

Landry gives no excuses for 'Giant' loss

United Press International

DALLAS — Tom Landry could have asked for better circumstances when he celebrated his 60th birthday Tuesday.

For one thing the Dallas Cowboys head coach is still recovering from a cold that all but took away his voice. And there is also the matter of the most recent game the Cowboys played — one in which they lost 28-7 to the New York Giants.

"I guess I'm just lucky to be here," said Landry after being offered a round of birthday congratulations at his weekly media gathering. "I never thought about being 60 years old. I'm not sure I realize it is here yet."

"It's nice to have your birthday on press day. The press is always so sentimental and very compassionate that they will probably forget about the Giants' game."

The Giants ran over the Cowboys last Sunday in a game that caused Landry to issue the following summary:

"It looked like our feet were in mush."

The ultimate Landry conclusion was that it was just one of those days and that it was not anybody's fault in particular — least of all Cowboys' quarterback Gary Hogeboom.

Hogeboom threw an interception that led directly to a New York touchdown and was also blasted by linebacker Lawrence Taylor near the Giants' goal-line, resulting in a fumble that Andy Headen picked up and ran 80 yards for a score.

"The NFL is not an easy place to learn," said Landry. "Gary will learn a lot more before he is through. But you have to learn through experience. The fumble was not his fault

and the interception he threw was not that bad a pass. It was really good coverage.

"I think we will be playing good football pretty quick. We played good football against the Rams (in a season-opening victory) and we are capable of doing that every time we step on the field."

"Most of all we need to eliminate the turnovers if we are going to be successful."

Dallas has turned the ball over nine times in its opening two games.

The Cowboys play their first home game Sunday, that being against the Philadelphia Eagles. And on the personnel front Landry said he did not expect former Philadelphia receiver Harold Carmichael to play against his former teammates.

Carmichael was picked up by the Cowboys last week to bolster their

receiving corps.

"Harold is still trying to learn the system," said Landry. "He is not going to be a factor for a while. He probably won't be ready this week."

The Cowboys also announced they had more than 6,000 tickets remaining for their home opener, a fact that did not appear to be all that much of a concern to club president and general manager Tex Schramm.

"That is the same as it was last year and the year before that," he said. "We usually don't sell out all our games until about the end of September or early in October."

Nevertheless, far more tickets are available for Dallas games later in the season than there normally are at this time of year.

About 20 percent of the stadium is left unsold for the Dallas-Indianapolis game on Oct. 28.



Dallas' Tom Landry

49ers hurt after clash with Skins

United Press International

SAN FRANCISCO — San Francisco 49ers quarterback Joe Montana grimaced as he sat at his locker, his bruised ribs burning.

The 49ers were 2-0 this season after a 37-31 victory over the Washington Redskins Monday night. But the price they have paid so far may be a little too much.

To put it simply, San Francisco is hurting.

The 49ers have lost starting cornerback Eric Wright and defensive end Jeff Stover with injured knees in their opening victory against the Detroit Lions.

Then against the Redskins, Montana was buried by a blitzing linebacker and slightly bruised his ribs. Defensive end Lawrence Pillers came off with a concussion and linebacker Todd Shell pulled his hamstring.

"My ribs are sore," Montana said. "I don't know right now how badly injured they are but I will tomorrow morning. The bad thing is that this is a short week."

The 49ers quarterback had one of his best nights, completing 24-of-40 passes for 381 yards and two touchdowns. He also rolled 7 yards for another score.

While Walsh is searching this week for answers to his punting and defensive problems, Washington coach Joe Gibbs is trying to turn things around for his 0-2 team.

"Right now we are struggling defensively," he said. "But hopefully we found something in the second half that we can carry over to our next games."

Washington has a troubled running game, gaining just 62 yards with star back John Riggins picking up only 12 yards on 10 carries. However, Theismann and wide receiver Art Monk had great nights.

"I hope we can build on the positive things," Gibbs said. "We played well in the second half but we also played the worst first half since I've been here."

USFL's Maulers may lose Rozier to Oilers for 1985

United Press International

PITTSBURGH — The agent for running back Mike Rozier says the Heisman Trophy winner from Nebraska will not play with the Pittsburgh Maulers of the United States Football League next season.

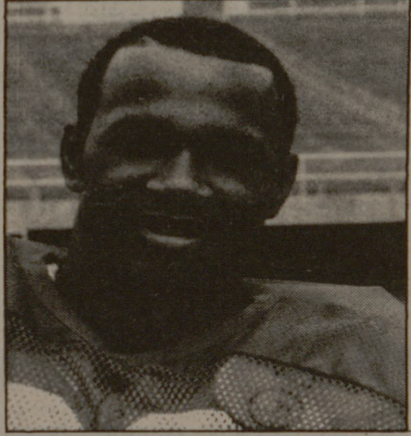
Agent Art Wilkinson read a statement that said Rozier met with new Maulers' coach Hank Bullough in August and was "very disappointed with the entire situation."

Rozier has two years remaining on a \$3.1 million contract and the Houston Oilers of the NFL have expressed an interest in Rozier.

"This is not a snap decision made by a 23-year-old guy who went out and had a few beers and said, 'Boom. This is the way it's going to be,'" Wilkinson said.

"We sat down with family, friends, counsel and tax people and analyzed this thing from 20 different perspectives. We felt we just weren't getting anywhere with the Maulers."

Rozier's stand was disclosed in a prepared statement issued Monday



Pittsburgh's Mike Rozier

and will not," Rozier said.

Pittsburgh general manager George Heddeleston said he does not believe the statement was written by Rozier and insists the Maulers want him back in 1985.

"Art Wilkinson wrote the statement for him," Heddeleston said Monday. "I'd just like to hear from him (Rozier). He owes us a phone call. We don't want to hear from his agent, we want to hear from him. Mike has never told us he wants out of here."

Wilkinson and Mauler president Paul Martha discussed a possible buyout in late August because Rozier had indicated he wanted to jump to the Oilers. The Oilers selected Rozier No. 1 in the NFL's supplemental draft last June.

However, an agreement couldn't be reached by the deadline set by the Oilers, and their general manager, Ladd Herzog, said no more talks would be held until the end of the NFL season.

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