

# Sports

## Cowboys clobber struggling Cardinals

### White's passing leads Dallas to 31-7 victory

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Quarterback Danny White passed for 223 yards and three touchdowns to lead the Dallas Cowboys to a 31-7 victory over the winless St. Louis Cardinals in a National Football League game Monday night.

White, who completed 16 of 29 passes while suffering two interceptions, now has 10 touchdown passes for the season.

The Cowboys improved to 3-1 with the victory in the nationally televised game. The 31 points enabled Dallas to tie the NFL record for consecutive 30-point games at the start of the season. The 1968 New York Giants and 1975 Buffalo Bills share the record.

St. Louis fell to 0-4 under new head coach Gene Stallings, a former Cowboys assistant coach.

The victory was the 256th of Dal-

las Coach Tom Landry's career, tying him with Miami's Don Shula for second place on the all-time NFL list. George Halas is No. 1 with 325.

White, operating a Dallas offense with running back Herschel Walker subbing for the injured Tony Dorsett, threw his touchdown passes in the first, third and fourth quarters.

The Cowboys mounted a 10-0 lead at halftime before Ottis Anderson's 10-yard scoring run put St. Louis on the board early in the third quarter.

Rookie Mike Sherrard gathered in White's arching, 39-yard pass late in the opening period for Dallas' first touchdown and Rafael Septien

booted a 32-yard field goal 8½ minutes later.

After Anderson's scoring run following the second-half kickoff, the Cowboys went back to work with Gordon Banks returning the ensuing kickoff 56 yards to St. Louis' 42.

Veteran Tony Hill was on the receiving end of White's 13-yard scoring pass four plays later. Dallas then capitalized on two sacks of Cards quarterback Neil Lomax, who suffered four interceptions, to drive 31 yards and set up White's eight-yard scoring pass to Walker with 11:15 remaining.

Ron Fellows picked off a pass by Lomax with 2:15 remaining and ran

34 yards for the final Dallas touchdown.

It was the Cowboys' 13th victory over their NFC rival in their last 16 meetings, avenging a 21-10 defeat they suffered on the same Busch Stadium turf before a national television audience last Nov. 4.

St. Louis had a chance to draw first blood by stopping the first drive of the game after Al "Bubba" Baker sacked White for a 10-yard loss.

The Cardinals drove from their own 28 to the Dallas 22. But John Lee's 42-yard field goal attempt was blocked by Michael Downs.

Dallas got the ball at its own 37, and Walker, making his first NFL start, ran for 11 yards on the first

play. But Dave Galloway sacked White to stall the drive and the Cowboys were forced to punt.

Unable to move, St. Louis punted back and Dallas went to work at its own 42. Sherrard, the Cowboys' No. 1 draft pick, leaped in the air to beat Lionel Washington at the St. Louis 2 and sidestepped a second defender to complete a 39-yard scoring play with 45 seconds remaining in the first period.

It was the Cowboys' first touchdown this year in the opening period.

After only three plays in the second period, Walker caught a flat pass for a 14-yard gain to the Cards' 40 to help set up Septien's field goal at 6:15 to make it 10-0.

## Retton quits gymnastics for school

NEW YORK (AP) — Mary Lou Retton, who vaulted to fame and fortune in the 1984 Olympic Games, said Monday that school will supplant gymnastics in her life now.

In announcing her retirement from gymnastics, Retton, 18, said she is close to signing a contract with NBC television to be a commentator on the sport.

"My decision to retire was based on my feeling that I have achieved the goals as a gymnast that I set out for myself several years ago," Retton said at a news conference. "My goals now are toward college."

"But I'll always be a part of gymnastics, whether as a commentator or coaching."

"I've spent my whole life in the gym — 11 years of hard work. Now I have the rest of my life to do what I want."

Her agent, John Traetta, said her signing with NBC is "just a matter of time. We're concerned because she's so young. But we're close."

"They (NBC) would like Mary Lou to participate (as a commentator) in all the gymnastics events they do up to and through the '88 Olympics" in Seoul, South Korea.

In the Los Angeles Games, Retton won the gold medal for individual all-around competition, bronze medals in the floor exercise and uneven parallel bars, and silvers in the vault and team competition. She was named The Associated Press' Female Athlete of the Year and Sports Illustrated's Sportsman of the Year along with hurdler Edwin Moses in 1984.

