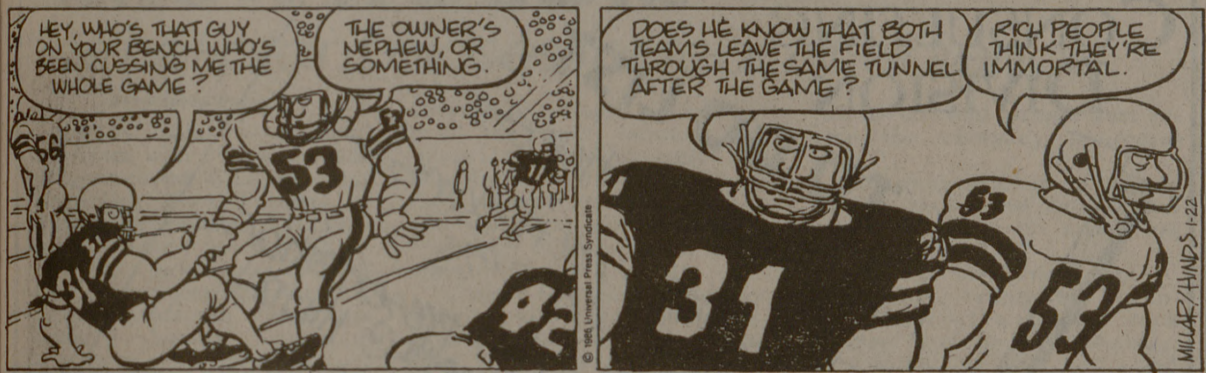


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by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Ex-Baylor coach says charges often incorrect

Associated Press
WACO — Former Baylor basketball coach Jim Haller said an NCAA report on alleged irregularities during his tenure was frequently inaccurate and blown out of proportion.

The NCAA announced Monday that because of violations encompassing illegal cash payments, illegal transportation for players, and excessive recruiting contacts the Bears cannot participate in NCAA championship competition or in any other postseason play during the 1985-86 academic year.

In addition, only two new basketball recruits will be permitted to receive initial athletic-related financial aid for the 1986-87 academic year.

The university's basketball program will be limited to a total of 13 scholarships during the 1986-87 and 1987-88 academic years, a reduction of two from current levels.

The penalty would have been more severe except for Baylor's cooperation with the NCAA's investigation, the NCAA said.

Haller, who was forced to resign last spring after players went to administration officials with allegations of wrongdoing by Haller, told the *Waco Tribune-Herald* many of the charges were inaccurate.

"Some of it is accurate and some of it isn't accurate," Haller said. "That's what they thought. That's what they believed, and that's what I'm going to have to live with. The NCAA has got the power and what they say, unfortunately, has to be accepted in every situation."

Speaking of specific allegations, Haller added, "I can guarantee you (giving an assistant coach \$200) has never happened. I never gave a player \$1,872. I don't like the way the NCAA said it was unethical about the way I arranged airplane tickets."

"I personally don't see anything wrong with me making airline reservations for players at the beginning of the year. ... I wanted to make sure those youngsters had a reservation to go home for the Christmas holidays. I don't see why it's wrong to bill the players for the airline tickets and let them pay it out on a payment schedule," Haller said.

Haller also said NCAA allegations that Baylor recruiters visited a player more than six times was untrue and could not be proved.



Battalion File Photo

Former Baylor basketball coach Jim Haller (above) says the NCAA report, which put the Bears on probation, contained inaccuracies.

Current Bears Coach Gene Iba, whose team has yet to win a conference game in six tries, said he's glad the investigation has ended.

However, he said he was unhappy about some of the recruiting penalties.

"I'm not happy if they only allow us to sign two recruits. That's fairly disappointing. That's something that affects the destiny of kids who are already on scholarship because you can't do much to improve the team."

Lewis to retire at end of Cougars' season

Associated Press

HOUSTON — Veteran University of Houston basketball coach Guy V. Lewis, whose teams made the NCAA Final Four three consecutive times in the early 1980s, said Tuesday that the current season will be his last.

"I felt like 30 years as head coach and 33 years coaching at the University of Houston was enough," Lewis, 64, said at a news conference. "I never thought of this as a job. It's always been to me a crusade to build a great basketball program and a great school and it's known all over the na-

tion as a great school. Unfortunately, the people of Houston just don't know that."

