

Reality of Dry's dismissal a blow to Horned Frogs

by Joe Tindel Jr.
Battalion Staff

It's difficult to describe the mood in the TCU locker room Saturday after the Horned Frogs' 34-14 loss to Texas A&M. But anyone who strayed in would eventually realize that such scenes were a routine part of Frog football '82 — and Frog football '81, '80, etc.

The reactions of the TCU players certainly were not those of players accustomed to winning and shocked by a loss.

The F.A. Dry era ended the way it began six years ago, and the time in between was no different. The TCU players who left Kyle Field Saturday knew no other way.

As of Sunday, Dry is no longer head football coach at TCU. His players knew last week during preparation for the game with the Aggies that their mentor had been axed.

Stanley Washington, the Frogs' senior all-SWC receiver, was a witness to the emotional trauma his teammates underwent, and he struggled to provide moral support that would hopefully lead TCU through the Texas A&M game.

"It's extremely hard for a team to receive a blow like the

one we did early in the week," Washington said. "At that time the morale was extremely low."

But Washington, who caught only one pass for 22 yards against the Aggies, said he and some of the seniors were able to boost team morale a bit.

"It (the game) was Coach Dry's final hour, and a lot of the seniors' final hour, and we wanted to make it something special," Washington said.

"I don't know. I guess it's just hard to get yourself up and keep yourself up after something like that has happened. I guess the attitude was as good as it could be."

The Frogs' star receiver said he could tell by his own reactions

during workouts last week that staying ready for the Aggies would be a tough assignment.

"I'd go out, and I could put all things aside, then there may be one time when I was sitting down drinking a sip of water on a break and all of a sudden reality hit me again," Washington said.

"I'm pretty sure a lot of the players felt that same way."

Dry's words to the team just after the announcement of his firing were not original. He said that all good things must come to an end. But Washington said those words made him realize he had four good years with TCU, despite his team's lack of success.

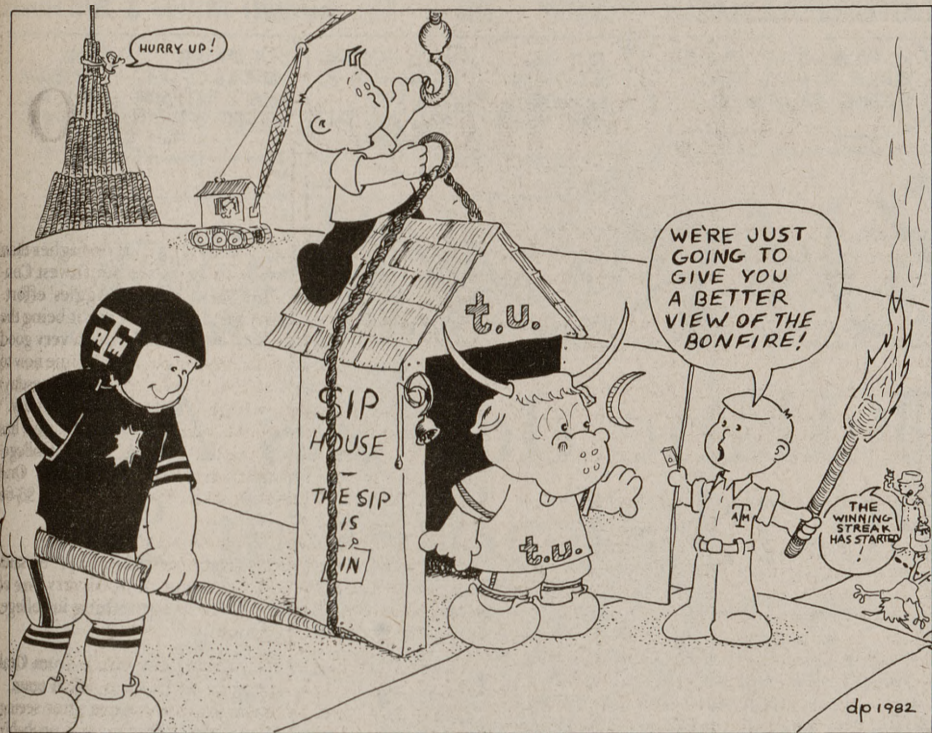
"Maybe that's just the way it

was planned to be," Washington said.