She has competed only once since the 1984 Games, in the America Cup in Indianapolis in March 1985 where she won her third straight title.

"Gymnastics is such a discipline ... that I haven't been in a formal class situation since the 10th grade," Retton said. "I had to take correspondence classes to graduate."

Retton is a freshman at the University of Texas, majoring in communications.

## Akers suspends UT running back

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — University of Texas running back Edwin Simmons was suspended indefinitely from the football team after his arrest on Saturday while standing nude in a resident's back yard.

In announcing the suspension Monday, UT head coach Fred Akers said it was for disciplinary reasons and declined to discuss the matter further. He said it was a private matter and that the suspension would be lifted "when I feel he should play."

Simmons, a 21-year-old senior from Hawkins, deferred all comment to Akers.

Austin police responding to two prowler calls on Saturday said they arrested Simmons when they found him without clothes on at 4:40 a.m. outside a house.

A police report filed by officer Guillermo Cano said Simmons was arrested on suspicion of burglary after a window screen was found pulled off the house. He

was released eight hours later without being charged.

According to police, Simmons was found near the back door of the house, and his pants and shoes were found nearby. Simmons was not sure what his name was or where he was, Cano's report said.

According to Cano, Simmons told police he had been smoking marijuana earlier in the evening.

Simmons, a 6-foot-4, 235-pound senior halfback from Hawkins, burst into stardom as a freshman in 1983, scoring two touchdowns and gaining over 100 yards in leading the Longhorns to victory over Oklahoma.

The performance earned him first start the next week against Arkansas, but he went down with a knee injury on his second offensive play and has battled injuries and personal problems since.

Last year, he played in 10 games, and was the Longhorns' leading rusher in wins over Arkansas and Baylor.

## Oilers coach foresees chance at playoffs

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Oilers, who have lost three straight games since going unbeaten in the preseason and winning their season opener, still have a chance for the playoffs, Coach Jerry Glanville said Monday.

Pittsburgh, with its two top receivers on the sidelines and facing the lowest ranked quarterback in the NFL, beat the Oilers 22-16 in overtime Sunday for the Steelers' first victory of the season.

"On the positive side, our objective remains to be in the playoffs and

we are only one game out right now," Glanville said.

The Oiler offense was booed once again for Glanville's determined attempts to get a ground game established. The Oilers ran 18 times on 24 first-down chances for a 2.7-yard average and gained just 81 net yards rushing against the Steelers.

"It's a matter of individual breakdowns," Glanville said. "It wasn't the same player making all the mistakes."

Glanville could use punter Lee

Johnson as an example of the occasional mistake.

Johnson averaged 46.7 yards on seven punts, but his line drive 34-yard punt in the overtime allowed Rick Woods to return the kick 41 yards to set up the winning touchdown.

Steeler quarterback Mark Malone burned the Oilers twice with a bootleg play that gained 45 and 11 yards to set up scores.

Pittsburgh blitzes netted six sacks for 37 yards in losses to Oiler quarterback Warren Moon.

## Chicago could make NFL 'unbearable'

(AP) — A warning to those other NFL teams with championship ambitions: This year's version of the Chicago Bears isn't much different than last year's.

It's not so much that the Bears have finished the first quarter unbeaten and have a soft schedule that makes 14-2, 15-1 or even 16-0 a distinct possibility. It's that they went from 3-0 to 4-0 in the same manner they won last year — faced with a threat to their dominance, they crushed the challenger.

Sunday's score in question was Bears 44, Bengals 7, in a game that was supposed to be Chicago's toughest after undistinguished efforts against Cleveland, Philadelphia and Green Bay. In fact, at least half the nation's all-knowing pundits picked the Bears to lose.

Instead, the result was the same as last year when Chicago would stumble against Tampa Bay and Indianapolis, then go out and beat the good teams by 44-0 (Dallas), 45-10 (Washington) or a combined 91-10 (Giants, Rams and Patriots in the playoffs).

"That's the world championship team we saw out there," said Cincinnati Coach Sam Wyche, whose team was done in by the return of Jim McMahon, who threw for three touchdowns, and renewed intensity that might have been a reaction to those people who picked the Bengals.

Where does that leave the rest of the NFL after the first quarter of the season?

In the NFC, it leaves everyone looking up at the Bears.

