

Texas A&M The Battalion Sports

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Texas holds No. 2 spot in UPI top 20

Amazing Huskers dominate coaches poll

United Press International
NEW YORK — Nebraska piles up first-place votes from the UPI board of Coaches almost as fast as the Cornhuskers score points on the football field. Nebraska, which continued to roll with an 84-13 whipping of Minnesota, retained its top spot in balloting done by the UPI Board of Coaches, but the ratings were thoroughly shuffled below.

No. 2 Texas and No. 3 Ohio State both scored impressive victories over highly-rated opponents to move up and North Carolina jumped four places

into fourth after its third straight win.

The next four teams — No. 5 Alabama, No. 6 Iowa, No. 7 Washington and No. 8 West Virginia, all ascended at least six places after victories. No. 9 Pittsburgh moved up four places even though it was idle, while Oklahoma tumbled from second to 10th after losing to Ohio State.

Rounding out the Top 20 are No. 11 Georgia, No. 12 Southern Methodist, No. 13 Florida, No. 14 Auburn, No. 15 Boston College, No. 16 Notre Dame, No. 17 Michigan, No. 18 Arkan-

sas, and Arizona State and Michigan State tied for 19th.

Nebraska received 39 of 40 first-place votes for 598 points, while the Longhorns were a distant second with 544. Ohio State received the other first-place vote and 523 points.

Nebraska averages 61 points and 623 yards total offense a game, gaining nine yards per play behind quarterback Turner Gill, I-back Mike Rozier and wingback Irving Fryar.

The Cornhuskers host UCLA Saturday.

"This is a big challenge for our team to play a team like Neb-

raska, but it's a chance for us to play the best," UCLA Coach Terry Donahue said.

Texas was also impressive while shutting off a strong Auburn running game in the Longhorns' opener. Coach Fred Akers' squad dominated both the offensive and defensive lines en route to a 20-7 victory.

"Our biggest plus was the aggressiveness and effort we had," Akers said of the win. "We made several mistakes, but our efforts covered up many of those errors."

As for the Longhorns' national rankings, Akers said, "We

want to do as well as we can. But we're more concerned about how we play than how we're ranked, and we're pleased with how we play." The Longhorns host North Texas State Saturday.

Washington made the biggest upward jump in the ratings, gaining nine places after a 25-24 win over Michigan. Iowa topped defending national champion Penn State, West Virginia knocked off Maryland and Alabama routed Mississippi to each jump six spots.

Notre Dame fell 11 places after being upset by Michigan

State, Auburn tumbled 10 spots after falling to Texas and Michigan slipped seven notches following the loss to Washington.

Ohio State doesn't even get a breather after its win in Oklahoma, since the Buckeyes face Big Ten rival Iowa on the road Saturday.

Among rebounding powers, Oklahoma hosts Tulsa, Georgia hosts South Carolina, Auburn visits Tennessee, Notre Dame travels to Miami of Florida, Michigan visits Wisconsin and Arizona State hosts Wichita State.

Georgia dropped four spots after tying Clemson last week while Arizona State held its ground after a tie against Pac-10 rival UCLA.

Arkansas, after winning its second straight, and Michigan State cracked the Top 20 for the first time this season. The Spartans become the fourth ranked team from the Big Ten after a 2-0 start under first-year coach George Perles.

Florida State and Maryland dropped out of the ratings. The Seminoles were upset by Tulane, while the Terrapins bowed to West Virginia.

Oilers trade Manning Casper to Vikings

United Press International
EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. — The Minnesota Vikings, seeking immediate help after a season-ending injury to quarterback Tommy Kramer, Tuesday traded two undisclosed draft choices to Houston for quarterback Archie Manning and tight end Dave Casper.

Kramer tore the inside ligaments in his right knee Sunday in Minnesota's 19-16 overtime victory over Tampa Bay and underwent surgery Monday.

Oiler executive vice president and general manager Ladd K. Herzog said quarterback Gifford Nielson and tight end Chris Dressel will step into the starting slots left by Manning and Casper.

"This trade is following the Oilers' desire to build a championship football team

through the draft. While the terms will not be disclosed, I can say the Oilers had to assume a significant portion of both players' 1983, 1984 and 1985 contracts."

Oilers head coach Ed Biles said the trade will help the Oilers both in the long run and immediately.

"The draft choices will help us continue the building process we have established. At the same time, it allows for the continued development of both rookie tight ends Chris Dressel and Mike McCloskey. These 1983 draft choices have shown outstanding progress thus far in their careers. It will also allow second year quarterback Oliver Luck some potential playing time."

Although Minnesota Coach Bud Grant named Steve Dils as the No. 1 quarterback to replace Kramer, the Vikings

did express interest in finding someone else to call the plays as an insurance measure.

Minnesota has also been beset with injuries at tight end, losing All Pro Joe Senser to a knee injury. Senser underwent surgery Aug. 1 and was expected to miss at least the first four regular season games.

Backup Bob Bruer was hobbled with ankle injuries at the start of the season and second-year tight end Steve Jordan has also been slowed by a knee injury.

"They're both established players," Grant said Tuesday of Manning and Casper. "We feel we're in contention for a championship in our division."

"We've had injury problems at tight end and now we have them at quarterback so we went for the best that was available," he said. "I'm sure both will fit into our system."

Donley sub upset Johnson

United Press International
DALLAS — The Dallas Cowboys' No. 1 showman is in a depressed state these days, and to facilitate his attempts to get out of it, coach Tom Landry made a rare concession earlier this week. Landry gave Butch Johnson a day off.

Johnson, who is in his eighth year of playing backup wide receiver for the Cowboys, has spoken loud and often about the fact he should be starting.

To keep himself in the limelight, Johnson has done such things as come up with a unique end zone dance following his occasional touchdowns. But during the offseason Landry banned such antics.

Then, when flanker Tony

Hill was injured during the Cowboys 28-13 win over the New York Giants last Sunday, it was not Johnson who came in as a replacement. Instead, it was Doug Donley.

Landry said Donley was Hill's backup while Johnson was the backup for Drew Pearson. It did not help Johnson's disposition that Donley went on to catch six passes during the game.

After the game, Landry and Johnson met for 45 minutes and during the session Johnson asked Landry if he could have Monday off to think things through.

Landry admitted he would not ordinarily grant such a request, but said he did so on this occasion, "to give him the chance to shake it off."

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