

# Cauthen receives diploma; says he's enjoying England

by Milton Richman  
United Press International

A couple of hot walkers were killing time talking with the chief clerk of scales in the paddock the other evening at Latonia Race Course in bustling little Florence, Ky., when one of them volunteered a piece of news.

"You hear about Stevie Cauthen?" he asked. "He just got his high school diploma."

His listeners were impressed. Steve Cauthen getting his high school diploma was an eyebrow-raiser. That isn't hard to understand, considering the notion that a basic education isn't important for someone like a 21-year-old jockey who already has won horse racing's Triple Crown and Eclipse Award.

He seems to be a little more conscious about the way he speaks since he went over to ride in England and he dresses much smarter than before.

"When he'd come out here before," says one regular at Latonia, where the \$150,000 Jim Beam Spiral Stakes, first step on the Kentucky Triple Crown, will be run March 27, "he'd usually be wearing a Western-style snap shirt, jeans and boots. The last time he came to the track, though, you could see the British influence. He had on a tweed jacket, a vest and a tie."

In his contract with Sangster, Cauthen, who rode Affirmed to the Triple Crown in 1978, has a provision that allows him to come to the United States to ride in the Kentucky Derby if he wishes. He doesn't have any plans to do so.

"The Three Thousand Guineas, the first 3-year-old classic of the year, will be run at Newmarket on the same day as

the Kentucky Derby," Cauthen said, explaining why he probably will not be in Louisville in May.

## Several teams still able to take basketball title

No matter how the 1981-82 Southwest Conference basketball race ends, every team in the league proved this season that it could perform against any club without embarrassing itself.

The SWC posted a 69-24 record against outside opponents and no team had a losing non-conference season.

With the season almost over, it seems appropriate to review the performance of the nine teams.

**ARKANSAS** — The Razorbacks, currently 18-5, 9-4 in conference play, have a good shot at earning their sixth consecutive trip to the NCAA playoffs.

However, Arkansas has had problems this season. In a game against Texas, guard Darrell Walker was ejected after hitting Longhorn guard Ray Harper. The SWC postponed action on the matter until the post-season tournament, although Walker may still be suspended for the incident.

**BAYLOR** — Jim Haller's Bears have already posted their best record in a decade, 16-8 for the season and 9-5 in the conference. In 1971, Baylor was 18-8 and 10-4. The Bears have an outside shot at winning or sharing their first SWC championship in 31 years.

For Baylor to achieve that goal, Arkansas must lose one of its three remaining games while the Bears win both of theirs.

**HOUSTON** — The Cougars have played well in 1982, posting a 17-6 overall record and an 8-5 conference record. With three games to play, Guy Lewis' team could possibly win their first SWC title this season.

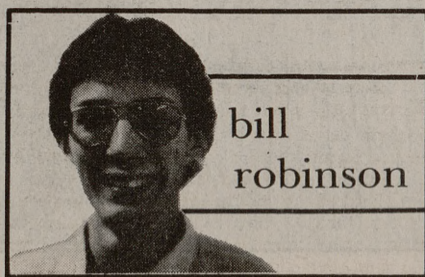
Houston has received outstanding play from guard Rob Williams, center Akeem Abdul Olajuwon and forward Clyde Drexler.

**RICE** — The Owls' success can be summed in two words — Ricky Pierce. Pierce, a forward, leads the nation in scoring (689 points) and is second in per-game scoring (27.6).

Rice, at 14-12 and 5-8 in the conference, could prove to be a spoiler in the SWC race as they play host to Arkansas Saturday.

The Owls are en route to their first winning season since 1971, and with victories in their last two games, would post the school's best record in nearly 20 years.

**SMU** — The 1981-82 season has not been memorable for the Mustangs. Coach Dave Bliss'



bill robinson

Ponies dwell in the conference cellar and won't be moving out any time soon.

**SMU** could be a spoiler in the race, hosting Arkansas in its last game of the season. The Mustangs, 6-18 this year and 1-13 in the conference, have not won since defeating Houston Jan. 16.

**TEXAS** — Coach Abe Lemons' Longhorns, 16-7 and 6-7, appeared to be headed for a national championship until a loss at Baylor Jan. 26. However, Texas has dropped seven of nine outings and has slumped to sixth in the conference.

The Longhorns never recovered after losing forward Mike Wacker and likely will do no better than last year's 7-9 sixth-place SWC finish.