Lewis' career won-loss mark — entirely at Houston — is 586-272.

Athletic Director Tom Ford said Lewis' retirement would be effective Aug. 31.

Ford said a search committee to name a replacement would be appointed by Chancellor Richard Van Horn within a few days.

Lewis said he told his family of his plans following a one-point loss to Texas Tech earlier this season.

"That was one of the toughest

Tech tries to forget A&M loss

Raiders set to face surging Ponies tonight

Associated Press

DALLAS — Defending Southwest Conference basketball champion Texas Tech finds out tonight whether it can forget one of the toughest losses in Coach Gerald Myers' Red Raider career.

The Red Raiders had specialized in winning last-second thrillers until the fates turned against them Saturday in friendly Municipal Coliseum.

They were 4-0 thanks to three last-gasp game-winning shots from Tony (the Buzzer Beater) Benford.

It appeared the Texas Aggies also were on the verge of falling victim to the Red Raider magic when the two teams, both with perfect records in SWC play, clashed for the undisputed conference lead.

With Texas Tech leading by two points and 12 seconds remaining in the game, the Raiders' Dewayne Chism stole a pass and drove uncontested for a slam dunk. However, the ball slipped from Chism's hand on the way up, the Aggies regained possession, and a three-point play with five seconds remaining gave the Aggies a 58-57 victory.

Myers slammed his fist into the floor, but later recovered his poise.

"People have to remember that Chism didn't miss the shot on purpose. Nobody feels worse than he does," Myers said.

"There were other circumstances that led to the loss. We'll have to forget about it. We've had some miraculous wins, and this is one that was miraculous the other way. I guess everything evens out."

Aggie Coach Shelby Metcalf said, "It was the greatest comeback I've ever seen, and I've been coaching quite awhile."

Against this backdrop, the Red Raiders visit Moody Coliseum alone in second place behind the Aggies. They'll face a revived Southern Methodist team that may have found itself while upsetting the Texas Longhorns 63-56 Saturday night.

SMU is 3-2 and broke a two-game losing streak by defeating the Longhorns for the eighth consecutive time.

SMU Coach Dave Bliss has been tinkering with his lineup and apparently found the right combination against the Longhorns.

The insertion of 6-9 sophomore Glenn Puddy of Houston into the lineup has solidified the Mustangs' frontline. He had nine points and three rebounds in 27 minutes against Texas.

Also, center Terry Williams is coming back after a slump. Williams had 19 points and 8 rebounds in the triumph over the Longhorns.

"Terry has been a different center than the one we've seen play in the last two games," said Bliss.

Tech swept SMU in two regular-season games last year.

"Gerald has done a great job with a young team this season," Bliss said. "It's going to be a fun game."

losses that I've ever experienced," he said. "It was very hard on me. The one-point losses start to hurt more as you get older."

Lewis said he would recommend longtime assistant coach Donnie Schverak as his replacement. Former Houston All-American Elvin Hayes said he also was interested in the coaching position.

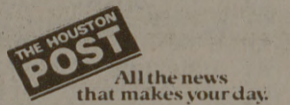
"If I was approached by the search committee, I certainly would have to consider it," Hayes said. "It would be an honor to follow such a great coach as Guy Lewis."

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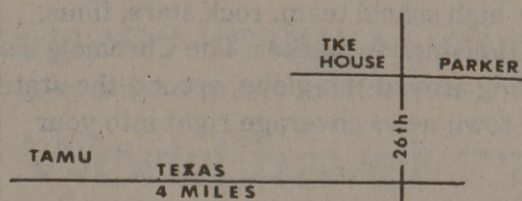
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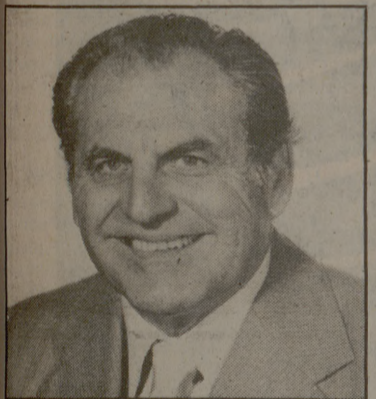
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