball.

Sure, those kinds of turnarounds are possible and have happened many times. One didn't occur Saturday.

It amazes me that Baylor got away with so many blatant fouls, many of which are captured on film. The only thing I can think of is if a coach yells about bad officiating one week, he's "let off" the next week.

If that's the case, and I certainly hope it's not, then the tempo and even the outcome of the game could be changed at a handkerchief's notice.

### TANK McNAMARA



by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds

## Cycling Team hosts event

The Texas A&M University Cycling Team will host the Fall Classic Bicycle Race Saturday between 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the drill field, with trophies and gift certificates to be awarded to the winners.

The races will take place on the 1/2-mile course surrounding the field, and three categories will be open to all students. The men's race, 16 laps on the course, will begin at 10 a.m., while the 10-lap women's race will start at 10:45 a.m. The entry fee for each of these races is 50¢, and trophies await the top finishers.

The team competition will start at 11:15 a.m., with a \$2 fee for each cyclist on the four-member teams. This event will feature a 28-lap race in which each team

member must ride at least one lap, the same bike, much like in a track and all cyclists on a team must ride relay.



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## Yanks 'Bull' past LA

**United Press International**  
 NEW YORK — To go anywhere in the 75th World Series, the Los Angeles Dodgers may need to hit Bob Watson's example and hit the ball where no one can catch it.

"He must go to bed hoping and praying he can kill us with his glove," Dodger Manager Tom Lasorda said Tuesday night after watching New York third baseman Craig Nettles back The Bull's three-run homer with two outstanding fielding plays to lead the Yankees to a 5-3 victory and a 1-0 lead in the Series.

"I get sick to my stomach seeing him make those plays all the time," added Lasorda, who sends right-hander Burt Hooton against former Dodger Tommy John tonight in Game Two before the Series moves to Los Angeles.

Nettles needed exactly one play to remind the Dodgers what he can do. Leadoff batter Dave Lopes sent a smash down the line that Nettles backhanded and turned into an out at first.

By the time the game ended, Nettles, second baseman Willie Randolph and left fielder Dave Winfield had combined on enough gems to stock a jewelry store.

"He did a great job," Yankee Manager Bob Lemon said of Nettles. "You'd think they would learn not to hit the ball to him." Lemon can afford to sound a bit smug. His team controlled the game virtually all the way after Watson's first-inning homer off loser Jerry Reuss gave the Yankees a 3-0 lead.

Ron Guidry allowed one run, a Steve Yeager homer, over the first seven innings to get the victory. And when a rusty bullpen corps sagged momentarily, Nettles was there.

With the Yankees leading 5-1 in the eighth, reliever Ron Davis walked Derrel Thomas and Lopes, bringing in Rich Cossage. But pinch hitter Jay Johnstone singled in a run and Dusty Baker made it 5-3 with a sacrifice fly.

That's when Steve Garvey sent a liner toward third. It looked like a sure double, and may have kicked around long enough to allow Johnstone to score. Instead, Johnstone had to scramble back to first when Nettles made the catch.

The Dodgers are only human, and Nettles' heroics must have reminded them of the way it was in 1978. That year, with the Yankees trailing 2-0 in the Series, Nettles backstopped a shaky Guidry outing with sensational glove work and helped turn the Classic in New York's favor.

"The word 'cheat' is a description we use for the way he (Nettles) plays," said Dodger third baseman Ron Cey, who was thrown out, Winfield to Randolph, trying to stretch a single

into a double in the seventh. "With his experience watching the hitters, he knows what pitches are going to be thrown and he moves accordingly."

If the Yankee gloves controlled the tempo, the bats set it. With one out in the first, Jerry Mumphrey singled to right, Lou Piniella, playing right field in place of the injured Reggie Jackson, doubled to right. Then Watson, in his first Series at-bat, sent a 1-2 delivery over the right field fence.

Lasorda said he never considered filling the empty base with Watson, setting up the lefthanded Reuss against left-hander Nettles.

"It was the first inning and I wasn't about to put three men on base for Nettles," the manager said. "He's capable of hitting it out

with that short porch here."

The Yankees made it 4-0 in the third when Piniella singled in Mumphrey from second. They upped it to 5-0 in the fourth on four straight walks by Bobby Castillo. At that point, the Dodgers began looking a little better. Reliever Tom Niedenfuer pitched three scoreless innings and Los Angeles showed the same spunk it used to come back in its two play-off series.

"We faltered for a second," admitted Winfield. "But it doesn't really matter because we won the game. They can come back. They are no pushover. But if we can win two here before we go to the West Coast we should be in good shape."

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## THE ALL-INCLUSIVE DEATH OF CHRIST

The Gospel of John is, to many Christians, a favorite book of the Bible. New-born babes in Christ and mature Christians alike love its simple, yet profound, message. No other Gospel declares boldly: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God... In Him was life, and the life was the light of men" (John 1:1,4).

