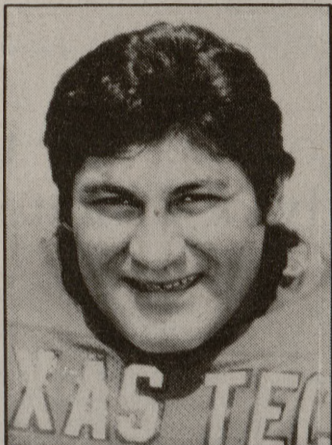


Rivera paralyzed from chest down



Gabriel Rivera

United Press International
PITTSBURGH — Doctors attending to Pittsburgh Steelers' defensive lineman Gabriel Rivera said Tuesday the rookie is paralyzed from the chest down from injuries suffered in a car crash last week and likely will never walk again.

Dr. Daniel L. Diamond, who has been in charge of Rivera since he was brought into Pittsburgh's Allegheny General Hospital Thursday night, said the former Texas Tech star has numerous fractures of the spine and will undergo an operation in a few days.

Diamond emphasized, however, the operation will only be to stabilize the fractured vertebra and will not improve Rivera's paralysis.

"The fractured area of the back needs to be stabilized. This is not something we expect will result in any improvement in his paralysis," he told reporters. As each day passes, it is more and more unlikely that he (Rivera) will ever walk again."

Diamond said Rivera, 22 and the Steelers No. 1 draft pick in this spring's draft, has fractured the vertebra in his upper chest, between the shoulder blades.

Doctors will attempt to graft the bones in Rivera's back and insert metal rods to

hold the spine in place, Diamond said. If the operation is not performed, Rivera's upper body would lean and eventually "just slide off the lower spine," he said.

In addition to his paralysis, Rivera also injured his right arm, but doctors are hopeful the arm can be returned to full strength.

Diamond said doctors believe Rivera's life is in no immediate danger.

He is in serious but stable condition in Allegheny General, where his wife of five months, Kim, and his parents are with him. Kim is expecting the couple's first child in a few months.

Because he has a tube in his throat and is on a respirator, Rivera has not been able to talk to his family, but can communicate and seems to know what is going on, Diamond said.

The accident occurred about 9 p.m. Thursday after Rivera left Julian's, a Pittsburgh restaurant and bar.

Rivera's car crossed the center line and collided head-on with a car driven by Allen Watts, 48, and was thrown from his late-model Datsun 280-Z, police said. Watts was not injured.

Police have charged Rivera with drunken driving, reckless driving and speeding in the accident, although two television reporters who were with Rivera that night say he did not appear intoxicated when he left the bar.

Contacted Tuesday in Lubbock, Texas Tech football coach Jerry Moore said, "Boy, that's tragic. I've talked to the doctors and his parents from time to time but have never talked to him (since the accident). All of us were keeping our hopes up that this wouldn't happen."

"It's always a depressing thing, I think particularly so in the circumstances of Gabe," he said. "He had done so well here in his senior year. Everybody had such high expectations of him."



Taking the field

Jackie Sherrill, at left, follows his players onto the field prior to the Aggies' game with Rice

Saturday. The Aggies face their stiffest test to date Saturday when they play SMU.

Cannon Sr. says son earned \$400 a week during summer

United Press International
BATON ROUGE, La. — A Teamsters-affiliated garbage worker's local paid Texas A&M backer Billy Cannon Jr. \$400 a week for a summer job during the summer job training about unions, the football player's father said.

Billy Cannon Sr., an orthodontist and former Heisman trophy winner who has confessed in a \$6 million counterfeiting scheme, was president of Teamsters Local 100 while his son was on the payroll.

The elder Cannon — a Louisiana State back and later pro with the Los Angeles Rams and Houston Oilers — told his son's union connection Tuesday while testifying as a government witness against Herbert "Jack" Jessup, a codefendant in the counterfeiting ring.

Cannon and four other participants in the caper already have pleaded guilty and agreed to cooperate in the government's case against Jessup.

During cross-examination by Jessup's attorney, Cannon said he never was paid for his role as

president of Teamsters Local 100. However, he said his son received checks from the garbage men's union.

"My son received some checks, but not because I was president," Cannon said. He said the younger Cannon worked for long-time Baton Rouge Teamsters boss Edward Grady Partin to earn the money.

The elder Cannon, who said he served as president as a favor to Partin, said the labor boss had put college athletes on union payrolls for 25 years in a public relations program.

"I worked for him in the same program that Little Bill worked for him — he had a number of LSU players and Southern players," Cannon said. "Partin said, 'while I know you college athletes are not going to derive an income from the work force you will get a feeling for the working man.'"

"The education program is a feeling a boy that works with the union carries on in private life," Cannon said.

He said his son never went out

on a union job to work with laborers, but "worked in the office when he was in town."

Partin has been serving time in a LaTuna federal prison for obstruction of justice. He faces trial in Baton Rouge next month on charges of misappropriating union funds for his own benefit.

Aggie Sports Roundup

Golf team at Pan Am Classic

The men's golf team will travel to Harlington for the Pan American Classic this weekend. The team finished 10th at the Andy Bean Invitational last weekend. The University of Houston finished eighth and University of Texas finished 11th. Oklahoma won the tournament. A&M's Philip Parkin placed seventh with a score of 218.

Women's tennis team at La. Tech

The women's tennis team will face Louisiana Tech this Friday.

The matches will start at 9:00 a.m. at the Omar Smith Tennis Center.

Volleyball team faces Rice

The volleyball team will take on Rice at 7:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 31 in G. Rollie White Coliseum. The team beat Baylor last Monday to maintain their No. 2 place in the Southwest Conference behind Texas. A&M's record is 5-1 in the SWC. The Aggies will be idle this week while preparing for their end-of-season string of conference games. League-leading Texas will come to town

Nov. 16 for a match that could possibly decide the conference championship.

Cross-country in Championships

The men's and women's cross-country teams will participate in

the SWC Championships on Monday, Oct. 31 at Rice. The men's team placed third at Georgetown last weekend. The women's team also placed third last weekend at the Michigan State Invitational.

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- Test Engineering

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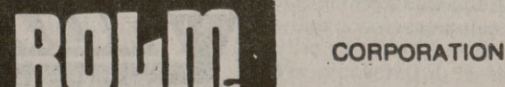
Wednesday, October 26

Rudder Rm. 607 at 7:00 pm
 ROLM's voice and data integration demonstration of new Cypress workstation.

On Campus Interviews Thursday, October 27

Meet with working Software and Hardware Engineers from ROLM in the Placement Center. See our Company Literature in the Placement Center.

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