

# Sports

## UH boosters disclaim payment allegations

HOUSTON (AP) — Several University of Houston boosters denied allegations Tuesday that they contributed about \$11,000 to be used as cash payments to Cougar football players.

According to a school memorandum released Monday, Baytown businessman Frank Terry said he and other supporters gave money so former head football coach Bill Yeoman could make traditional payments of \$250 to \$500.

But on Tuesday, Dick George, one of the boosters Terry named, declared that "Frank Terry is out of his gourd, and you can quote me on that."

Terry's statement was taken during an in-house investigation by a Houston law firm. The probe was launched in response to allegations that Yeoman and his assistant coach violated NCAA rules by paying players.

In a similar report, Yeoman said he occasionally gave players money for humanitarian reasons, but never more than \$35.

Tuesday afternoon, Terry said he stands by his statements in the report, but would not name any boosters involved. He said he did not know why some people say he is lying.

"I can't tell the story of others," Terry told reporters at a press conference. "I can only relate my story."

Terry's voice quaked several times and tears welled up in his eyes Tuesday as his pregnant wife and two children stood by his side. He said when Yeoman first asked for money, he did not know where the money would go and "didn't want to know."

"Ignorance is bliss," he said when asked why.

"When you love and respect someone and he asks you for help, you help without asking questions," Terry said. "No coaches ever asked except Coach Yeoman."

Terry said that on three occasions, he helped raise money that he understood was used to pay bank notes.

Yeoman, he said, always apologized when he asked for help.

"I did raise funds for coach Yeoman at his request," he added. "I loved the guy and I wanted to help."

Yeoman, who resigned last fall after heading the Cougars for 25 years, has refused to comment, but university President Richard Van Horn defended him, calling his career "long and distinguished." Yeoman currently serves the school as a \$103,000-a-year fund-raiser.

The head of the school's Athletic Advisory Committee said he will offer a resolution today to cut Yeoman's ties with the university.

Terry, a member of the university's Intercollegiate Athletics Council, declined comment Monday on the fact at least six boosters he implicated denied any part of knowledge of cash payments to athletes.

"Unfortunately, I was one of the ones to do the dirty work," Terry said. "I don't have anything to hide. I'm going to make one statement and then be through with it. I'm for free information."

Terry said Tuesday he did know about some of the names listed in the report, but he did not cite any specifics.

"I think Terry is a fine fellow," accountant Archie Sylvia said. "I don't know why he went off half-cocked on this."

Added businessman Frank Cole, "This guy (Terry) fabricates more darn stories. I haven't had much dealings with him socially for a year, because he comes up with some of the most outlandish stories. It got to a point where people didn't want to listen to him."

Another booster, Bob Warner, said, "Bill Yeoman never asked me for one penny of illegal funds. Mr. Terry never needs to worry about an occupation. Evidently he can write fairy tales better than most writers."

In the report, Terry says he gave Yeoman \$3,000 prior to the 1982 or 1983 season. On another occasion, Terry collected about \$4,000 from about six boosters.

"The way the system worked was that all of the players who came in early got between \$250 and \$500, depending on need. The money was given at practice in cash to Yeoman," Terry said.

## W. Kentucky shuts down A&M hitters Hilltopper pitchers take charge in 4-1 victory

By Loyd Brumfield  
Assistant Sports Editor

There were no grand-slam home runs in the ninth inning, or questionable calls at the plate, or any other last-gasp miracles to give the Texas A&M baseball team a victory Tuesday at Olsen Field, so the Aggies were defeated for only the third time this year, 4-1, at the hands of Western Kentucky University.

The loss gives A&M a 20-3-1 record going into a six-game road trip against New Orleans, Southwestern Louisiana and Mississippi State.

The Aggies managed only two hits for the game against top-notch pitching by the Hilltoppers, which were led by starter C.L. Thomas. He pitched five innings and allowed only one hit while striking out four and walking two before being relieved by Glenn Carter.

Jeff Meier was the third pitcher for the Hilltoppers, pitching for only one inning, but getting the save for Thomas.

Their (Western Kentucky) pitchers did a good job," A&M Coach Mark Johnson said. "They whipped us at the plate. I was impressed with all three. On a day like this, it's really a pitcher's day with the wind blowing in and all."

A&M starter Scott Centala, 3-1, also pitched well, allowing six hits while striking out five and walking one before being relieved by Russ Greene in the ninth.

"Scotty did a good job of containing a good-hitting team," Johnson said.

Western Kentucky held on to a slim 1-0 lead until the top of the seventh, when it widened the lead to 2-0. The Hilltoppers got two more runs in the ninth to seal the win.

