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## **USFL** gimmicks hard to believe

Now I know the USFL has to aggressively market its teams, but I find this newest

ocking inable Other than being treated o an action-packed football ame, fans can expect some Medical A ther entertainment goodies. Who can wait for the halftestifying b e, said they time tug of war contest or the lings of the chance to win one of the would supp 10,000 free "Where's the law to preve Beef' bandanas?

> But rather than condemn or ridicule these promotions, I think they didn't go far enough. I want more.

GAO report Why not have male and fenly about le male strippers sell the hot sciplinary in dogs, with a five dollar cover

charge. studied 328 Warming to this scenario the majorn the Assistant Sports Editor chimes in that there could be licenses were pended for horse racing on the track sur-Michigan, O. rounding the field. Imagine between Jr the chaos created by this ember 1982 equestrian rabble stampeding at 122 of the around camera crews, ses in states cheerleaders and the tug-ofthat took war teams.

g action battling the Raving Alien the game before the two automatical from Cleveland could be teams actually play it. The ioning by added attractions. Maybe a teams playing each other the same mini-series could be develcenses," 64 oped. Sort of the Dukes of this pre-determined score at

Zimmerman Hazzard go to Rome. sionals were Maybe the teams could for treatments bring in circus rides and a Medicaid per ferris wheel, kids under 12

ograms and entertainment experience. he GAOsa The Gamblers put on a good

the end.

I think one way the USFL the lawn.

game, just go home and mow the lawn.

A 1984 DODGE CHARGER AND A ROUND TRIP FOR TWO TO RIO DE JANEIRO VIA PAN AM N OBLIGATION-FREE DRAWINGS and were Chariot races headlining could increase fan interest other state the Madman from Olympus would be to set the score of

the end of the game. Each team would be expected to pick their best three players of the game. The three on the winning team would be traded immediately to the Dallas Cowboys. The three best on the losing team would be traded to the Dallas Cowboys. The three best on the losing team would be traded to the San would be traded to the San would be traded to the San

would be expected to have

Antonio Gunslingers. And if you ever got tired of udy cited show, but decided to lose in trying to figure out any USFL

Billy Cannon picked by Pokes in 1st round

**United Press International** 

DALLAS — Aggie linebacker Billy Cannon Jr. hoped to hear his name called somewhere near the end of the second round of the NFL draft Tues-

Instead, the Texas A&M linebacker became a first-round selection of the Dallas Cowboys who had not used their initial pick to choose a Southwest Conference player since 1961.

The early pick was somewhat of a surprise. Experts predicted Cannon to be chosen sometime in the second round. But A&M Defensive Coordinator R.C. Slocum said he wasn't too sur-

prised.
"We get a lot of input from scouts and coaches," Slocum said, "so we knew that several teams were very interested in

Cannon's value increased greatly this spring when he spent the off-season months lifting weights, something he had never done before because of playing on the A&M baseball

Slocum said the 6-foot-4-inch Cannon now weighs about 237pounds, up from the 220pounds he played at this past season. And it is all muscle, Slo-cum said. He also said Cannon consistanly runs the 40-yard

Cannon's biggest asset, Slocum said, was his toughness.

"He's a tough son-of-a-gun," Slocum said. "And that's the starting point for playing linebacker. Billy has some finesse, but he can take on some blockers and jam some people.'

non might have, Slocum said his University. inexperience at the linebacker position might be a disadvan- Trophy in 1959 and his punt tage. Cannon only played line-

traordinary job this season. "For a guy to come in to a

Cowboys snapped up a player cheerleader with a sabre. who once thought his future was in baseball.

said Dallas personnel director Gil Brandt. "I wasn't all that surprised he lasted that long, but I was still worried somebody might take him. A lot of clubs were high on kim."

whose wealth totaled \$3 million, pleaded guilty to masterminding an inexplicable \$6 million counterfeiting scheme. The elder Cannon is now serving a five-year federal prison term. "He was the one we wanted," were high on him.'

The irony of Cannon's selection was that he became the first Texas A&M player ever taken by the Cowboys and that he was the first draft choice under the tragedy. "Opposing players 'Bum" Bright.

"Bum got to make the first dle it the way he did.
pick," joked Dallas coach Tom Landry. "It was part of the sale.

Cannon is no stranger to the

As for any weaknesses Can- the history of Louisiana State

Cannon won the Heisman return that beat the University backer his senior year after be-ing switched from free safety. jor part of Louisiana football Slocum said Cannon did an ex- lore

When the younger Cannon was a senior in high school, the state of Louisiana was outraged new position, without spring state of Louisiana was outraged training, and do the job he did is incredible," Slocum said. "If his father's alma mater. He did he would have played four so after choosing to abandon a years at linebacker, he would career of professional baseball.

Even though more highly publicized linebackers were During his sophomore year at Texas A&M, Cannon gained notoriety by knocking an A&M available when Dallas picked cadet to the ground after the ca-25th in the opening round, the det had threatened an SMU

> Last year Cannon's father, a Baton Rouge orthodontist whose wealth totaled \$3 million

ownership of Texas A&M tried to bait him and he refused board of regents chairman H.R. to react to it. He is an outstanding person in being able to han-

"Billy did the greatest job in

Cannon has refused all com-When you spend \$80 million you ought to get to make the pick."

ment about his father's activities and he did so again Tuesday after the Cowboys drafted him.

the low second round."

After producing a porter the composition of the low second round."



Photo by DEAN SAITO

Billy Cannon breaks through the Rice offensive line in action this past season. Cannon was Dallas' first round pick in Tuesday's draft.

After producing a poor track help.

Second with first-round picks in "We have to have proven." er the Cowboys drafted him.

record with first-round picks in recent years, Landry indicated the Cowboys did not go after a record with first-round picks in players coming out of training camp," said Landry. "We are

at a position where they needed

public eye. very happy to be drafted by His father, Billy Cannon Sr., Dallas," said Cannon. "I was the greatest football hero in thinking I would be drafted in were positive would help them with a solid set of linebackers."

## Ags pick Johnson

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Associate athletic director John David Crow announced Tuesday that assistant coach Mark Johnson will succeed Tom Chandler as Texas A&M's head baseball coach at the end of the season.

Chandler, A&M's head coach for 26 years, resigned prior to the Rice series last weekend. His

resignation is effective Aug. 31.
"We are extremely fortunate to have a person of Mark Johnfor Tom Chandler and assume the direction of our baseball established here by him.'

program," Grow said.' Johnson was an assistant coach at Mississippi State for six

years before coming to Texas A&M in 1982. He also coached at Arizona — the 1976 national

"I'm extremely honored and Texas A&M as its head baseball coach," Johnson said. "It is also an honor to succeed a man of Tom Chandler's caliber, and I son's ability to be able to step in will make every effort to maintain the many high standards



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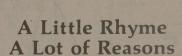
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