

# UT to probe media allegations

## Lawyers hired to investigate 'Horn football



UT's Bret Stafford (10) pleads for quiet against A&M last season. However, now Stafford may be

asking to quiet the noise being made by the media over Texas' alleged NCAA rule violations.

Photo by John Malar

AUSTIN (AP) — University of Texas Athletic Director DeLoss Dodds said Wednesday that a law firm has been hired by the school to "get to the bottom of any alleged violations" of NCAA rules by Longhorn football players.

Dodds said the move is in response to reports in the *Dallas Morning News* and *Austin American-Statesman* alleging NCAA rules were violated by players, coaches and boosters.

"The University of Texas will use the services of Vinson and Elkins, a law firm in Houston, to investigate this for the university," Dodds said.

"We'll keep the NCAA informed at all times of what our findings are and we will be working in cooperation with the NCAA on the matter until it's resolved," he said.

In its Wednesday editions, the *American-Statesman* reported that John Fainter Jr., the lawyer hired by the school to investigate fund-raising events during Fred Akers' nine years as head football coach, has contributed more than \$20,000 to a Longhorn booster organization.

Fainter, an Austin lawyer and former Texas secretary of state, was hired by the university last spring to examine alleged improprieties related to fund-raising barbecues and golf tournaments.

The barbecues were sponsored to raise money for Akers' assistant coaches and the money from the golf tournaments in several Texas cities was used to underwrite Akers' weekly television show.

Fainter's verbal report in January to UT officials exonerated Akers of any wrongdoing, the *American-Statesman* said.

Dodds said Fainter was paid about \$7,000 for his work.

Fainter, a UT law graduate and chairman of Gov. Mark White's reelection campaign, has been a member of the Texas Longhorn Education Foundation since it was organized in 1980 to raise money for UT athletic scholarships.

Fainter told the *American-Statesman* he did not see that his membership in the foundation caused any conflict of interest with his being hired to investigate fund raising.

He said he does not know the exact amount he has contributed as a member of the tax-exempt foundation but annual dues were \$3,000 a year until they were raised to \$4,000 this year.

John Sutton, a UT law professor

who was a reporter for the American Bar Association committee that wrote the national association's code of legal ethics, said he could see no professional problem with Fainter's involvement in the investigation.

In a copyright right story Wednesday, the *News* reported that sports agents and UT boosters gave Longhorn football players cash, liquor, meals, free dental and legal services and discounts at apartments.

Seven of the 11 former Longhorn players who admitted accepting money said they established long-term relationships with boosters who they called their "sugar daddies" or "sweet daddies."

In two months of interviews with 28 former Texas players, whose careers spanned 1978 to 1985, 11 told the *News* they accepted cash payments while they played football at Texas. In some cases the payments totaled more than \$10,000.

Such gift-giving would be violations of the NCAA extra-benefit rules.

Akers, interviewed by the *News* in his Austin office on Friday, said he was unaware his players had received benefits beyond the tuition, room, board and books provided by their athletic scholarships.

"I am really, I am surprised," Akers said. "I am surprised, and I intend to turn this over to the NCAA."

Tony Degrate, who signed recently with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers of the National Football League, said his relationships with alumni didn't begin in earnest until his senior year, when he won the Vince Lombardi Award as the nation's outstanding college lineman.

"My senior year just got hotter and hotter," Degrate said. "From alumni walking up to me in the locker room, to my room, shaking my hand and giving me a bill (money)."

The *News* reported Sunday that some players had sold complimentary game tickets to boosters for inflated prices.

Dr. Norman Mason, an Austin

dentist who in 1977 founded a professionals' organization to help friend black UT football players, said he and some colleagues provided free legal, medical, dental services to some black players.

Many of the players would have had no other way to pay for services, Mason said.

"To some extent, I have given some extensive treatment (on papers), but it is not a situation where I'm just giving away services," Mason told the Associated Press Wednesday. "I've made some type of arrangements with them where they have paid me back. It may not have been in terms of money, but in kind services."

Texas booster Jon Teer, who is a professional sports agent, acknowledged that he gave players money, the *News* said.

"Yeah, I violated NCAA rules, please don't put that (in the newspaper). You don't understand how important football is to this town. It ruin me in Austin. It really will."

Sign up Deadline!  
April 1st.

MSC TRAVEL and OLSON TRAVEL  
present  
Harold Conway's  
GREAT BRITAIN 1986  
July 9-August 17 40 days \$2500  
see the sights of England, Wales, Scotland  
for more information  
MSC Travel 845-1515  
Harold Conway 845-8793

Informational Meeting  
Wed., March 12, 8pm  
Rm 305 Rudder

TEXAS A&M  
SOCIETY FOR THE  
PREVENTION OF  
CRUELTY TO ANIMALS!