Professional football is still a distinct possibility in the tiny receiver's future, and it would compensate more than adequately for four losing seasons at TCU. Washington finished the season with 32 receptions for 617 yards, and finished his college career with 125 receptions for an impressive 2,209 yards.

"I feel like I still have a good shot at being drafted," he said. "A lot of teams seem to show interest. I've had a good career."

"This season wasn't what I expected, but I don't think it was (bad) enough to keep me from being drafted."



Volleyball team drops match to UT; tourney bid unlikely

by John P. Lopez
Battalion Staff

Most people don't consider volleyball to be a game of inches, but the Aggie Ladies didn't quite measure up to an NCAA tournament bid even though they were inches away from post-season action.

The bids don't make their way to the volleyball circuit until Monday, but the Aggie Ladies are not likely to receive one without a Southwest Conference title in their pocket. Most of the at-large bids for the NCAA tournament go out to various teams in California, where volleyball is more than just a weekend affair.

All coach Terry Condon's Aggie Ladies had to do to secure a West-coast trip was to defeat the Lady Longhorns of Texas, a

task they've lived up to before. But Condon's team lost to Texas 12-15, 10-15, 15-8, 11-15 before approximately 3,000 Austin volleyball supporters to give Texas the SWC trophy.

The loss was demoralizing to the Aggie Ladies, but Condon said there's still a slight chance of a tournament bid.

"Most people consider the Southwest Conference to be one of the stronger conferences in the country, so we still might get a chance," Condon said. "Over-

all, I think we've done pretty well. It's been a good season and we have a good record and we're ranked pretty high nationally. But a lot of Eastern schools that aren't that strong probably will get the bids."

On a brighter note, Texas A&M men's tennis team member Kimmo Alkio reached the semifinals of the Southwest Regional Qualifying Tournament for the NCAA tourney before bowing out to Tom Warneke of Trinity University, 6-2, 6-2.

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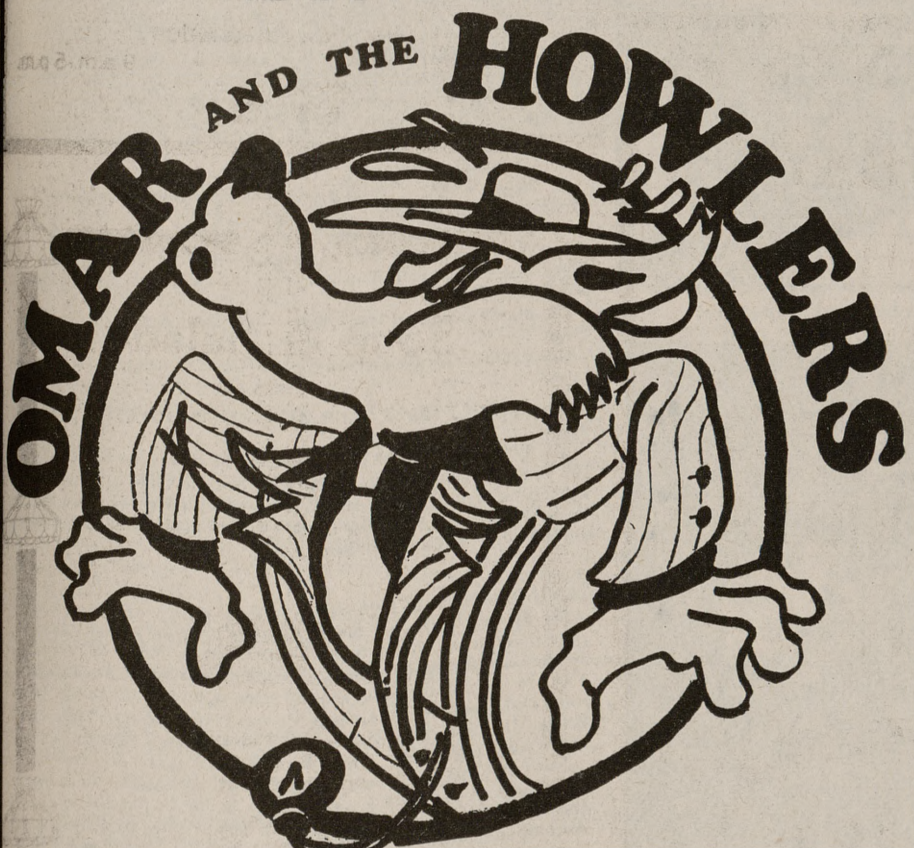
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