

Texas A&M

# The Battalion Sports

Thursday, August 4, 1983/The Battalion/Page 7

## NCAA's rule necessary to tame the 'monster'

In the last couple of years it seems the NCAA has begun to say "enough." At long last, the "monster" that major college football has fed until gorged may find itself on a diet.

Winning always has been the object of the game, only now the stakes are higher. Winning draws big crowds, which draw big bucks. It gives coaches security, and it attracts top high school talent that can start the process over again.

The object is to keep the process of winning going, or start the process. Recruiting is the key, and everyone has to do it to win. Recruiting feeds the monster, or maybe it is the monster. Either way, it's become an incredibly competitive institution.

"It's a high interest affair," Texas coach Fred Akers says about college football. "There's no question about it. Sports is big in this country and football is huge in the state of Texas."

It's so huge that the NCAA has found the need to keep close tabs on recruiting practices. Repeated cases of violations have led to more strict rules and enforcement of those rules.

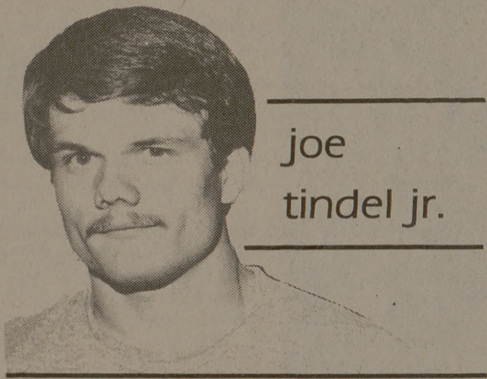
The latest NCAA recruiting rule took effect Monday. Known as the "Booster Rule," it prohibits alumni from meeting and talking with a high school prospect off campus. It's designed to put a damper on collaboration between coaches and alumni which involves offers of money or gifts to an athlete being recruited.

"Any way they can get the alumni out of it I think would be excellent," says Houston coach Bill Yeoman, though he also says he favors lowering the boom on willful recipients of money and gifts.

"I really feel very strongly that what they need to do is just redefine what is a professional, what is an amateur, and if a kid in any way compromises himself, then he's a professional," Yeoman says.

"But I say don't bother the school. If the youngster takes money, then he's through."

But the NCAA seems intent on keeping its eye on coaches. The rule requires coaches to tell boosters not to meet with an athlete off campus. So it seems the collaboration is what the NCAA is out to get, maybe moreso than boosters' gifts.



Joe Tindel Jr.

It makes sense, though, because collaboration with boosters is one of the "miles" taken from the "inch" that the NCAA allows in recruiting. Major college football might eventually evolve into professional football if practices like these aren't checked.

Obviously some coaches favor this legislation, since the "Booster Rule" sprang from coaches' support of a rule controlling boosters.

Akers says he likes it, but Texas Tech mentor Jerry Moore says the rule does away with some honest and helpful assistance by boosters.

"One of the things that I think hurts all of us is not being able to have those people (alumni) bring an athlete on campus," Moore says. "I think we'll miss that, because that was always a way to help get a youngster to the airport and get him transported to campus."

But those few who have chosen to take the mile have made the elimination of the honest help of boosters a necessary evil.

Recruiting violations are a flaw of the system. The pressure caused by the swelling importance of a game is too great. The "monster" already exists, but it can be tamed. And that taming is necessary for the sake of college football's integrity.

## Major leagues

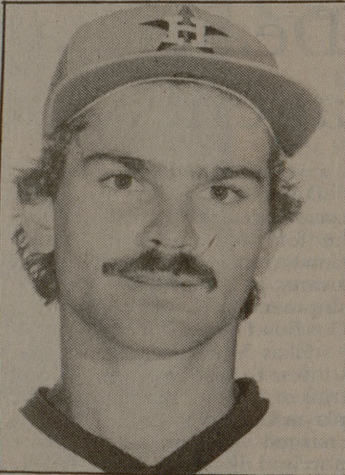
Ryan hurls one-hitter to secure Astros' 1-0 victory

United Press International  
SAN DIEGO—Nolan Ryan is not as fast, but the pack is slow to catch up.

"He might be a few miles per hour slower than he was 10 years ago, but he's still ahead of everybody else," San Diego manager Dick Williams said Wednesday night after Ryan allowed just one hit — a one-out single by Tim Flannery in the third inning — in leading the Houston Astros to a 1-0 victory over the San Diego Padres.

"He's something, that son of a gun," Williams said. "In the first half of the game, I know he was around 93 or 94 miles an hour. When he's getting his curve and change over like he was tonight, he's unbeatable."

In pitching his 52nd career shutout and ninth one-hitter, Ryan, 36, broke a personal four-game losing streak with his 215th lifetime triumph. The 36-year-old right-hander struck out



Dickie Thon's triple gets Houston's winning run.

10 to raise his career total to 3,606, second to Steve Carlton's 3,609 on the all-time list. The

win was Ryan's first since July 13.

It was also the 149th time in his career he has struck out 10 or more in a game.

"I felt strong all the day through," Ryan said. "That's one of the desirable things about pitching out here where it's cool. I think I made better pitches and had better command of my curve than I've had in the last few outings."

