

Sports



Photo by Becky Swanson

Aggie celebration!

Aggie flanker Don Jones celebrates his third-quarter touchdown reception against Texas last week as a referee signals the score. Texas all-SWC defensive back William Graham looks on. Jones scored the only Aggie touchdown of the game on a

pass from backup quarterback John Elkins. The touchdown was not enough as Texas won the game 21-13. The Aggies will face Oklahoma State University in the Independence Bowl in Shreveport, La. Dec. 12.

Cowboys assured of playoffs; White may play against Colts

United Press International
DALLAS — The Dallas Cowboys have clinched a playoff spot and they are going up against the worst team in professional football.

If their No. 1 quarterback plays this Sunday and aggravates his painful rib injury he might be lost for Dallas' key meeting the following week against the Philadelphia Eagles.

So all of that would seem to point to Glenn Carano starting his first professional football game next Sunday in Baltimore.

That, however, will not be the case if Danny White can heal quickly enough. Coach Tom Landry wants his top man in there if at all possible.

"If he (White) can go, he will go," said Landry Tuesday.

There is quite a bit of doubt, however, as to whether White will be ready to go.

"He doesn't look good just to look at him," said Landry. "I have no idea whether White will play or not, that will first be determined by the doctors and once they give the OK it will be up to Danny White whether he plays or not."

"He can throw the first day he can lift his arm. But I would think that would be toward the weekend."

"Experience says it will be difficult for him to be ready. The injury he has can still be sore by this weekend. We will just have to wait and see."

White suffered badly bruised ribs during the second quarter of Dallas' 10-9 win over Chicago on Thanksgiving Day. Carano, in his

fifth year with Dallas, came on in his first game-saving role as a professional and pulled out the contest.

Landry said he had every faith in Carano's ability and said the team would rally round the second teamer if he was forced into a starting role.

"Obviously you cannot operate as well without your quarterback that has been playing every week," said Landry. "I think Glenn will play well."

Landry also said that while the game plan would not change no matter which quarterback played in the game, his selection of plays from that game plan might differ.

"I have a lot of leeway once the game plan is prepared," the coach said. "I would probably use different kinds of plays (for Carano). I would probably use plays that he can read easily."

In addition to White's quarterbacking chores he is the No. 1 punter on the team. When White was knocked out of the Chicago game, kicker Rafael Septien came on to handle the punting duties.

"Hopefully, Danny will punt even if he can't quarterback," said Landry. "We will have to see how much pain it gives him."

Even though Baltimore has lost 12 straight games, Landry said he would not feel comfortable until the Colts had made it 13 in a row.

"I am always worried," Landry said. "I am worried every game. This team (Baltimore) has got very good skill position players. They have good passers, good runners and anytime you play a team like that you have the prospect of put-

ting a lot of points on the board."

And on another topic Landry said that while he was glad Philadelphia had dropped a game behind Dallas in the race for the NFC East title, he was not concerned about what the Eagles did against other teams.

"In a game like that (the Monday night Miami-Philadelphia

contest) I have very little emotion," Landry said. "I'm not concerned about the way other teams play."

"I'm only concerned about the Cowboys. If we play well we will take care of ourselves. The fact that another team is winning or losing has little effect on me emotionally."

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Valenzuela named NL Rookie of Year by writers

United Press International
NEW YORK — Fernando Valenzuela, the Mexican left-hander who last month became the first rookie ever to win the Cy Young Award, added another laurel today by being selected the 1981 National League Rookie of the Year.

Valenzuela, whose screwball illuminated the strike-torn season and helped turn the World Series in favor of the Los Angeles Dodgers, received 17 1/2 of 24 first-place votes cast by members of the Baseball Writers Association of America to outdistance Montreal Expos speedster Tim Lincecum.

Valenzuela totaled 107 votes while Lincecum, who appeared on target for a single-season stolen base record until the strike and injuries intervened, garnered 6 1/2 first-place nods for a total of 85 points.

New York third baseman Hubie Brooks was third with 8 1/2 points while Cincinnati right-hander Bruce Berenyi and San Diego second baseman Juan Bonilla finished in a tie for fourth. Pittsburgh catcher Tony Pena and New York center fielder Mookie Wilson also received votes.

The points were totaled on a 5-3-1 basis, with five points being given for a first-place vote. One voter split his first-place ballot between Valenzuela and Raines and named no one for second-place. Each player received four points from that ballot.

The result gave the Dodgers their third straight

top rookie. Rick Sutcliffe captured the award in 1979 and Steve Howe in 1980. Since the institution of the award in 1947, Dodger players have captured the honor 10 times, far more than any other club.

Valenzuela compiled a 13-7 mark with a 2.48 ERA and led the league with eight shutouts, 11 complete games, 180 strikeouts and 192 1-3 innings. He began the season with a string of eight straight victories, five of them shutouts.

In the post-season, Valenzuela went 1-0 in the mini-playoffs and 1-1 in the NL playoffs, including victory in the fifth and deciding game against Montreal. Then with the Dodgers trailing 2-0 in the World Series, Valenzuela hurled a complete game triumph against New York despite having only one out.

In one of the closest Cy Young votes ever, Valenzuela, of Sonora, Mexico, nipped Cincinnati's Tim Lincecum by three votes.

Raines, 22, became a sensation for the Expos with his base-stealing exploits. Despite missing 54 games because of the strike and another 22 with injuries, Raines still stole 71 bases, a rookie record.

Raines had hit .304, had stolen 50 bases in 53 attempts and was well on his way to challenging Joe Brock's single-season record of 118 when the strike hit on June 12.

Mutual to broadcast playoffs

United Press International
NEW YORK — The NBA and Mutual Broadcasting System have reached agreement on a new three-year contract giving Mutual

exclusive network radio rights to the NBA All-Star Game, playoffs and championship series, NBA Commissioner Larry O'Brien announced Tuesday.

A minimum of 20 games will broadcast each season, beginning with the All-Star Game on Jan. 1, 1982 and continuing with the playoffs that begin in April.

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