That includes the expected con-

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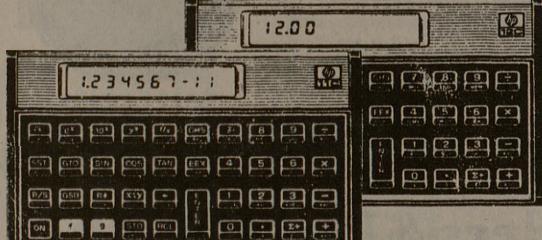
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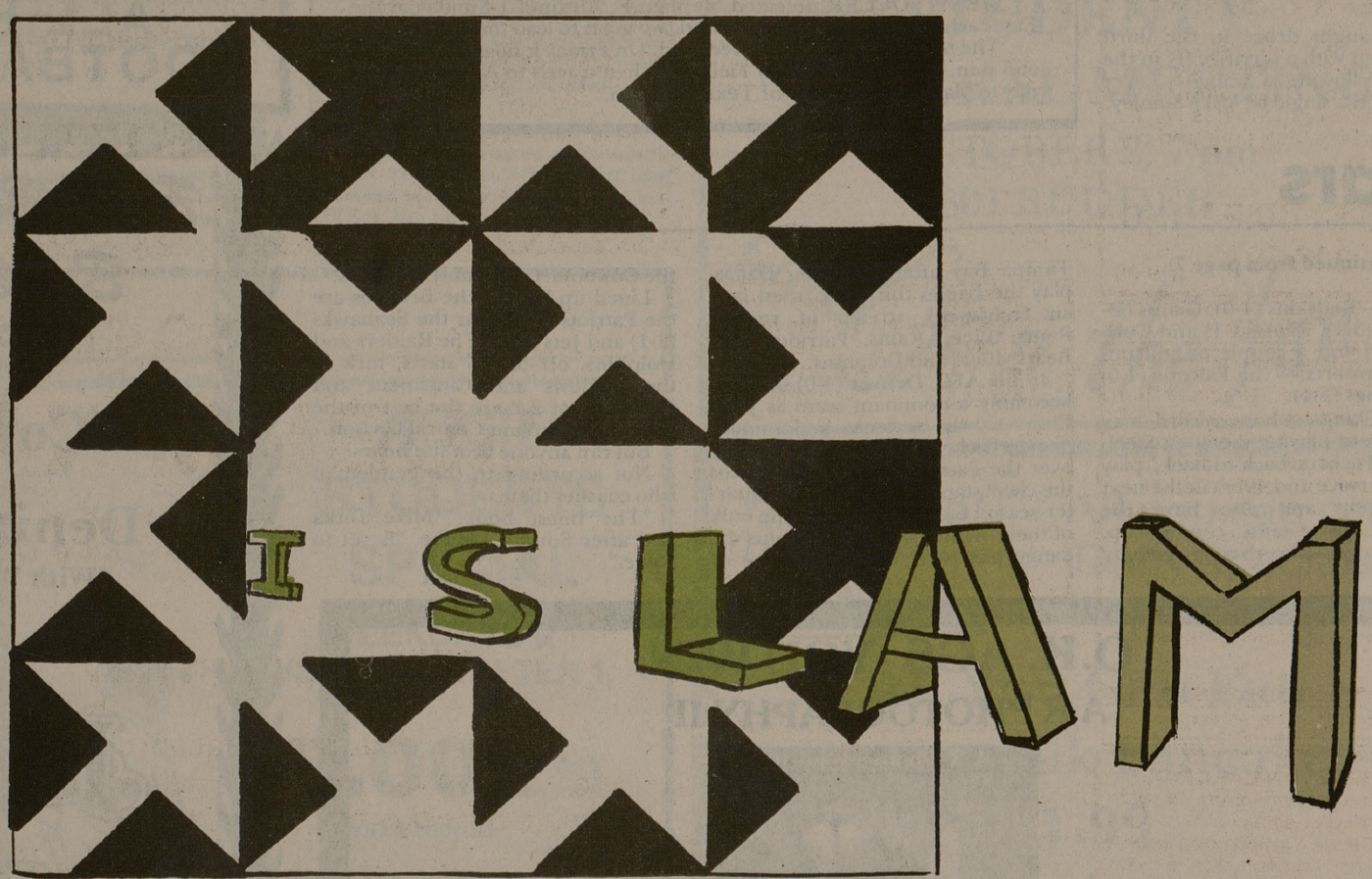
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