**TEXAS A&M** — With a season record of 15-8 and 8-5 in the conference, the Aggies still have a shot at a share of the SWC title. They must defeat Texas and TCU in G. Rollie White and Houston on the road, while Arkansas must lose one of its three games.

With a good team effort in their remaining games, the Aggies should easily earn a bye into the SWC post-season tournament.

**TCU** — The Horned Frogs are playing better than they have in years, now 13-11 on the season 8-6 in the conference. They could finish their first winning season in a decade by winning one of the two games left on the schedule.

**TEXAS TECH** — Coach Gerald Myers' Red Raiders, 14-9 and 6-7, need two victories in their last three outings to avoid their first losing SWC season since 1969.

With home games against SMU and Texas and a road trip to Arkansas left, the Raiders should be able to accomplish the task and could cause a major shake-up in the SWC standings.

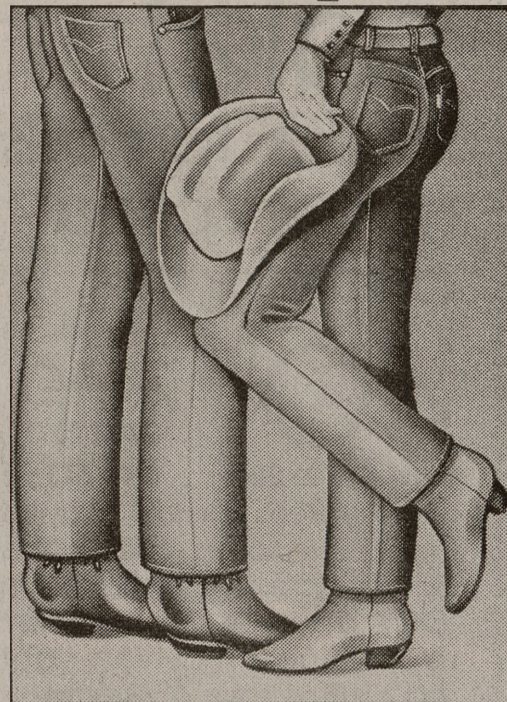
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## Who wears the pants?



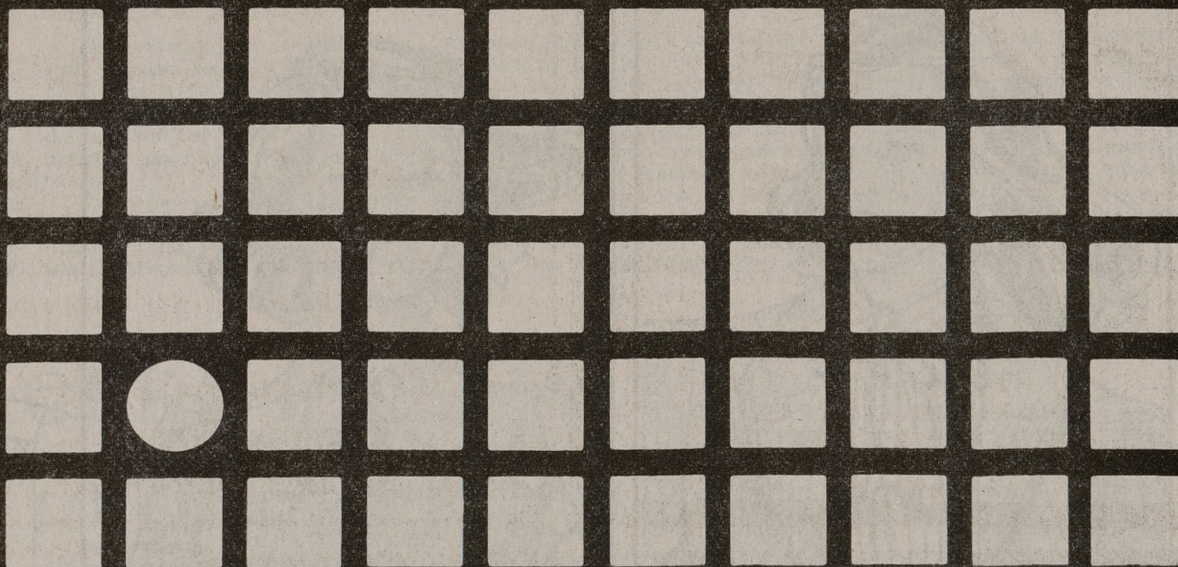
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LET'S GET ACQUAINTED

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