With exceptionally clear word-pictures and figures, this unique Gospel unveils Christ as the very divine life Who is more than able to take care of all our needs. To a thirsty sinner He said, "... whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall be in him a spring of water; and the water that I shall give him shall become in him a spring of water welling up into eternal life" (John 4:14). To the hungry multitudes He said, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me shall by no means hunger..." (John 6:35). To the religious yet unsatisfied ones He "stood and cried out, saying, If anyone thirst, let him come to Me and drink" (John 7:37). To those walking in spiritual darkness He declared, "I am the light of the world; he who follows Me shall by no means walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12). To His friends grieving at the death of their brother Lazarus He said, "I am the resurrection and the life" (John 11:25). To Thomas, troubled and perplexed concerning His going to the Father and the way to the Father, He said, "I am the way, and the reality, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). Whether our need is the living bread, the living water, life, light or any other thing, He as the divine life can supply that need.

In addition to these many figures portraying Christ as our life are also figures signifying at least three different aspects of His death. The first figure of His death is in John 1:29 where John the Baptist proclaimed, "Behold, the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world!" The second is in John 3:14 where the Lord Jesus said, "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up." The third is in John 12:24 where Jesus said, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it abides alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit." Christ was the Lamb of God taking away our sins by shedding His blood; He was the brass serpent that destroyed the old serpent and the serpentine nature within us; and He was a grain of wheat that fell into the ground and died to produce many grains.

As the Lamb of God

When Christ was nailed to the cross He was the Lamb of God bearing our sins and shedding His blood for our redemption. He was "the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world" (Rev. 13:8). He offered Himself once as a sacrifice for our sins and sat down at the right hand of God (Heb. 10:12). His sitting down indicated the work of redemption was fully accomplished. By the shedding of His blood He obtained the forgiveness of sins for us (Matt. 26:28) and accomplished eternal redemption for us (Heb. 9:12). Now we have nothing to do but take it and enjoy it by living faith. This is the first aspect of His death and every genuine Christian is familiar with it.

In the Form of a Serpent

Not many Christians, however, are familiar with the second aspect of the Lord's death — that on the cross the Lord Jesus was crucified in the form of a serpent in order to destroy the old serpent, Satan, and the serpentine nature within our flesh.

In John 12:31 the Lord declared, "Now is the judgment of this world; now shall the ruler of this world be cast out." By His death on the cross the Lord Jesus judged the world and cast out Satan. Satan has systematized all the things on earth, especially those things related to the basic needs of mankind, into his kingdom of darkness to occupy and frustrate people from

the purpose of God and to distract them from the enjoyment of God. That evil system, the kingdom of darkness, was judged when Satan was destroyed on the cross.

The Lord Jesus as the Son of Man was lifted up on the cross in the form of the serpent (John 3:14), that is, "in the likeness of the flesh of sin" (Rom. 8:3). Satan, the ruler of this world, as "the old serpent" (Rev. 12:9; 20:2), had by the fall of man injected himself into man's flesh (Rom. 7:17; 18, 20). Through His death on the cross "in the likeness of the flesh of sin," the Lord destroyed Satan who is in man's flesh (Heb. 2:14). By judging Satan (John 16:11), the world which was under Satan's control was also judged. When the Lord Jesus was lifted up in the form of a serpent, He not only removed our sins and dealt with our serpentine nature, but also destroyed Satan with his world system (Gal. 6:14). From God's perspective, Satan, the world, and our corrupted nature are past history! They were all terminated on the cross nineteen and one-half centuries ago.

As a Grain of Wheat

The third aspect, the life-releasing aspect, is even less realized by Christians. In John 12:23 the Lord said, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified." How was the Lord glorified? He was glorified through death and resurrection because the divine element within Him was thus released and manifested.

The Father's divine element, the eternal life, was within the incarnated Son, Jesus. At that time the divine life was not available for us to experience. Rather it was confined and limited within the flesh of Jesus, even as the life element of a grain of wheat is confined within its shell. The seed must die and its shell must be broken in order for the life inside to be released and manifested. Unsurpassed glory and beauty are within that seed, but they cannot be manifested without the death of the seed. Once the seed falls into the ground and dies, the life element will start to grow and will eventually manifest the full beauty of the plant. That is the glorification of the life within the seed. When the Lord Jesus was crucified, the shell of His humanity was broken and the divine life within Him was released and manifested in resurrection.

The Goal — To Produce the Church

The release of the divine life was the actual goal of Christ's death. Though redemption is absolutely necessary, it was not the goal of His death. Even the destruction of the devil was not the goal of His death. The goal of His death was to release the divine life which can be imparted into us by regeneration making us the living members of His Body, the church.

Most Christians, however, usually apply the death of Christ only to their needs of forgiveness and victory. The Bible reveals that Christ also has a need — to have a Body, the church. The Lord not only loved us and gave Himself for our sins; He gave Himself also for the church that He might have a bride (Eph. 5:25-27). God's desire and eternal purpose is not merely to save us and take us to heaven, but to have the church on the earth through which he may now make known to the principalities and powers his manifold wisdom (Eph. 3:10-11).

The divine life has been imparted into us by regeneration and it are now the many grains that have been produced out of that one grain. These many grains are for making that one loaf, which is the Body of Christ, the church (I Cor. 10:17). Formerly, we were sinners with the serpentine nature, having nothing to do with the divine life. But by the Lord's all-inclusive death our sins were removed, our serpentine nature was dealt with and the divine life was released for us to receive by regeneration. Now we are living grains who, being blended together, become one loaf, the church. Praise Him!

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