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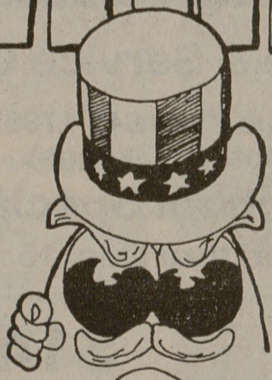
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Sooners, Canes still at top of AP poll

From the Associated Press
The Oklahoma Sooners and Miami Hurricanes are within one game of a national championship showdown.

Oklahoma has done its part, completing an 11-0 regular season with the No. 1 ranking in the Associated Press college football poll. The Sooners have been No. 1 in all but one poll this season. They slipped to second two weeks ago but reclaimed the top spot by defeating Nebraska on Nov. 21.

Miami remained No. 2 for the second week in a row Monday after a solid 24-0 victory over Notre Dame, but the Hurricanes, 10-0,

who meet Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl on New Year's night, have a regular-season game left against eighth-ranked South Carolina on Saturday night.

In the next-to-last regular-season poll, Oklahoma received 48 of 55 first-place votes and 1,090 of a possible 1,100 points. Six first-place votes and 1,049 points went to Miami.

Florida State, Syracuse and Nebraska held onto the 3-4-5 spots. Florida State, 10-1, received 985 points following a 28-14 triumph over Florida; Syracuse, 11-0, completed its regular season a week earlier and received the re-

maining first-place vote and 914 points while Nebraska, 10-1, a 24-7 winner over Colorado, received 904 points.

Florida State plays Nebraska in the Fiesta Bowl and Syracuse meets No. 6 Auburn in the Sugar Bowl.

Auburn and LSU swapped positions. Auburn climbed from seventh place to sixth with 803 points by defeating Alabama 10-0 while LSU, which ended its regular season a week ago, slipped from sixth to seventh with 765 points.

South Carolina remained eighth with 708 points and Michi-

gan State held onto ninth place with 635 points. However, Notre Dame fell from 10th to 12th while UCLA moved up from 11th to 10th with 573 points.

The Second 10 consists of Oklahoma State, Notre Dame, Clemson, Georgia, Texas A&M, Tennessee, Southern Cal, Iowa, Pitt and Penn State.

Last week, it was UCLA, Oklahoma State, Clemson, Georgia, Texas A&M, Tennessee, Southern Cal, Alabama, Iowa and Pitt.

Alabama's loss to Auburn cost the Crimson Tide a spot in this week's Top 20. Penn State moved back in after a two-week absence.

Tar Heels pass Orangemen in AP hoop poll

From the Associated Press
North Carolina, which defeated Syracuse in the Tipoff Classic and then won the Central Fidelity Classic, took over as the No. 1 team in the Associated Press' first regular-season college basketball poll Monday.

The Tar Heels, 3-0, received 37 of 58 first-place votes and 1,109 points from the nationwide panel of sportswriters and broadcasters after beating the then-franked Orangemen 96-93 in overtime in the Tipoff on Nov. 21. North Carolina then defeated Southern California 82-77 and Richmond 87-76 in the Central Fidelity tournament over the weekend.

Kentucky, which had been ranked fifth, jumped to second

with seven first-place votes and 955 points. The Wildcats have played just one game, beating Hawaii 86-59.

Syracuse, 2-1, fell to third and received two first-place votes and 916 points, three more than Pittsburgh, which remained fourth with four first-place votes. Syracuse was to face Arizona Monday night in the championship game of the Great Alaska Shootout.

Indiana jumped one place to fifth, receiving four first-place votes and 817 points, five more than Iowa, 3-0, which won the Maui Classic, including an impressive 100-81 victory over then-No. 7 Kansas.

Florida, Missouri and Arizona were seventh, eighth and ninth, respectively, and each received one first-place vote.

Florida, 4-0, jumped from 14th as the Gators won the Big Apple NIT. Missouri did not play a game as it remained eighth with 704 points, 13 fewer than Florida received. Arizona, which beat then-No. 9 Michigan 79-64 in the semifinals of the Great Alaska Shootout, jumped from 17th to ninth and received 636 points.

Wyoming, which beat Denver 113-82 in its only game, remained 10th with 636 points.

The Second 10 is Purdue, Temple, Duke, Louisville, Michigan, Kansas, Georgetown, Oklahoma, Nevada-Las Vegas and Memphis State.

The preseason Second 10 was Iowa, Temple, Louisville, Florida, Duke, Georgetown, Arizona,

Georgia Tech, Oklahoma and DePaul.

Georgia Tech and DePaul were the only teams to fall from the Top 20. Georgia Tech lost to Florida 80-69 in the Big Apple NIT, while Pepperdine beat DePaul, which is playing without academically-ineligible guard Rod Strickland, 84-76 in overtime.

Nevada-Las Vegas and Memphis State were the newcomers to the ranks of the ranked. UNLV has not played, and Memphis State beat Washington 86-57.

Purdue fell from second to 11th after losing to Iowa State in the NIT and Kansas fell from seventh to 16th as the Jayhawks saw their record fall to 1-2, losing to Iowa and Illinois in the Maui Classic.

Coogs look to next season after strong finish

HOUSTON (AP)—The Houston Cougars won three games and tied another on the field in their final four games of the season, and not even a forfeit could dampen Coach Jack Pardee's enthusiasm for next season.

The Cougars lost six of their first seven games while learning the intricacies of Pardee's run-and-shoot offense.

Then came the surge that included a record-setting 60-40 victory over a Redbonnet Bowl host Texas.

