



## Big Ten not interested in Cotton Bowl

New Year's classic looking at Auburn

Associated Press

DALLAS — The Cotton Bowl could roll the dice on Bo Jackson and the Auburn Tigers of the Southeastern Conference Saturday because a pairing with the Big Ten Conference doesn't appear to be in the cards.

Top-ranked Penn State's move toward the Orange Bowl had Cotton Bowl tournament selection chairman Field Scovell and executive secretary Jim Brock looking at their contingency plans.

Michigan, of the Big Ten, has its eyes on the Fiesta Bowl and Iowa has the inside track to the Rose Bowl. Ohio State, a third possibility, plays Michigan on Saturday.

A Big Ten team has never played in the Cotton Bowl and officials had considered a matchup with the Southwest Conference Champion as a good drawing card for the 50th year of the New Year's Day classic.

Auburn, 8-2, has only a Nov. 30 game against Alabama left. But the Tigers want to be able to accept a bowl bid this Saturday without having to wait around another week.

The Cotton Bowl could gamble and extend a bid to Auburn, hoping it defeats Alabama and that Jackson wins the Heisman Trophy.

"Penn State going to the Orange Bowl didn't surprise us because Coach Joe Paterno has always said he'd play the highest ranked team he could," Brock said. "We had been looking hard at the Big Ten, but now all that is kind of up in the air."

Bowl invitations can't be extended until 5 p.m. Saturday.

Baylor can become the host team in the Cotton Bowl if it defeats Texas in Austin on Saturday. A Longhorn victory would set up a Texas-Texas A&M showdown Thanksgiving night in College Station for the Cotton Bowl berth, if the Aggies defeat Texas Christian in Fort Worth on Saturday.

Baylor, Arkansas, and A&M are all expected to go to post-season games no matter how the SWC race turns out.

Texas' participation in a bowl other than the Cotton Bowl is still in the air because of the Longhorns' unpleasant experience in a lopsided loss to Iowa in the Freedom Bowl.

The Bluebonnet Bowl definitely will go for an SWC team, which will probably face Air Force, and the Sun Bowl also is leaning in that direction for a possible matchup with Georgia.

## NL baseball writers choose Cards' McGee league MVP

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Batting champion Willie McGee, the flashy center fielder of the National League champion St. Louis Cardinals, was named the NL's Most Valuable Player by the Baseball Writers Association of America on Monday.

McGee received 14 first place votes from a 24-writer panel, two from each league city, and finished with 280 points.

Dave Parker of the Cincinnati Reds, who led the league with 125 runs batted in, finished second with six firsts and 220 points. Pedro Guerrero of the NL West champion Los Angeles Dodgers was third with three firsts and 208 points and pitcher Dwight Gooden of the New York Mets, who won the NL Cy Young Award last week, finished

fourth with one first and 162 points.

Tommy Herr of St. Louis, Gary Carter of New York, Dale Murphy of Atlanta, Keith Hernandez of New York, John Tudor of St. Louis and Jack Clark of St. Louis completed the list of Top 10 vote-getters.

McGee, Parker and Guerrero were the only players listed on all 24 ballots. Points were assigned 14-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1 with voters asked to list 10 players on their ballots.

McGee became the ninth Cardinal player to win the NL batting title, hitting .353 last season. It was the highest average ever for a NL switch hitter, topping the mark of .348 by Frankie Frisch of the New York Giants in 1923 and matched by Pete Rose in 1969. Mickey Mantle of the

New York Yankees set the major

league mark in 1957 when he batted .365.

Batting second in the Cardinal lineup, McGee led the league with 216 hits and 18 triples. He scored 114 runs, third in the league and, with rookie leadoff man Vince Coleman, served as the catalyst for the racehorse St. Louis attack which produced 311 stolen bases.

McGee started the 1982 season at Louisville of the American Association and was called up in May to replace injured David Green. He won a regular job, batting .296 and helping the Cardinals win the world championship. In the Series, he set a record for rookies by hitting two home runs in Game 3. His 24 putouts in the seven games tied another record.

## New Astros manager adds Berra to staff

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Yogi Berra, a Hall of Fame catcher and former New York Yankees and New York Mets manager, joined the Houston Astros Monday as an assistant coach, completing Manager Hal Lanier's staff.

"He'll be a big asset to our club," said Lanier, named Astros' manager Nov. 5. "Yogi has been exposed to every aspect of the game. He has coached first and third base as well as managed."

Berra, 60, managed the 1964 Yankees and the 1973 New York Mets to the World Series, making him one of only five managers to represent both leagues in a Series.

Berra started last season as manager of the Yankees, but was relieved with a 6-10 record and replaced by Billy Martin.

The 1986 season will mark his 16th year as a big league coach, having served the Mets from 1965 to

1971 and the Yankees from 1976 to 1983.

"Yogi is a proven winner and an outstanding baseball person," Astros General Manager Dick Wagner said.

Berra has appeared in 21 World Series, including a record 14 as a player. He holds Series records with 75 games, 259 at bats, 71 hits, 49 singles, and 30 consecutive errorless games.

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