NEW MEMBERS MEETING!  
GUEST SPEAKER:  
MARTHA COX (PRESIDENT  
OF THE ANIMAL  
PROTECTION ADVISORY  
NETWORK OF TEXAS).  
THURSDAY, MARCH 27.  
7:00. R.M. 305AB  
RUDDER TOWER

The TAMU  
Hort. Club & FOH Club  
announce

Plant Fair  
86  
A Day of  
Horticulture  
Awareness

Saturday, March 29 9 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Horticulture/Forestry Science Building

Demonstration of propagation techniques  
Advise on plant selection and maintenance  
Plant Sale

Pacheesi Pizza

"THE HOME TOWN FAVORITE"

693-5533

INGREDIENTS: Pepperoni—Canadian Bacon—Mushrooms—Beef—Sausage—Onion—Black Olives—Green Olives—Bell Pepper—Jalapeno

	12"	16"
	8 Slices	12 Slices
Cheese	\$ 5.90	\$ 8.50
1 Ingredient	6.80	9.70
2 Ingredients	7.70	10.90
3 Ingredients	8.60	12.10
4 Ingredients	9.50	13.30
5 or more Ingredients	10.80	14.70
Extra Cheese	1.00	1.50

All Prices Include Tax  
FREE DELIVERY

Pacheesi Pizza  
Coupon 693-5533  
\$3.00 off any large pizza  
-Please indicate coupon is being used before ordering.

Pacheesi Pizza  
Coupon 693-5533  
\$2.00 off any small pizza  
-Please indicate coupon is being used before ordering.

## Sampson-less Rockets sock Pacers, 110-101

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Akeem Olajuwon scored eight of his 27 points in the final two minutes and pulled down 21 rebounds Wednesday night as the Houston Rockets, playing their first game without injured Ralph Sampson, rallied to a 110-101 victory over the Indiana Pacers.

Sampson, the Rockets' 7-foot-4 center who had averaged 19.5 points a game, injured his back in a fall at Boston on Monday night, and is expected to be out at least one more game.

The Pacers built leads of 10 points in the first half and still were ahead by seven midway through the final period before Houston scored eight unanswered points.

Indiana's last lead was at 101-100 on a free throw by Wayman Tisdale with 1:53 to go.

Olajuwon then put Houston ahead to stay. Tisdale was called for

a three-second lane violation, and Robert Reid, who backed Olajuwon with 21 points, put Houston on top 104-101.

### Bullets 120, Mavericks 112

LANDOVER, Md. (AP) — Dan Roundfield scored Washington's final eight points in the third quarter to help squelch a Dallas comeback Wednesday night, and the Bullets went on to defeat the Mavericks 120-112.

The victory, the third in four games under new coach Kevin Loughery, clinched a playoff spot for the Bullets for the 16th time in 18 years. Only the Los Angeles Lakers have equalled that mark during a similar span.

Leading 50-48 at halftime, after Dallas shot only 36 percent from the

NBA Roundup

Other Wednesday Scores:  
(home team in capitals)

BOSTON 121  
Milwaukee 115

Cleveland 110  
NEW JERSEY 108

PHILADELPHIA 112  
Atlanta 103

Denver at  
UTAH (late)

Seattle at  
PHOENIX (late)

San Antonio at  
L.A. CLIPPERS (late)

## New basketball coach to stress grades at UTSA

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Dale Burmeister, an assistant at the University of Arizona for three years, was appointed head basketball coach Wednesday at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Burmeister, 38, considered one of the nation's top recruiters, replaced Don Eddy, who resigned Feb. 7. Eddy stepped down after an investigation was launched into an incident in which he shoved a player during a game.

Burmeister, who graduated from St. Mary's University of San Antonio in 1971, said the emphasis in his program will be on academics.

"I have the strong belief that will recruit student-athletes with emphasis on the student first," Burmeister said.

UTSA, which finished 7-24 last year, has been plagued with academic difficulties.

JESUS

Some call him a great teacher  
a prophet  
a martyr  
... God.  
What will you call him?  
See this movie  
and decide.

MARCH 27 7:30

AT THE GROVE

Sponsored by Campus Crusade for Christ

Pitt THEATRE GUIDE

POSTCARD  
FIRST RUN DALLAS 704-4018

GUNG HO  
THE COMEDY  
WITHOUT BRAKES  
PG-13 A PARAMOUNT PICTURE  
DAILY 7:30 9:45

HANNAH AND HER SISTERS PG-13  
DAILY 7:40 9:50

Howling II R  
DAILY 9:30

Care Bears Movie II  
A NEW GENERATION  
DAILY 6:00 7:45

CINEMA III  
SKAGGS CENTER 846-6714

THE MONEY PIT  
DOLBY STEREO  
7:20 9:20

It's only a state of mind.  
Brazil  
A UNIVERSAL RELEASE  
DAILY 7:00 9:30

HIGHLANDER  
DAILY 7:30 9:40