

Sports

NFL draft is a yawner; the nightmare rolls on

"Oh yeah, just wait 'til next year."
Poke fans wake up! Because next year starts with the NFL draft and it's less than two weeks away.



Curtis L. Culberson
Sports viewpoint

I f you're like me you're still hoping that you will wake up to find that last season was just a bad dream.

It was the second losing season in a row for "America's Team" and one that saw an already divided team further split by a player strike.

There were picketers, picket-crossers, hypocrites and butt-kissers who engaged in fighting, mudslinging and the like.

And how can anyone forget the replacement teams a.k.a. *The Scabs*. Those super-motivated, would-be USFLers we sometimes wowed over, sometimes laughed at and at other times were so bored by that we changed the channel to one of those black-and-white flicks or went outside to cut the grass.

Like most teams, the Cowboys had both awesome scabs and well, geek scabs.

Wide receiver Kelvin Edwards was the star scab for Dallas, but most of the others looked and played like they should be writing

for the Opinion Page of *The Battalion*.

Cowboys fans felt as if they were stuck in one of the serial nightmare horror films. Dallas quarterbacks Danny White and Steve Pelluer took turns playing the role of Freddie.

As if the Pokes' problems weren't torture enough for fans, the Cowboys arch-foes, those Indians from D.C., won the Super Bowl.

But now it's spring, a time for renewal, fresh air, romance and the NFL draft.

Unfortunately, it doesn't look as if this year's draft has the savors to take the Cowboys to the Promis'd Land.

Experts are saying that this year's college crop may be even weaker than last year's — a poor harvest at best.

Where do the Cowboys need players?

Ask any fan and he'll tell you everywhere, especially at quarterback.

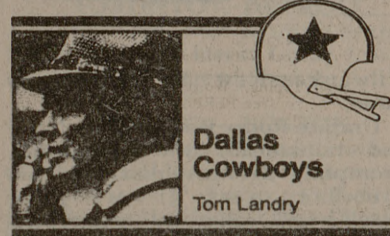
But Cowboy Head Coach Tom Landry said there isn't a quarterback in the draft better than his starter, Steve Pelluer. He was quoted in the *Dallas Morning News* as saying, "I don't see a quarterback being a choice for us."

I know some of you are reeling in pain over the thought of Pelluer being better than this year's college studs or even worse the thought of Pelluer starting for the Cowboys next season, but the sad truth is Landry is probably right.

Washington's Chris Chandler and Syracuse's Don McPherson are probably the best of this year's quarterback crop and experts say they are second-rounders at best.

Neither McPherson nor Chandler is the type of QB that could take a team to the playoffs in their first pro year or second for that matter.

Landry has promised to give



backup Kevin Sweeney a real chance in training camp. I guess we'll just have to wait and see.

In the meantime, the Cowboys will get the 11th pick of the draft (I bet now you wish the Cowboys would have lost some of those scab games). It's not in the top 10, but it's the highest pick the Pokes have had since 1965.

Last year, they broke with tradition and actually drafted well in the first three rounds. No. 1 draft pick Danny Noonan, Randy White's protégé, is a star of the future and Ron Francis and Jeff Zimmerman, Nos. 2, 3 respectively, are contributing as well.

The Cowboys will be looking for a pass rusher in the early rounds this year, but may pick from the bumper crop of wide receivers.

With Mike Sherrard's injury, Notre Dame's towel-hoarding Tim Brown, South Carolina's Sterling Sharpe and Miami's Micheal Irvin will be hard to pass up if one of them is still around by the eleventh pick.

Illinois 6-foot-6 270-pound defensive end Scott Davis may be the next Poke pass rusher. The Cowboys are no stranger to taking chances and it is possible they might reach in another position including linebacker.

On the trading block is veteran halfback Tony Dorsett and safety Michael Downs, two players I would be happy to wave bye-bye to. Downs is skinny and overrated and compared to Herschel Walker, Tony D is a slow-Poke.

'Flyin' Frogs' move on to Penn sprint relays

AUSTIN (AP) — The Penn Relays on April 28-30 is the next stop for the "Flyin' Frogs."

It's not a highwire act coming to Pennsylvania, but one of the most successful sprint relay teams in American track history.

