

Pitt retains No. 1 ranking

United Press International
NEW YORK — Pittsburgh Coach Foge Fazio is not taking anything for granted. "Everybody around here knows they (West Virginia) have

better material than we do," said Fazio Monday after his Panthers again narrowly maintained their No. 1 ranking. Pitt plays 14th-rated West Virginia Saturday. "I'm really worried about this

game. It's our first home game at Pitt Stadium and we're playing, in my opinion, one of the top 10 teams in the country. We've got to increase our intensity for this game because emo-

tions will be running high out there."

Pittsburgh, coming off a 20-3 victory at Illinois, collected 19 first-place votes and 586 points from the 42 members of the UPI Board of Coaches while Washington, a 37-21 winner over Oregon, received 18 first-place votes and 583 points.

Washington slipped ahead of Nebraska into the No. 2 position, just three points behind the Panthers.

Penn State, with its dramatic 27-24 victory over Nebraska last week, moved up two places to No. 3 with three first-place votes and 524 points. With the loss, Nebraska tumbled to No. 8.

Alabama, which nipped Vanderbilt 24-21, held onto its No. 4 rating and was followed by two of its Southeastern Conference rivals, No. 5 Florida and No. 6 Georgia.

Rounding out the Top 10 are No. 7 SMU, Nebraska, No. 9 UCLA and No. 10 North Carolina.

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Sherrill

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The Aggies' poor defensive showing against Matt Dunigan's passing might have been attributable to a lack of intensity against a non-SWC team, Sherrill said.

"We did some good things in the second quarter," he said. "But in the third and fourth quarters, we just kind of went through the motions."

"The whole student body and

fans were not reacting the way they would if we were playing a Southwest Conference team. I think the intensity will be much greater against Texas Tech."

Offensive tackle Tommy Robison was named the offensive player of the game and defensive end Paul Pender received an effort rating of 97 percent for the Louisiana Tech game.

As for Texas Tech, Sherrill said the Aggies will have to be well-prepared. The Red Raiders opened their SWC schedule by losing to Baylor 24-23 Saturday.

If that score sounds familiar, Texas A&M narrowly defeated Texas Tech by the same one-point margin in 1981, erasing a 23-10 third-quarter deficit. Sanders and Hector scored late touchdowns to win the game for the Aggies. Red Raider I-back Anthony Hutchison carried 14

times for 67 yards.

In Texas Tech, Texas A&M will face a defense that features an odd-man front based on alignment.

"People have thrown and against them," Sherrill said. "Baylor did both."

In assessing his team's performance thus far, Texas Tech coach Jerry Moore said there have been inconsistencies.

"We really didn't play well against New Mexico (Nov. 14-0)," Moore said in a long distance telephone hook-up Monday's conference. "We're a very young squad with only total seniors, and that's just out the way we played against New Mexico."

"Then we came back and played real well against Force (winning 31-30). We should have beaten Baylor, they were able to hold on to win."

Rangers' rookie handles A's, 4-1

United Press International
ARLINGTON — While most players would rather be in a park at this time of the baseball season, Texas Rangers rookie pitcher Mike Smithson says he is happy his team is not battling for first place.

"That's what is good about being called up (late in the season), he said. "The manager is going to leave you in there and let you out of trouble. I don't have to worry about being taken out."

Smithson, 27, fired a four-hitter and worked out of a jam in the seventh inning to beat Oakland 4-1 in the opener of a three-game series Monday. He struck out four and walked two.

He gave up only a fourth-inning single before the A's touched him for a run in the seventh when Mike Davis doubled off Darrell Brown who opened the inning with an infield hit.

"I really wanted to get a shutout tonight. That was my goal," Smithson, who raised his record to 3-4, snapping a personal three-game losing streak.

Ranger Manager Darrell Johnson said Smithson, who made his major league debut Aug. 27, has a good future with Texas. "In his last seven starts, he has had maybe one bad outing. Johnson said. "He is really a bright spot and sorely needed. Bringing anything like an injury, I don't see any way that he won't be the five-man rotation next spring. He is a definite."

Catcher Bobby Johnson, who was 2-4 and drove in three runs with a single and a double, led a 14-hit Texas attack against Rick Langford, 11-16. Bill Stein went three for four, scored twice and drove in a run.

Johnson gave Texas a 2-0 lead in the second inning. Par Putman reached on a one-out fielder's choice and went to second on a single by Stein. Terry Bogner followed with a single to left to load the bases and Johnson then singled to left off Rick Langford 11-16, to score Putman and Stein.

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