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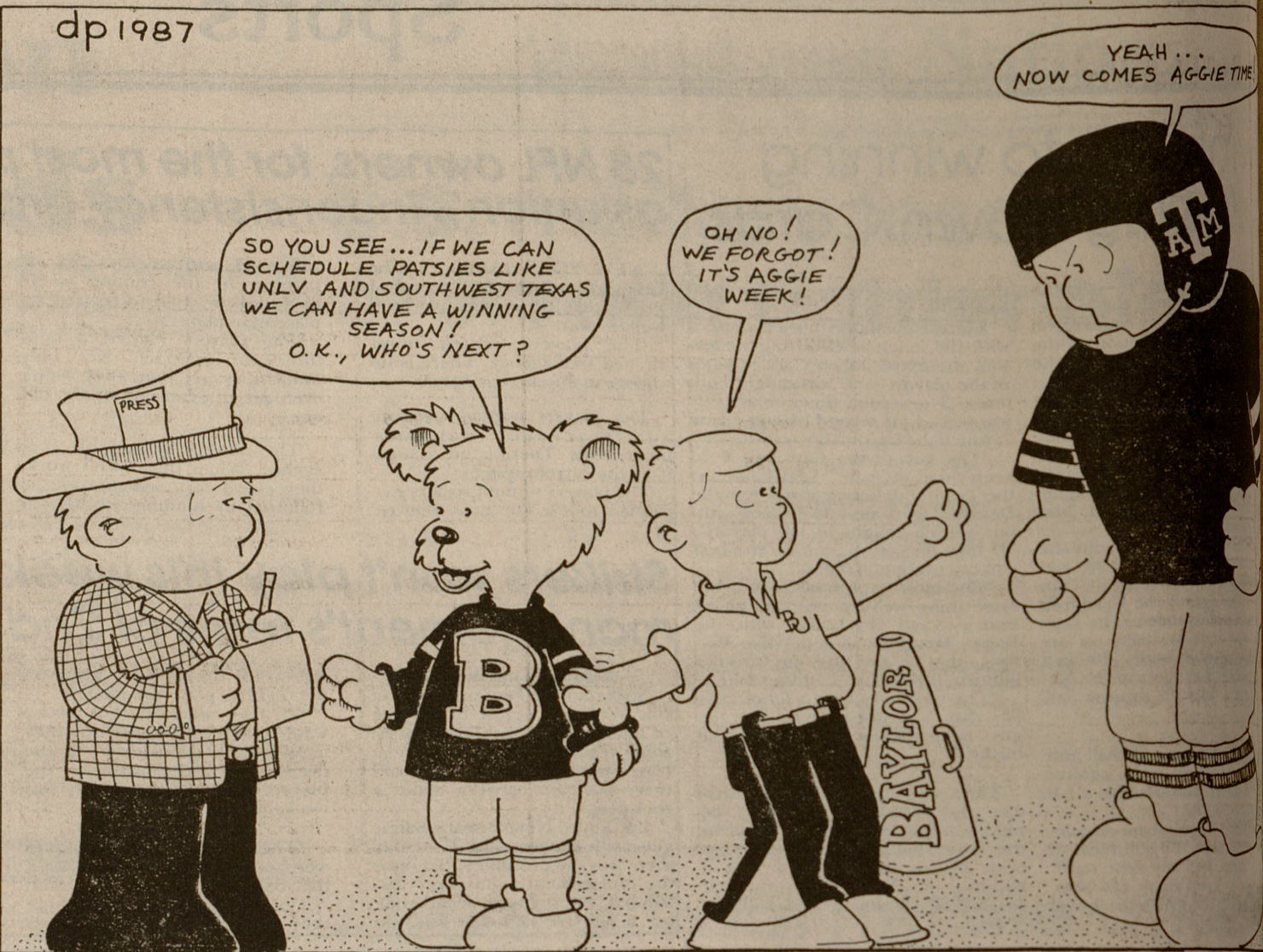
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Schramm: regulars won't get paid this week

IRVING (AP) — Dallas Cowboys veterans, ordered back to work by a union that hasn't yet wrestled a new contract agreement, can't play against Washington Monday and won't be paid this week, team President Tom Landry said Thursday.

The players then walked back out of the National Football League club's Valley Ranch headquarters after a tense team meeting and planned practice sessions on their own until they begin practice with the rest of the squad Tuesday.

Schramm offered to pay them \$108 per day if the workouts are supervised at Southern Methodist and some of the players scheduled a Friday morning workout at the campus.

Coach Tom Landry told the players to get ready to play Philadelphia Sunday week and said he expected a "training camp atmosphere" when the veterans report for work on Monday.

"I told them to come on in Monday and work out, we'll have their lockers ready for them then," Landry said. "They are not happy, but it doesn't mean they can't be ready to play football."