Athletic Director Rudy Davalos announced Sunday the Cougars would forfeit the 37-7 victory over Temple because safety Randy Thornton was scholastically ineligible to play in the game.

But the 3-7-1 finish is a plus, Pardee said.

"It won't do anything but help," Pardee said. "We needed something

good to happen to our program. We're getting back the fan support and we're getting back the winning tradition."

Pardee will lose only one offensive starter, center Tim Britton, from the 1986 team and will choose from three quarterbacks who all played this season.

"A win today is a start for tomorrow," Cougar wide receiver Jason Phillips said following Saturday's 45-21 victory over Rice. "We should have a strong team. We have a lot of young guys back and we should look real good next year."

Phillips will be one of the brightest returning stars.

He caught 99 passes this season, the fourth best single season performance in NCAA history.

David Dacus, the preseason SWC newcomer of the year, stumbled early in the season but emerged as

the starter and closed out Saturday with a Southwest Conference record 450 passing yards.

He expects to be the starter next season.

"Whenever I've played a whole game, my record is 3-1-1," Dacus said. "When I do good, good things happen."

Dacus got a second chance this season because freshman Andre Ware broke his arm in a 37-35 loss to Wyoming. But Dacus says the job is his now.

"I don't see that (Ware regaining the starting job) happening," Dacus said. "Why do it? Coach Pardee's a smart man. I don't have to prove myself again. The problem is in a lot of people's minds but not in mine."

Sophomore Kimble Anders and receiver James Dixon also are key offense threats who will return next season.

Anders caught 13 passes and rushed 88 yards in the finale against Rice. He finished the season with 791 rushing yards and was the No. 2 receiver with 61 catches for 707 yards.

Anders' 14 touchdowns tied the school single season record. Dixon finished third in receiving with 38 catches.

"We wanted to have a good season and go to the Cotton Bowl or some kind of bowl, we just couldn't seem to put things together early in the season," Anders said.

The Cougars will lose starting linebackers Derrick Hoskins, Gary McGuire and Robert Harper and safety Robert Jones in addition to kicker Chip Brownnyke, who kicked a school record 19 field goals this season.

Dodge survives adversity to find coaching success

ROCKWALL (AP)—Todd Dodge arrived in Rockwall in June, almost too excited to wait for September and the start of football season. Within a few days, he wondered why everything seemed to be falling apart.

He wondered why his athletic career, which once held such unlimited potential, had ended on the University of Texas bench.

He wondered why, in April, an electrical meter he was reading exploded, burning much of his arms, hands and face and landing him a seven-week hospital stay.

He wondered why his friend and former coach, Ronnie Thompson, was fired the week Dodge arrived in Rockwall to begin his career as a football coach.

"There was a string of events that really made me have to dig down deep and find out what I'm all about," said Dodge, the former Longhorns quarterback and a blue-chip high school prospect from Port Arthur Jefferson.

"I just couldn't understand why things kept happening," Dodge said. "Now I look back and see how everything has worked out for me, and

I guess I'm pretty lucky after all."

Dodge, a Rockwall assistant coach, took the field at Mesquite Memorial Stadium Saturday as one of the leaders of one of the state's hottest Class 4A teams. Rockwall routed Ennis 41-6 in their regional playoff game and now will play Kilgore, 12-1, in the quarterfinals.

It's a development he never expected.

"I don't think anybody would have thought about being where we are with the kind of summer that went on in Rockwall," Dodge said in an interview before the regional playoff battle.

"It shows how much these kids have put it on the line and paid the price to succeed. I feel great about everything now. Any coach would love to have a first year like this. It's been great to see how kids have come together. They went through all the turmoil with everyone else and really came out of it as winners."

The turmoil came when Thompson, Dodge's high school coach, was fired just four months after he was hired. Thompson was dismissed for breaking school and University Interscholastic League policies.

Skins Game pays off big for Trevino, not for Palmer

LA QUINTA, Calif. (AP)—The Skins Game will be back.

Lee Trevino will be back. And it's up to Arnold Palmer as to whether he'll be back.

"He's had the greatest impact of any man who ever played the game. He's the most popular player who ever lived. He's magic," said Don Ohlmeyer, president of Ohlmeyer Communications and originator of the popular, two-day, 18-hole, made-for-television Skins Game.

"As long as I have anything to do with it, Arnold can play as long as he likes," Ohlmeyer said. Ohlmeyer and Barry Frank, of Trans World International, as the sponsors, have the option of picking one of the four participants.

Palmer, 58, was their pick this year. He did not win a skin, did not win a dollar.

"It's entirely up to Arnold. If he wants to play, he'll get a spot," Ohlmeyer said.

"What we're trying to do is get the four players the public wants to see play. Not necessarily the guy who wins the most money.

We want the players the public wants.

"Now, we have gone into a senior Skins Game (the inaugural to be in Hawaii in January). Arnold's going to play in that."

"Maybe he'll decide he's a senior and wants to concentrate on senior play," Ohlmeyer said.

The fifth Skins Game, played over the weekend, was highlighted by Lee Trevino's hole-in-one on the 17th Sunday. The ace, which Trevino said was only the second of his career, was worth \$175,000. It helped him sweep all of the \$285,000 available Sunday and gave him \$310,000 for the two days of play.

It also made him eligible, as the defending champion, for the 1988 Skins Game, which Ohlmeyer said also will be played in the La Quinta area, but not necessarily on the PGA West course.

"I presume he'll want to play. I hope so. He's been good for us an eagle last year and a hole-in-one this year. Makes you wonder what he's going to do next year," Ohlmeyer said.

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