

Sports

Oilers to pick from 3 coaches

Herzeg expects quick turnaround

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Houston Oilers General Manager Ladd Herzeg will name a new head coach from a list of three finalists, likely this week, and will give the job to the one he thinks can turn the Oilers around the quickest.

The candidates are Jerry Glanville, named interim head coach after Hugh Campbell was fired Dec. 9, San Francisco quarterbacks coach Paul Hackett and Dick Coury, former coach for Portland of the United States Football League.

"All three men are very competent and I think all three will make fine head coaches," Herzeg said. "What I'm going to do now is to review my notes and do some more checking around the league before making a decision."

Hackett, 38, and his wife visited with Herzeg and Oilers owner Bud Adams on Monday. Glanville had his formal interview on Friday and Coury has met twice with Herzeg.

All three coaches are in Mobile, Ala. observing workouts for Saturday's Senior Bowl.

"Some of the things I'm looking for is who qualifies best for the fastest turnaround, who can put the best staff together, things like that," Herzeg said.

Glanville's youthful defense was a team strength through much of last season, but it gave up big yardage over the final six games.

Hackett, 38, has been the 49ers' quarterback coach for the past three years and has five years of NFL coaching experience. He served five seasons at California and spent two seasons with the Cleveland Browns before joining the 49ers in 1983.

Coury, 56, has been an offensive assistant at Denver and San Diego in the NFL and was head coach of the Breakers before the franchise folded. He was the USFL's first Coach of the Year in 1983.

Lady Ags fall to No. 1 'Horns, 73-59

By KEN SURY
Assistant Sports Editor

The Texas A&M Lady Aggies were ready to play basketball Tuesday night in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Unfortunately, so were the No. 1 Texas Lady Longhorns. The 'Horns used impressive ball handling, an explosive offense and dominating board play to beat the Ags, 73-59.

The win moves the Lady 'Horns to a 13-0 overall record and 5-0 in conference play. It was the Lady Ags first loss at home this season, who dropped to 3-1 in the SWC, 9-6 overall.

Texas pressed A&M throughout the game, but the Ags didn't have problems with that part of the Longhorn defense — it was underneath the goal and in the lane that gave them trouble.

The 'Horns used a swarming defense to keep the Ags from penetrating for easy inside shots. It kept the Lady Ags off-balance and often they appeared hesitant even to try working the ball inside.

And when the Lady Ags did shoot, the ball only went through the goal 35.5 percent of the time. When the shot didn't go in, it seemed the Lady 'Horns always pulled down the rebound.

Texas' Andrea Lloyd did much of the defensive damage to the Ags in the first half as she grabbed seven rebounds, while Annette Smith scored 15 of her game-high 23 points.

With 8:28 left before the half, Texas opened up a 26-11 lead. A&M then started to get more aggressive on the boards and on offense. Texas couldn't hit its free throws (3-for-9 in the first half) and A&M slowly chipped away at the UT lead.

A&M's Donna Roper kicked her shooting into high gear as she scored the Ags' last eight points of the half and cut Texas' lead to 37-29 at halftime.

But as hot as the Lady Ags ended the first half, they were just the opposite starting the second.

Texas scored eight points before A&M's Evelyn Sanders scored on a rebound layup with 16:39 left in the game. The 'Horns once again made use of their strong zone defense to keep the Ags out of the lane, and consequently, out of the game.

In the first ten minutes of the second half the Lady Ags were outscored 22-4, and the 'Horns took a 26-point lead.

The remainder of the game was academic as both teams turned the ball over several times, and A&M failed to cut the Texas lead by a significant amount.

Roper led the Lady Ags scoring with 16 points. Lisa Langston and Paula Crutchereach added 12 and Sanders scored 11.

"We were obviously nervous," A&M Coach Lynn Hickey said after the game as she conceded the No. 1 Longhorns probably intimidated her young squad.

Hickey said she was proud of her team's hard play against Texas.

"We've got to realize that we can win, and we can compete," Hickey said. "After that, we just mentally have to tell ourselves we can do it."

"This game does not make or break our season. The toughest part of our season starts Saturday night (against Texas Tech in Lubbock)."

When asked what impresses her most about the Lady Longhorns, Hickey said, "Their team depth. They also execute well, they're well coached (by Jody Conradt, now 301-49 with Texas), and they don't play at half-speed in a game. They go full-speed all the time."



Photo by JOHN MAKELY

A&M's Evelyn Sanders (center in white) struggles for a rebound with Texas' Kamie Ethridge

(33) and Annette Smith (15) during the Lady Aggies' 73-59 loss to the No. 1 Lady Longhorns.

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