



1926 death remembered in A&M-Baylor rivalry

by Tracey Taylor

Battalion Reporter
The games played between Texas A&M and Baylor have a history of being very competitive. But never has the feeling been as intense as it was in 1926, when the rivalry resulted in the death of an Texas A&M cadet.

Lt. Charles M. Sessums, a senior at Texas A&M in 1926, died as a result of injuries received during a fight that broke out between halves of the Texas A&M-Baylor game in 1926.

The exact cause of the fight is still unknown. The game was played on Oct. 31 at the Cotton Palace Exposition in Waco. There is no dispute about that.

The score at the final gun was 20-9 Baylor. That can be looked up in the record books.

But the picture becomes foggy when you try to discover exactly what happened at halftime that autumn day.

According to page one of the Waco News-Tribune on Oct. 31, the scuffle was caused by two Texas A&M cadets who ran out on the field and leaped into a car being driven by six Baylor coeds. One of the girls was said to be slightly injured when she was knocked from the car.

The paper said a group of Baylor boys then rallied to the girls rescue and charged the cadets, grabbing empty band chairs on the way. The News-Tribune states that "the boys, swinging these chairs, met full force of the Aggie delegation...and succeeded in beating the Aggies back." Besides chairs, the paper said, soda water bottles and pieces of lumber were used as weapons by both sides.

The Dallas Morning news said in a front page article that the Baylor coeds were staging a demonstration in front of the Aggie rooting section and actually provoked the Aggies to jump on their car.

For whatever reasons, chaos broke out. The

riot was eventually brought under control by Dean Allen of Baylor, the Aggie yell leaders and Waco police. Lt. Sessums was taken to the hospital.

In an attempt to prevent further squabbles and quiet the restless Baylor fans, the Aggie yell leaders went across the field to the Baylor stands and made a formal apology for the Aggies' behavior.

When the game was over, the Baylor students were asked to leave and, according to the Waco paper, "the Ags were forced by their officers to remain in their seats for 30 minutes to prevent another clash. They were then marched off the field in squad formation."

Sessums never regained consciousness and was pronounced dead the next morning at 9:00 a.m. The official cause of death was listed as blood clot resulting from a fracture to the base of the skull.

That same Sunday morning, a meeting took place between Baylor and Texas A&M former students in which it was decided that the whole incident should be forgotten and no further controversy should be raised or encouraged, since Sessums' parents did not wish to file charges.

All football games between Texas A&M and Baylor were suspended until 1931. The 1926-27 Longhorn (the Texas A&M yearbook until the name was changed in 1949) described the fight as "a pitched battle between a handful of cadets and the large part of the Baylor student body."

Although no brawls are expected at this weekend's game, a fierce rivalry between Texas A&M and Baylor still exists. The win-loss record (24-21-4 over the past 57 years) shows that the teams are usually evenly matched. Perhaps it's the close proximity of the schools that keeps the competition more alive than anything else.

But for whatever reason, you can bet this weekend's game will be a fight to the finish.

Thorpe medals restored

United Press International
PHOENIX — Olympic gold medals won in 1912 by Jim Thorpe will be returned to his family next year, following a vote by the International Olympic Committee.

Thorpe's daughter, Charlotte Thorpe, 63, who has fought most of her adult life for return of the medals, was overjoyed when she learned Wednesday the executive board of the IOC had voted to restore Thorpe's medals.

"You just don't know how I feel, you can't know possibly how I feel," Miss Thorpe said.

Thorpe, a Sac-Fox Indian, won gold medals in the pentathlon and decathlon at the Stockholm Games in 1912, but they were taken from him after it was learned he had played minor-league baseball for \$2 a game, for expenses, before competing in the Olympics.

Thorpe died of cancer in 1953, at the age of 65.

The IOC announcement, made in Lausanne, Switzerland, said Thorpe's amateur status would be restored and the medals presented to Miss Thorpe at a special ceremony in Los Angeles in January.

"The name of James Thorpe will be added to the list of athletes who were crowned Olympic champions at the 1912 games," the IOC said. "However, the official report for these games will not be modified."

Miss Thorpe said she felt when the gold medals are returned, trophies presented to her father by the king of Sweden and czar of Russia also will be returned. She said the trophies were in crates in the Olympic museum in Lausanne.

She said the gold medals will go to the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame.

Miss Thorpe had said in earlier interviews that her father never got over the humiliation of being denied the medals.

STARSHIP Hallmark Get Ready for Halloween

- Oh no!!!
- Tablecloths
- Candles
- Scary!
- he he he!
- Dracula Blood
- Seals
- Creepy!
- Party Cups
- Boo!!
- Halloween Cards
- Party Plates
- 9-7 Mon.-Sat. Culpepper Plaza 693-3002
- Masks
- Crepe paper Streamers
- Cutouts
- Shop Now!!
- 10-9 Mon.-Sat. Manor East Mall 822-2092

Lindsey's JEWELERS

One group 14K chains, earrings, bracelets, rings. Save 50% Great Selection	One group diamond rings up to 50% off
3 pc. crystal collection, ring tray, vase, heart shape covered box \$9.95	one group loose diamonds from 15 carat to 50 carats reg. \$155-\$900 Now \$75-\$500
Limited supply of 14 Kt. 18" herringbone chains reg. \$45 Now \$19.95	14K Add a beads 3 mm 48¢ 7 mm \$2.95 4 mm 85¢ 8 mm \$3.70 5 mm \$1.35 9 mm \$5.95 6 mm \$2.35 10 mm \$7.95
	Limited supply of 14 Kt. 18" herringbone chains reg. \$55 Now \$29.95

LAYAWAY FOR CHRISTMAS

MANOR EAST MALL
Hours 10-8:30-Mon-Fri
10-6:00-Sat

GIG 'EM WITH A BUCK OFF!

For great Mexican food at real savings, bring in this coupon for \$1.00 off the regular menu price on any of the following:

Monterey Dinner, Fiesta Dinner, Enchilada Dinner, Taco Dinner, Barbiquito Dinner, Special Dinner, Regular Dinner, Summer Special, Burrito Dinner, Chicken Salad, Chicken Enchilada Dinner, Saltillo Dinner, Tamale Dinner, Chicken Tacos, Taco Salad.

Go Aggies! To Monterey House and save on a fiesta.

Monterey House
MEXICAN RESTAURANTS

Good only at: 907 Highway 30 • 693-2484
1816 Texas Ave. • 823-8930

Winter Wonder Sale

How's the weather today Aggies? Stock up now for winter! Sale last thru Saturday so hurry.

SUPER LARGE SELECTION!

**WARMUPS
SKIWEAR
20% OFF**
*Entire Stock Not Included



**ENTIRE STOCK OF SHOES
10-40% OFF**

NIKE CONVERSE Footjoy BROOKS PUMA Lotto

**RACKETBALL
Gloves & Rackets**
Ektion Slazenger **20% OFF**

**WRANGLER
Long & Short Sleeve
Sports Shirts**
20% OFF

**Nike
T-Shirts**
Running or Leisure
1/2 Price Select Group

**Nylon Running
Wear**
Mens & Ladies
Tops and Shorts
30% OFF

All Interwoven Socks — Tennis, Tube, Footsies 20% Off

WINDBREAKERS — ALL SIZES NOW 20% OFF



The Locker Room
"SPORTSHOES UNLIMITED"

800 VILLA MARIA RD.

(ACROSS FROM MANOR EAST MALL)

OPEN 9:30-6:00
MONDAY-SATURDAY

775-9484