Schramm, a member of the Management Council's executive committee, said the union waited too long to get players into this week-end's games.

"They're too late. The deadline was Wednesday," Schramm said. "We've made that clear to them all along."

Neither Doug Cosbie or Jim Jeffcoat, the Cowboys' two NFL Players Association representatives, would comment on the strike situation after the afternoon meeting with management.

"It was a tense meeting — everybody was mad. Tom (Landry) was excited we were back," linebacker Garth Jax said after the 24-day strike disintegrated.

"We lost the fight, but that's the way it goes," linebacker Jeff Rohrer added.

Schramm said there was mass confusion among the Cowboys as well as team owners over what was going on with the strike.

"Herschel (Walker) called me and ask me what happened," he said. "I told him the players were coming back and he replied 'They did?' Then he said 'Oh, I guess I had better get hold of somebody.'"

He said the NFL Management Council "never heard from the union. There was confusion all over the league."

The team president said the owners didn't consider the players' return a victory.

"Nobody wins in a strike and everybody loses. It's an unfortunate circumstance," said Schramm, who added there would be a two-week period in which the replacement players would work out with the returning veterans.

"The roster will be expanded considerably," he said. "We're right back where we were when the agreement expired. The union still has the right to strike again."

Rohrer said of the strike that "I hope the scabs enjoyed it. The management played hardball and accomplished what they wanted. They busted us up."

"It looks like management got what it wanted," linebacker DeOssie agreed. "We oversteered our solidarity. Management is treating us better than I am. They won and that's that."

Jesse Penn said he was "not that's life," while safety Larry Downs added, "It's not a good situation, but it's not over yet."

The Cowboys were one of the weaker union teams with 11 players who crossed the picket lines. Offensive guard Nate Newton, two wide receivers on injured reserve were the most recent to cross the line Wednesday.

Such stars as quarterback White and running back Tomsett crossed the picket line weeks ago. Defensive tackle White and Don Smerek were first two veterans to join the management team.

Jax added that "I think we come a good team again."

A few questions, answers to some strike issues

NEW YORK (AP) — Questions and answers about the end of the NFL strike:

Q: Are all the regular players back with their teams now?

A: No. Most of them left camp shortly after reporting when they were told they were too late to play and get paid this week.

Q: Does that mean they're still on strike, after all?

A: No. The union has called off the strike, freeing players to go back. They can practice this week, or they can wait and report next week when they will be paid.

Q: So who will play this weekend, the strikers, the regulars or nobody?

A: The replacements, plus regulars who reported by 1 p.m. local time Wednesday.

Q: What happens to the games that were canceled because of the strike? Will they be made up?

A: The league has said all along that the games missed on the third week of the season will not be made up. That could be changed in a back-to-work agreement, but it's unlikely. That would mean a 15-game season.

Q: Will the results of the replacement games count?

A: The league says yes, that it would create ill will not to count them since the games were sold on good faith to both fans and television.

Q: Will the strikers who went back Thursday get paid?

A: Not regular game checks. If they practice, they will be paid per diem of \$750 a week for veterans, \$500 for rookies, plus \$38 a day meal money.

Q: What finally broke the strike?

A: A combination of lack of progress at the bargaining table and restlessness among the players, who lost an average of \$15,000 per week, more than twice as much as they lost during the 57-day strike in 1982.

A: There also appeared to be a lack of enthusiasm among most players for the key issue — free agency.

Q: What will happen to replacement players who coaches want to keep on their teams?

A: That's unclear. Most likely, rosters will be expanded from 45 to 49 players and it's possible that a reserve list will be maintained to keep players who were impressive in strike games.

Q: Who lost money in the strike?

A: The players. Buffalo quarterback Jim Kelly lost the most, more than \$200,000 for the first three weeks he missed. The average player who stayed out lost \$45,000 and those receiving the minimum salary of \$50,000 lost about \$10,000.

Q: Did anyone make money?

A: The replacement players, of course, and many teams may have made money because of reduced payrolls, which dropped from an average of almost \$900,000 per team each week to about \$200,000. The owners lost a still undetermined amount from ticket refunds. They will also probably have to repay the networks a portion of the approximately \$200 million they had already received in television payments because of game cancellations. But while attendance was low, many of the empty seats no-shows by people who had paid for tickets, meaning those who paid for.

Q: Since there wasn't a new contract agreement, was the old one extended?

A: No. The two sides agreed on the length of the strike. The union wanted Feb. 1 and individual contracts expired. Owners want June 16, the deadline for a player who has expired to seek bids from other teams.

Q: What does the union want?

A: It will work without a contract and pursue its aims, including an agency, through an arbitrator filed against the league in St. Louis.

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