A&M's lone run came in the bottom of the eighth, when designated hitter John Byington hit a double into center field to bring home center fielder Chuck Knoblauch.

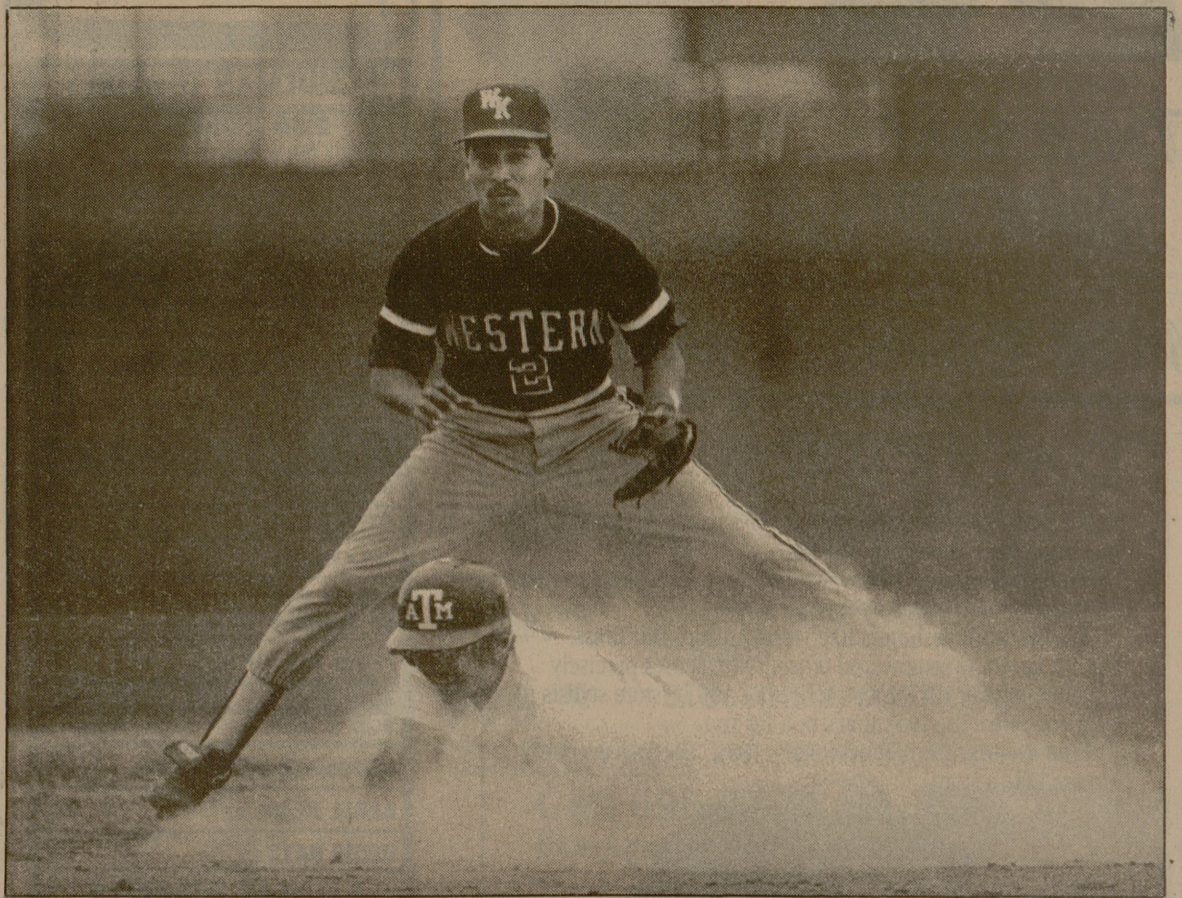


Photo by Bill Hughes

Texas A&M shortstop Ever Magallanes tries to break up the double play as he slides into second

base. Western Kentucky second baseman Bobby Velez was able to convert the play, however.

The Aggies got on base often, especially during the latter stages of the game, but failed to generate any runs as seven runners were stranded on base during the game.

In the bottom of the second, the Aggies looked as if they might generate some runs early. Freshman second baseman Terry Taylor hit a single into center field

and right fielder Tim McWilliam followed with a walk.

First baseman Daron Dacus advanced the runners with a sacrifice bunt, but then Western Kentucky's Thomas ended the inning by striking out left fielder Blake Babki and third baseman Andy Duke.

A&M would not get another hit until Byington's double in the

eighth. Western Kentucky's bats remained silent, as well, until the seventh and ninth innings, when the Hilltoppers exploded for six of their eight hits and three runs.

"I kept telling everyone on our team that Western Kentucky has a good ballclub," Johnson said.

A&M will face the University of New Orleans Friday in New Orleans to begin its spring break road trip.

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