

Wife abuse may increase during Super Bowl, according to study

NEW YORK (AP) — The Super Bowl could bring out the worst in a marriage, some experts in family violence believe.

Rana Lee, community education assistant at Marin Abused Women's Services in the San Francisco Bay area, said her informal research shows a marked increase in calls to women's crisis centers and hotlines from battered women on Super Bowl night.

"The Super Bowl is by far the worst ... I'm expecting it to be a nightmare," she said.

While the game may not cause violence directly, those who specialize in such problems say a combination of the aggressive sport, drinking, de-

pressing winter weather and possible disappointment over a losing team can exacerbate an already abusive relationship.

"If you watch something violent and you don't work it off, you work it up," says Murray Straus, a sociologist who specializes in family violence at the University of New Hampshire at Durham. "Studies have proved that the more people watch violence, the more they themselves will be violent."

Yet most people will not be pushed to that level, he says: "It has the greatest effect on people who are already predisposed to be aggressive."

"A non-violent husband will not

turn around and suddenly hit you," says Lee, a former battered woman who left her husband of 3½ years shortly after she was abused during a Super Bowl game. "We had had violent incidents for years."

She remembers one game that ended with her husband throwing beer cans at her. "I got angry when one hit me, but when I yelled at him the beating got worse," she says.

Candace Rios, a counselor at a Chicago battered women's shelter, says she received at least 15 calls after last year's Super Bowl, compared with the average six calls for a Sunday night.

Baylor nips Arkansas by one point

WACO (AP) — Led by Michael Williams' 16 points and Frank Williams' 11 rebounds, the Baylor Bears defeated the Arkansas Razorbacks 63-62 before 6,235 at the Heart o' Texas Coliseum.

The Razorbacks, now 2-4 in conference and 11-8 overall, led by six points, 61-56, with 2:45 remaining in the game. Then the Bears, now 4-2, and 9-7 overall, made their final 8-point surge to the finish.

Frank Williams, who scored 15 points for the night, was 7 of 13 on the line. He shot free throws during Baylor's last three possessions, hitting four of six down the stretch to give the Bears the final lead.

Arkansas led throughout the first half and lead by as many as seven before ending the half with a 33-29 Razorback lead.

For Arkansas, Tim Scott led all scorers, pumping in 12 points. He was followed by Allie Freeman, with nine points. The Razorbacks shot 53 percent from the floor.

Baylor head coach Gene Iba said, "This was a very big win for us. Frank's (Williams) play down the stretch won it for us."

Before the game started, a moment of silence was observed for Arkansas head coach Nolan Richardson's 15-year-old daughter, Yvonne, who died Thursday of leukemia.

O'Meara leads \$600,000 Phoenix Open

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. (AP) — Mark O'Meara birdied four of his first five holes en route to an 8-under-par 63 and the lead Thursday before darkness halted the first round of the \$600,000 Phoenix Open.

Frost and frozen greens delayed the start of play 1½ hours, backed up the starting times and eventually left 45 of the 144-man field stranded on the course by darkness.

They marked their positions on the new TPC course at Scottsdale and were due to return at daylight Friday to complete first-round play. The second round was to start as originally scheduled at 8:30 a.m. CST, weather permitting.

Of those left on the course, D.A. Weibring and lefty Ernie Gonzalez had the best 9-hole scores, 3-under-par 33s on the back nine.

Officials had no option in delaying play, O'Meara said.

"Early this morning it was just too cold to play," O'Meara said. "I went out to hit balls and the 10th green was solid ice."

"We just had to wait for the sun to come out. Once we got out there it was a delightful day."

And the game's touring pros — most of them, at least — took full advantage of what Brad Faxon called "ideal scoring conditions," mild temperatures and just the hint of a breeze.

Scoring was exceptionally low, with 27 of the 72 early starters shooting in the 60s on the 6,992-yard course that was being played in competition for the first time.

Tom Weiskopf, the former British Open champ who worked with architect Jay Morrish on the design and construction of the course, was not among them. Weiskopf, now an infrequent player on the Tour, hit four into the water on the back nine and shot 80.

Faxon, not yet a winner in three full seasons on the PGA Tour, scored four birdies and an eagle in a 5-hole stretch and took second among the early finishers at 64.

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