

# Akers unhappy with officiating

**United Press International**  
**AUSTIN** — Texas Coach Fred Akers complained Monday that Oklahoma should have been flagged for interference away from the ball during the next-to-the last play of the game. The No. 1 Longhorns tied No. 2 Sooners 15-15 Saturday.

"Without question, there was pass interference, but not on who you're thinking about," Akers said. "They interfered with our intended receiver who was (tight end) William Harris."

Akers said if the call had been made, Texas would have had a first down at the Oklahoma 2-yard line. But the Longhorns were forced to kick a tying 32-yard field goal as time expired at the rain-soaked Cotton Bowl Saturday.

Meanwhile, the Sooners contended Keith Stanberry should have been awarded an interception on a pass intended for Longhorn receiver Bill Boy Bryant in the end zone on the disputed play. And some Texas supporters thought Bryant was the victim of interference.

Akers said the interference call could have "gone either way" on the pass to Bryant, but he was adamant that Harris was illegally bumped while trying to run a pass route.

"No one saw that," Akers said. "It (hit) turned him sideways and he finally fell. They (Oklahoma) might need to look at the play a little sooner before it ever got out there (in the end zone)."

Asked whether he would have still gone for a tie from the 2-yard line, Akers said, "I'm not going to play 'what ifs' with you."

Akers refused to directly criticize the officials, but he said he planned to speak with the Southwest Conference office about the game.

"It was a tough football game for anyone on the field, the officials included," he said.

Commenting on Oklahoma's disappointment with the tie, Akers said, "That's always the way it is when someone slides an apparent victory out from under you. The team that does the tying always ends up with momentum and better thoughts than the team that has been tied."

Asked if he would like to be re-matched with Oklahoma in a bowl game, Akers said: "I don't believe in rematches. I don't think that philosophy is good for the game."

Akers said he thought Texas should retain its No. 1 ranking, but he said if the Longhorns drop, "We're going to fight like the devil to get back up there."

Asked where he ranked the Longhorns and Oklahoma in the UPI coaches poll, he said, "I can tell you where I put us, but you can put Oklahoma where you want to."

Meanwhile, Akers said Texas, 3-0-1, will face a "tough football team" when it tangles with Arkansas, 3-1-1, Saturday in the Longhorns' first

home game since the Sept. 15 season opener with Auburn.  
 "Arkansas is coming on fast," he said. "They're getting better every week. Their defense is a real stingy, quick, mobile unit."

Akers said the Razorbacks, who have not beaten Texas in Austin since 1966, "just dominated" Texas Tech in a 24-0 win Saturday night.

### Baylor

**WACO** — Grant Teaff looked at the films over and over, but he still found it hard to understand.

"It was unbelievable," Teaff said Monday. "The odds were greatly against it. But it happened."

Baylor seemed certain to defeat No. 7 SMU last Saturday, but the Mustangs drove the length of the field twice in the final minutes to score touchdowns and defeat the Bears 24-20. In addition, the Mustangs put together their two scoring drives during the midst of a heavy rainstorm.

"I'm amazed at SMU's comeback," Teaff said. "It came down to a situation where they had to do everything perfectly for five minutes and we only had to do one thing right."

"All we had to do was make one first down, or intercept one pass, or get one sack or any number of other things. They had to move the ball into the wind and rain and they are not a classic drop-back passing team. Yet that's what they did to win the game."

"The saddest part of the whole thing was that five minutes eliminated everything we'd done so well. That was one of the greatest games we've played since 1980 (when the Bears last won the Southwest Conference title)."

"I couldn't ask more of a team. I'd like to get mad at somebody, but we played so well that I can't."

"The more you look at it the more you have to credit SMU with one of the more incredible pieces of play. You just can't give them enough credit for doing what they did. What they did was miraculous."

### TCU

**FORT WORTH** — TCU's offensive explosion against the Rice Owls last Saturday allowed the Frogs to reclaim the national leadership in both total offense and scoring.

Five games deep in the season TCU is No. 1 in scoring with an average of 39.6 points per game and leads the country in total offense with 521.6 yards per contest. The Frogs are also second in rushing yardage to the Air Force Academy and Kenneth Davis is the nation's third leading ball carrier.

TCU moved in front of the total yardage and scoring categories

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## 1984: the Series Chicago missed

By MILTON RICHMAN  
 UPI Sports Editor

**DETROIT** — Years from now, when people talk about how the Detroit Tigers beat the San Diego Padres without a whole lot of trouble in the 1984 World Series, what do you imagine they'll remember most about it?

Oh, sure, they'll remember how Alan Trammell wound up being the MVP, how big Kirk Gibson hit a couple into the seats in the fifth and final contest and how Jack Morris won two games for the Tigers.

But I think what everyone will remember most about the World Series that ended here Sunday was a team that wasn't in it — the Chicago Cubs. For now and forevermore, I think 1984 always will be recalled in baseball as the year the Cubs came so close and then missed.

It could be they didn't miss entirely, though. You could even say they were the Series' spoilers. They didn't manage to get into it, but they had a decided effect upon it because after their up-and-down five-game National League playoff with the Padres, the World Series couldn't possibly be anything else but anti-climactic for San Diego.

I've seen the same thing happen before, at least twice down through the years. One of the most notable examples was in 1951 after Bobby Thomson won the pennant for the old New York Giants on his final swing of the bat in the most dramatic playoff game ever with the Brooklyn Dodgers.

The Giants were so high after that, they came back down in a hurry and were so flat that the Yankees had no trouble at all beating them in the World Series that year.

Another example was the 1954 Cleveland Indians, who set a record that still stands, by winning 111

games on their way to the World Series that year. Once they got in it, they were so enthralled and transported over what they had done during the season, they rolled over and lost four in a row to those same Giants who couldn't do very much themselves in the World Series three years before.

The Tigers and Cubs were the match-up everybody wanted to see. It was a natural. A pairing of the two 1945 World Series' rivals in a couple of ballparks that drip with tradition. Besides, the travel between the cities would've been so convenient. Nobody would've had to carry their dirty laundry around with them in their valise. Even the Tigers were hoping they would play the Cubs, and considering that would've cost them money, that's really noteworthy.

Several of the Padres, Tony Gwynn, Garry Templeton and Kurt Bevacqua, told me they felt the play-off with the Cubs was the true climax of their season — not the World Series.

Tim Flannery, the Padres' fine little utility pitcher, said the same thing. In his only appearance at the plate, as a pinch-hitter for Carmelo Martinez in the eighth inning of Game 4, he got a base hit and ended up batting 1.000 for them in the Series.

"Without looking for any excuses, because I don't think we have to after the season we had, I think we may have had a letdown after those five games we played with the Cubs," Flannery revealed.

"When we got here, we came across a ball club in the same situation as us. They won their division just like we did. They beat us. No ifs, ands or buts. I take my hat off to them."

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