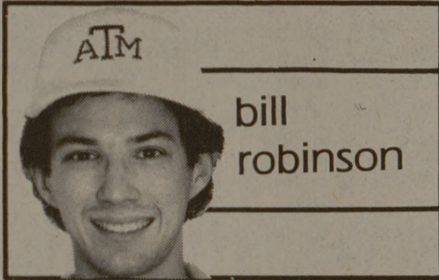


Winning's no problem for a Bjorn-again Borg

It's a long way to the top when you're ranked No. 209 in the world. It's also a long way down to No. 209 when you were the best in the world just a year ago. But even an adversity as severe as a 209-position drop in the rankings can't get some people down. And the only thing down about professional tennis' 209th-ranked player is his position in the game. It's been a long year for Bjorn Borg. The greatest professional tennis player in the history of the game, the awesome Borg has languished in a Catch-22 throughout the 1982 season. With the exception of two tournaments in April, Borg has not competed in 1982, the result of a rule designed by the governing council of professional tennis to prevent players from participating in Lamar Hunt's World Championship Tennis tour — a rival tennis circuit. The league, in its fervor to prevent the Hunt tour from gaining a foothold in the high stakes professional tennis market, struck Borg below the belt. By requiring all players who did not compete in at least 10 Grand Prix events (not counting Wimbledon or the U.S. Open) to



bill robinson

qualify for any tournaments they entered — without exception — the Men's International Professional Tennis Council dealt a tragic blow to the proud Swede. The greatest player in the world should not be required to qualify for a tournament in which a player ranked far below him did not have to. For this reason, Borg chose to sit out the 1982 season. Basically, Borg's problems stem from the 1981 All England Lawn Tennis Championship — Wimbledon — a tournament which the Swede had won five consecutive times. Ranked No. 1 prior to his defeat at the hands of John McEnroe, Borg slipped a

notch in the rankings to finish the 1981 season at No. 2. It was at this point that Borg took a well-deserved vacation from the rigors of the professional circuit — time to relax and to prepare for a return to the top. It wasn't to be. But now the great Borg is back. Borg won his first professional outing since April two weeks ago by downing Vitas Gerulaitis, the fifth-ranked player in the world, in straight sets in an exhibition match at the Omni in Atlanta. Much to the delight of Borg fans around the world, the Swede has signed to play in all 12 Grand Prix events in 1983. Exhibition matches and tournaments will be Borg's way of preparing to once again face a greatly changed men's tour. Jimmy Connors, Borg's greatest foe over the years, is now on top. McEnroe and Ivan Lendl are also playing great. As Borg told USA Today's Cindy Morris: "It will be difficult in the beginning. There is no way I can jump in and play unbelievable tennis. But I don't think it will be a problem. I am not worried at all." And when Bjorn Borg isn't worried, it's time for everyone else to start. Look out Jimmy, Borg is back!

Anderson out week for Hogs

United Press International FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. — Arkansas running back-wide receiver Gary Anderson suffered a cracked rib in the Razorbacks' 21-3 victory over Texas Tech, but trainers say he should be ready for the Houston game Oct. 23. Anderson is to miss practices this week, but because Arkansas has an open date Saturday, he should return to practices beginning the week of Oct. 17, trainers said. Anderson took a screen pass from quarterback Tom Jones in the first period Saturday and raced 74 yards for Arkansas' first score. Anderson was injured about midway through the third period. X-rays indicated a cracked rib. The only other injury reported from Saturday's game was tight end Eddie White's strained neck and shoulder. He may miss a few workouts this week but should be ready for the Houston game, trainers said.

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Alabama No. 2 after win

United Press International NEW YORK — Washington's 90-7 thumping of California Saturday insured the Huskies the No. 1 spot for the second week in a row by UPI's Board of Coaches and Washington Coach Don James could finally call his team "good." Apparently the coaches agreed as Washington, who took over the No. 1 ranking from Pittsburgh a week ago for the first time in their history, collected 25 first-place votes and 604 points, the highest point total by a No. 1 team this season. Last week, the Huskies and

Panthers received 16 first-place votes each from the 42 coaches on the UPI Board, but Washington edged Pittsburgh by five total points (574-569). Alabama, 5-0, moved ahead of Pittsburgh and Penn State and into the No. 2 spot with a 42-21 win over Penn State. The Crimson Tide received 10 first-place votes and 581 points. Pittsburgh, rated second last week, did not play Saturday and garnered the remaining seven first-place votes and 567 points while falling to No. 3. The Panthers are the only team

in the ratings to have played all their games to date against Top 20 teams. Saturday, Pittsburgh hosts Temple. With its first loss in five games, Penn State fell to No. 10. Undefeated Georgia, which topped Mississippi, 33-10, moved up one position to No. 4, followed by No. 5 Southern Methodist, 5-0, No. 6 Nebraska, 4-1, No. 7 Arkansas, 5-0, No. 8 North Carolina, 4-1, No. 9 Notre Dame, 4-0, and Penn State. The second 10 consists of No. 11 UCLA, which dipped three places after tying Arizona, 24-24, No. 12

West Virginia, up five spots after losing, 28-22, to Oklahoma, is rated 16th, followed by No. 17 Clemson, No. 18 Oklahoma, No. 19 Florida and No. 20 Miami (Fla.). Texas, which fell four places after losing, 28-22, to Oklahoma, is rated 16th, followed by No. 17 Clemson, No. 18 Oklahoma, No. 19 Florida and No. 20 Miami (Fla.). Stanford and Boston College dropped from the ratings this week.

Horns' coach says defense key

United Press International AUSTIN — Bob Weltlich, the new man on the job at the University of Texas, says his basketball team will differ greatly from last year's, but it will take him 10 or 12 games to assess their prospects. Weltlich, hired away from Mississippi last April to replace the fired Abe Lemons, Monday said Texas will play slower, emphasizing a patient offense and man-to-man defense. "For us to be successful, we have to be good on the defensive end first," Weltlich said. "Offense wins games, but historically, I believe, defense wins championships." Even though the Longhorns will fast break when they get a chance, Weltlich said Texas will utilize a disciplined offense that concentrates on shot selection. "We're not a team, or we hope not a team, that's going to be careless with the basketball," he said. "We're not in a situation with our size or experience where we can afford to come down and carelessly make plays." Weltlich, who transformed the Ole Miss Rebels from an also-ran into a Southeastern Conference champion, said he probably won't be able to assess Texas' potential until 10 or 12 games into the season. He listed Houston and Arkansas as the co-favorites to win the Southwest Conference crown this year, with Texas A&M a dark-horse. Texas' problems with inexperience and lack of depth will be compounded by his installation of the new offensive and defensive system, he said.

Weltlich noted Texas only has one starter returning from last year for sure, guard Jack Worthington, and there is only one senior on the squad. One of the key's to the Longhorns success will be whether 6-9 forward Mike Wacker will recover from a severe knee injury suffered 10 months ago. Weltlich said doctors have told him there is a 70 percent chance that Wacker will be able to play.

Wacker was averaging nearly 19 points and 14 rebounds a game when he was injured against Baylor on Jan. 26. The Longhorns lost 6-10 center LaSalle Thompson, the nation's leading rebounder last year, when he passed up his senior year to turn pro. But Weltlich said he was not worried about the lack of a center because his offense uses different players in different positions.

"My concern is who is going to guard their guy more than who is going to play in the post for us," he said. Texas officially opens practice Friday in preparation for an exhibition game in Austin on Nov. 19 against the Polish national team.

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