"Near the end I overthrew a couple of fastballs and tried to step back to regain my rhythm but I couldn't."

The loser was Tim Lollar, 4-10, whose personal winless streak was extended to four.

Flannery singled cleanly to right. He advanced to second base on a wild pitch and stayed there as Ryan fanned Lollar and Bobby Brown.

"I didn't make the pitch I wanted to," Ryan said of Flannery's hit. "He didn't hit it all

that well but he placed it."

In the fourth inning, Alan Wiggins opened with one of six walks issued by Ryan and advanced to second on Garry Templeton's groundout. Ryan then struck out Terry Kennedy and retired Ruppert Jones on a popup to end the inning.

"He had great velocity, a good curveball and a great change," said Houston manager Bob Lillis. "We've seen him throw just as well and probably with more command of his pitches."

In the first, Terry Puhl legged out a slow roller toward third for an infield single and scored on Dickie Thon's triple into the right field bullpen.

Williams could only shake his head following the game.

"You can't get much with one hit, although he did give us six walks," said Williams. "Looking at what he does now, he's amazing."

## Boston nips Rangers in tenth

United Press International

ARLINGTON — Boston relief pitcher Louis Aponte thinks his team has a better-than-even chance to make up the eight games separating the sixth placed Red Sox and first place in the American League East.

"We haven't gotten the steady winning streaks like the other teams in the division have," said Aponte, 5-3, after getting credit for a win in Wednesday night's 5-4, 10-inning triumph over the Texas Rangers.

"I think we're going to put together a winning streak soon, and we'll be there," added

Dennis Eckersley. "I think we have the best team in the American League, man to man."

Despite yielding a two-out home run in the ninth to the Ranger's Billy Sample which tied the score, 4-4, the 29-year-old Aponte was hardly disappointed with his three-inning performance in which he surrendered two hits and two walks while striking out three.

Boston manager Ralph Houk said Aponte had his best outing since the All-Star break, and Dwight Evans, who drove in the winning run with his second double of the game in the 10th

inning, said the Red Sox will need a strong and consistent effort from their bullpen if they are to make a run at the AL East flag.

The Rangers, who have lost eight straight and 10 of their last 11 games, were very disappointed after coming back from a 4-0, first-inning deficit.

"We've lost so many games like this, it makes you wonder when it's going to turn around, when the pin's going to come out of the voodoo doll," said Sample, who drove in two runs and smacked four hits, including a double.

"If our effort is any indication, we deserve better than this."

The Rangers have dropped 22 of their 27 games since July 4, and their latest setback was a perfect example of what has gone wrong, said Sample.

"The difference between the first half and the second half (of the season) is that when we score the big run, the other team seems to come right back and score," said Sample. "So we don't have any time to add to what we've accomplished."

# ANNUAL RED TAG SALE!!!

ENTIRE STOCK REDUCED FOR SUMMER CLEARANCE at 25%\* OFF - and more!

3-DAYS ONLY THURSDAY- FRIDAY - SATURDAY - A Large Selection of Merchandise Has Been Reduced More Than 25% and Will Be "Red Tagged" at Savings Greater Than 25%.



## SIDEWALK SALE SATURDAY ONLY

Hundreds of Items Reduced up to 75% off - Many One-Of-A-Kind - Some Scratched and Shop-Worn, But All Outstanding Values From Throughout The Sports Center - Come Early While It's Still Cool and Get The Best Selection - At The Sidewalk Sale Under The Canopy In Front of Tri-State's New Sports Center. Saturday Only 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

<p><b>GOLF</b> Wilson MacGregor Northwestern Foot-Joy Sports Network</p>	<p><b>SKI</b> Jobe O'Brien E.P. Conely Western Cut 'n Jump America's Cup Steamers</p>	<p><b>TENNIS</b> Wilson Snauwert Prince Head Donnay Ektion <b>BOWLING</b> Brunswick</p>	<p><b>SCUBA</b> U.S. Diver's Seaquest - Mare Decor Tekna Heuer Sherwood Wenoka Underwater Kinetics</p>	<p><b>GUNS</b> Browning Winchester S &amp; W Ruger Coit H &amp; R Ithica Rossi</p>	<p><b>ARCHERY</b> Bear Browning Martin Jennings PSE Indian York Calum</p>
<p><b>SHOES</b> Nike Adidas Brooks Converse Foot-Joy Asahi Mitre</p>	<p><b>CLOTHING</b> Munsingwear Boast Pendleton 10X Danskin Walls Wilson</p>	<p><b>FISHING</b> Zebco Browning Garota Daiwa Fenwick Ambassadeur</p>	<p><b>CAMPING</b> Coleman Gaz American Campers Wenzel Stumberjack Q-Beam Curtler Igloo Gott</p>	<p><b>ATHLETICS</b> Swingster Dodger Wilson Mitre H &amp; B Everlast Diversified Products Gravity Systems Recent</p>	

\*Except Guns and Some Styles of Shoes Which Are Reduced 10%. Boy Scout Items, Golf Balls, and Consignment Items Are Not On Sale.

# TRI-STATE SPORTS CENTER

2023 TEXAS AVENUE TOWNSHIRE SHOPPING CENTER 779-8776 Mon-Sat 9:00-6:00

