SWC shoot-out Aggies, Mustangs vie for conference top spo

The SMU Mustangs and the Texas Aggies will battle for first place in the Southwest Conference when the two teams meet Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m. in Kyle Field.

The Mustangs are coming off a 9-7 defeat at the hands of the Texas

loss, their first of the year, dropped the Mustangs' record to 6-1, 3-1 in the Southwest Conference.

Meanwhile, the Aggies upped their record to 5-2 with a 51-26 drumming of the Rice Owls. The Aggies, at 3-1, are tied for the conference lead with SMU.

The Mustangs, on probation for recruiting violations, are not eligi-Longhorns last Saturday. That ble for post-season play or televi-

crown, although they can't represent the conference in the Cotton
Bowl.

The probation hasn't dampened

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The probation hasn't dampened would be undefeated and ranked

the spirits of head coach Ron probably third in the nation. Meyer and his players.

something to prove — that they are not going to lay down and die. So far they haven't done that, though it remains to be seen what of 265 yards out of the I-formation. kind of effect the Texas loss will have on the team.

"The emotion aspect — we're down," Meyer said. "Hopefully we can bring it all together against

A&M Saturday." the conference second with yards a game. Aggies for more than one reason, but added that his team would have no easy time with the Maroon and White.

certainly rivals some of the great teams of Bellard — and they were awsome then. I think Continuous and the state of the s son has done a tremendous job down there.

Meyer, like any good coach, has done his homework on the Ags, watching film after film of the Boston College and Baylor games. The Aggies lost both of those games (13-12 and 19-17) but felt

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they should have easily won both.

sion exposure in 1981. They are, however, eligible for the SWC crown, although they can't represent the sure that every Aggie would like to play that one over — and the Bos-

SMU is currently fourth in total Meyer said the Mustangs have offense in the conference with an average of 371.1 yards a game. However, the Mustangs are first in rushing offense with an average

Tailback Eric Dickerson and fullback Craig James are leading the conference in rushing. Dickerson has gained 845 yards, a 120yard average and good enough for the conference lead. James is second with 650 yards and 93

Last week James and Dickerson were in the same backfield, a rare occasion, with James at fullback and Dickerson at tailback "This year's team is the finest Even so, they could muster no A&M football team I've seen since more than 78 yards between them

> Meyer, when asked about the possibility of both starting, said he wasn't in a position to comment on

Aggie Head Coach Tom Wilson said he thinks both will again be in the same backfield when the Mus-

tangs play Texas A&M.
"That throws an added dimen-I just got finished watching the sion to the game," Wilson said. "It

Aggie running backs Johnny Hector and Earnest Jackson are averaging 81 and 80 yards a game, with Hector's season total 598 yards and Jackson's 561 yards.

An interesting note is the yardper-carry average of the four backs. Dickerson averages 5.3 and James 4.5, while Hector averages

5.9 and Jackson has a 5.3 average. Until last week, SMU was the conference total offense leader with a 398.8 average. This week, however, Texas A&M is first with a 398.1 average.

The quarterbacks have different styles and both are very effective. While Aggie quarterback Gary Kubiak is becoming known for his passing, Lance McIlhenny is kown for his running.

Both, however, can run and pass with success.

SMU has long been known for its passing. This year that isn't the case. The Mustangs are last in the SWC in passing, having thrown the ball for 743 yards and four touchdowns for a 106-yard game

McIlhenny's primary receivers are split end Jackie Wilson and wingback Lee Jeane.

Meanwhile, the Aggies are averaging 163 yards passing a game. Kubiak has thrown for 134 times for 1,143 yards and 10

His primary receivers are split end Mike Whitwell and flanker Don Jones, though he shows no favorites. Tight end Mark Lewis and flanker Jimmie Williams have gotten their hands on the ball recently as well.

Whitwell has emerged as one of the top receivers in the conference with 20 catches for 497 yards and three touchdowns.

Meyer said he's impressed with pect to win. Whitwell's talent and said the senior three-letterman could be the best in the land.
"I'm not so sure Whitwell isn't

the best receiver in the league, or the nation," he said. "He's certainly the most complete receiver in the conference.

'He's the type of guy that can do just about everything. I don't know him personally but he's got my vote for All-American. I like the guy.

Meyer said he feels the same about Jones and Lewis, saying each is a typical blue-chip All-

They can flat do it all," he said. Kubiak also uses his backs as receivers, as Jackson has 14 catch-es for 133 yards and Hector has 12

for 102 yards.
SMU's defense is one of the top units in the conference.

Led by tackles Harvey Armstrong, Kevin Chaney and noseguard Michael Carter, the Mustang defense is one of the hardest-hitting squads in the country.

Carter will miss the game a leg injury and several other, ers are questionable.

"We're kind of down; banged up after losing to Ta Meyer said. "We've lost six ters since the beginning of year, six out of 24, including ers. You just can't do that and

"Last year we didn't haveb kind of injuries and we were we're stunned mentally and sically with the Texas loss but

show up and we'll play."
Saturday's game matches good offenses and two good

fenses which means the his game could be the deciding for "It may come down to Aggie place-kicker David In

Hardy said that last year and SMU, his kicking wasn't up hy and that played a part in the loss. This year, he said, he said to meet the challenge of apparatus of the said said. late field goal.

"I don't think it would be me now," he said of the pres involved in a game-winning "I've been down that road be

"I realize how important me to do my job. I can't le pressure bother me

Thinking about it for a mor he added: "I hope it comes to that. I look forward to kinds of opportunities."

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Dodgers' persistence helps win elusive title

United Press International NEW YORK — He was in no condition to endure the rigors of playing a baseball game. In fact, a leisurely stroll in the park might have been asking too much of Ron

Yes, this was the World Series, the holy Fall Classic. It still held a special significance, even if it did signal an end to a farce of a baseball season. And because of the aura that accompanies these special games, Cey was there, ready to play, willing to try.

Just three days after a head-on collision with a Rich Gossage fastball, Ron Cey had a job to com-

"I may have tried to do too

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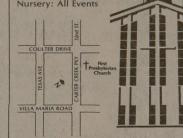
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much," he said later. "I'm glad it's me a lifetime of thrills in one over. I don't remember much of anything but I do remember that always thought if the Good the guys holding the champagne could grant us a chance town bottles are usually the cham-Ron Cey was holding his own personal bottle of champagne Wednesday night. He was holding

it tight. He was enjoying the taste and the feel of the elixir dripping down his face and neck. "This," he said, gesturing to-ward the bottle, "is what it's all

The Los Angeles Dodgers, be-

lieving that this was their year of destiny, broke up that lovable gang of New York Yankees Wednesday night, winning 9-2 to wrap up a six-game triumph over the team that everybody loves to

Cey managed two hits, including a tie-breaking single in a three-run fifth inning, before removing himself from the game. While running the bases, he became diz-Ninety-four mph fastballs can how shabbily he'd been treat

do that to a man. 'Ronnie. Well, what can you say about him?" asked Manager Tom Lasorda. "All these guys gave world championship, I w want to win it right here in

Catcher Steve Yeager, most likely won't be wearingle ger blue next year, had two winning RBI and one game RBI in the Series. Pedro Gue knocked in five runs in Ga and teamed with Yeager forb to-back homers off Ron Guid

"I feel so happy," Guessaid, admiring the World & trophy. "I thank God for me this dream come true. I a dream of playing the Yankeitwoweek the World Series and winning having trouble believing it not in an

happened. It feels so good beweek p The Dodgers won this Waition and Series because Ron Cey de

work for a cause. "We're bringing the champ" ship back to Los Angeles belongs," Lasorda said.

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