

# Arizona comeback trips Feds, 22-21

WASHINGTON (UPI) — It hasn't been long since Alan Risher was quarterbacking Louisiana State, but he feels he's come a long way in a short time, with more to travel.

Risher passed for 310 yards and three touchdowns Monday night to help the Arizona Wranglers nip the Washington Federals, 22-21.

Risher and fellow rookie wide receiver Jackie Flowers combined on a USFL-record, 98-yard touchdown pass as well as a 2-yard scoring toss and Risher added a 79-yard touchdown pass to Calvin Murray. Jim Asmus added a 49-yard field

goal for the Wranglers, 3-3.

Joe Gilliam, playing his first pro game in seven years, threw 22 and 17-yard touchdown passes to Joey Walters, and James Mayberry scored on a 2-yard run for the Federals, 1-5.

Gilliam hit 11-of-31 passes for 203 yards, but threw four interceptions. He was kicked in the back and pulled a hamstring muscle in his left leg on the first TD pass to Walters, with 9:53 left in the first half, and played the rest of the game limping badly.

Risher, who hit 16-of-30 passes for 310 yards, found Flowers eight times for 179 yards and

was intercepted twice.

"Every week I feel more comfortable," said Risher. "Working against a four-man front (defense) has been a big adjustment because we saw mostly five-man fronts in college."

Arizona rallied from a 21-13 halftime deficit, starting with Asmus' field goal with 6:26 left in the third quarter. Moments later, Washington had a first down at the Arizona 1. But the Wranglers stopped the Federals and took possession.

After gaining a yard on first down, Risher hit Flowers at mid-field. Risher had slipped to one

knee in the end zone, but arose to throw the record pass.

Murray took Risher's short toss 79 yards for a touchdown on the Wranglers' second play of the game.

On the Federals' first score, Gilliam passed 11 yards to Billy Taylor and 41 yards to Walters

to set up Mayberry's TD with 1:55 left in the first period.

Washington stopped Arizona and moved 48 yards in eight plays for Gilliam's first scoring pass to Walters nearly 10 minutes before halftime.

The touchdown pass was Gilliam's first since Oct. 5, 1975, when he quarterbacked the Pitt-

sburgh Steelers to a 42-6 victory over the Cleveland Browns.

"I'm proud of the way we moved the ball, but the only thing that matters is winning," he said. "If there is a bright spot, it is that we showed we can run the football, but that doesn't make up in any manner for the loss."

## Worthy out for season

United Press International INGLEWOOD, Calif. — James Worthy, the NBA's top draft pick last year and a stand-out for the Los Angeles Lakers, will undergo surgery today to fuse a bone back together in his leg and will be out of action for at least six months.

The loss of the 6-foot-9 rookie forward, who suffered a fractured tibia just below his knee in Sunday night's game against the Phoenix Suns, severely damages the Lakers' chances of becoming the first team since 1969 to repeat as NBA champions.

Worthy was injured with 10 seconds left in the third quarter

of the Lakers' 101-95 loss at the Forum. After attempting to tip in a missed shot, he landed on his left leg, then tumbled to the floor with Suns' forward Maurice Lucas.

"I don't feel too good right now, I'm sort of down," Worthy said Monday. Asked if the Lakers could repeat as champions without him, Worthy smiled and said, "Why not? They won it without me last year."

Dr. Stephen Lombardo will perform the surgery, which will consist of inserting one or two screws to hold the fracture in position while it is healing, in Centinela Hospital.

"We feel optimistic about his eventual return," said Lakers'

team physician Dr. Robert Kerlan. "Without complication, the prognosis for the future is excellent and it is expected James will be ready to return to action in approximately six months."

Worthy was being counted on to give the Lakers the offense off the bench that they lost when Bob McAdoo broke a bone in his foot one game after the All-Star break. McAdoo probably will not be able to return until late in the playoffs, if at all.

Since McAdoo has been sidelined, Worthy has made more than 60 percent of his shots from the field. In the last seven games before being injured he had shot a sizzling 76 percent.

## Heiress' new boxing club shows promise

United Press International HOUSTON — From thoroughbreds to heavyweights, it's all exciting competition for Josephine Abercrombie, heiress of one of Houston's wealthiest families.

Abercrombie, whose previous contributions to Houston have included Abercrombie Foundation donations to the symphony, opera and museum of natural science and whose stables were the sight of the prestigious Pin Oak Charity Horse Show, has a new game in town.

She has organized the new Houston Boxing Association using some of the money her family has earned in oil, real estate, farming, securities, thoroughbred breeding and retail beef.

She and HBA have scheduled 12 months of boxing for Astrohall in the Astrodome complex.

"I love competition," Ms.

Abercrombie said. "I've always loved it. I had been involved in training and showing horses for years. I've been interested in boxing for some time but only became an active fan five or six years ago."

HBA's Ring Leader Series will offer 12 cards, one per month, starting May 16.

She said 3,000 spectators in the 8,000-seat hall will put the program on a break-even basis. Ms. Abercrombie is hopeful at least 2,000 season tickets will be sold. Three-hundred already have been purchased.

Even if the 3,000-seat ticket goal is not met, Jos. Schlitz & Co. recently committed \$175,000 in sponsorship money, all but guaranteeing a successful first year.

HBA already has made national arrangements. Bob Arum of Top Rank Inc. will make the matches. WarnerAmex will tele-

vised the May, June and July cards nationally on cable.

Eleven of the first 12 programs will be for the professionals. The amateurs will take over in September, when the U.S. National team will take on the West German National team.

Ms. Abercrombie said her interest in boxing goes back to the Joe Louis-Max Schmelling fight.

"My parents' stories about that trip and the excitement of a heavyweight championship fight piqued my interest. I think I became a fight fan listening to what they told me about their adventure," she said.

Promoting good bouts is not her only interest. Ms. Abercrombie said her goal is to bring a world championship to Houston. HBA is building a 6,000-square-foot training facility near the intersection of the Southwest Freeway and the West Loop.

### Alumni QB?

Gary Kubiak, who led the Texas A&M football team last season, has left a big hole to fill in the Aggie offense. The top three quarterback candidates will play Saturday in the Alumni game at 2 p.m.

### SWC stars of the week announced

United Press International DALLAS — Performances at weekend's Texas Relays were deemed the most impressive of the week by Southwest conference schools in voting for SWC male and female athletes of the week.

Baylor's collegiate record-setting effort in the 1600-meter earned team members Bill Houston, Johnny Thomas, Deron Graham and Willie Caldwell athletes of the week honors. The foursome posted a 1:09.8 in that race, bettering a 1977 hand-held time of 1:10.9 set by Arizona State. According to NCAA rules, 24 second must be added to convert hand-held times to fully automatic times, which equates to a mark of a 3:02.14 automatic time.

Houston sprinter Carol Lewis was selected female athlete of the week after posting SWC best in the 100 meter hurdles and helping the Aggies to a school record relay time in Austin Saturday.

Hosting a conference best in the 100 hurdles, Lewis finished third in that event behind Kim Turner of Texas El Paso and Arizona's Laura Limb.



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