Texas Christian won its 24th consecutive 400-meter relay at the 61st annual Texas Relays on Saturday, despite a steady rain that made passing the wet baton tricky.

TCU hasn't lost a sprint relay since 1986 at the College Station Relays.

The foursome of Roscoe Tatum, Greg Sholars, Tony Allen and Raymond Stewart posted a time of 39.43 in the rain.

TCU set the Relays record of 38.97 in 1986 and followed it with an American and collegiate record at 38.46. The streak of victories includes two NCAA outdoor titles and three Texas Relays' first place medals.

The Frogs will be going for a third straight Penn Relays sprint relays' title.

"We're on a roll and I hope it doesn't end until after the NCAAs," said TCU Coach Bubba Thornton. "We didn't make any mistakes on Saturday and that is the key to winning relay events."

The Frogs didn't mind the wet conditions like their namesakes. They also didn't get too bold.

"I wasn't running all out," Stewart said. "I was just trying to make sure I finished without getting hurt."

Sholars added, "Our goal was to pass the stick around without a big problem. Now we're shooting for a third win in the NCAAs," June 1-4 in Eugene, Ore.

TCU was named the outstanding team for the first time at the Texas Relays.

The Horned Frogs' foursome of Tatum, Sholars, Allen and Stewart, also won the 800-meter relay on Friday night, their first victory in the event after three years of trying.

The Arkansas Razorbacks, who won the outstanding team award last year, took the 6000-meter relay on Saturday.

Joe Falcon, the nation's premier

distance runner, ran a 3:51.0 anchor over the final 1500 meters of the relay.

"I was very pleased with my race and the team's performance," Falcon said. "In this weather, winning is all that counts. I just coasted. I didn't want to pull a muscle."

He was named the meet's outstanding male performer.

Heavy rain held the crowd to 2,000 fans and cut down the records.

Lynda Tolbert of Arizona State didn't let the rain bother her in the women's 100-meter hurdles, clocking a 13.11 which beat the meet record of 13.15 by Benita Fitzgerald of Tennessee in 1981.

"I consider it an honor to set a record in the class field I was running against," Tolbert said.

Tolbert also led off Arizona State's medal winning team in the women's sprint relay. The winning time was 45.76.

Stanford upset Arkansas in the 3,200-meter relay, winning in a time of 7:22.66 to 7:23.19 for the Hogs, who won the event last year.

The weather conditions were so adverse that the invitational open pole vault was cancelled.

A&M sluggers take on SFA at Olsen today

The third-ranked Texas A&M baseball team will get a break from Southwest Conference action when it plays Stephen F. Austin tonight at 5:30 in a doubleheader at Olsen Field.

A&M swept Baylor in Waco over the weekend to move into a first-place tie with Texas in the SWC.

The Aggies are 36-8 overall and 8-1 in conference games.

Tonight also is Little League Clinic Night at the ballpark.

A&M and SFA players will conduct a short clinic between games for all children in attendance.

Lady Aggies fall to Trinity on the road

By Loyd Brumfield
Sports Editor

The Texas A&M women's tennis team continued to experience hard times, losing to 11th-ranked Trinity 6-3 Monday in San Antonio.

A&M, ranked 25th nationally, falls to 16-7 overall while maintaining a Southwest Conference record of 5-2.

Saturday at the Omar Smith Tennis Center, the Lady Aggies were swamped by perennial power Southern Methodist in a 9-0 defeat.

"It was a very hard-fought match," A&M Coach Bobby Klei-neck said. "It could have gone either way."

"I'm just proud of the way everyone played."

In singles play, A&M's Gaye Lynn Gensler, who was moved back into the No. 1 singles position, lost to Jane Holdren 7-6, 6-1; A&M's No. 2 player Lisa Keller lost to Anne Hulbert 6-3, 7-6, and No. 3 Cindy Churchwell lost to Trinity's Katrina Crawford 6-1, 5-7, 6-2.

In other matches, A&M's Susan Williams defeated Mary Graber 7-6, 6-3.

Trinity's Dabney Langhorne beat Traci Nix 7-6, 7-6, and A&M's Derryn Haygarth beat Kilmney Watermann 6-3, 6-0.

With Trinity ahead 4-2, the match moved on to doubles play.

In an upset, A&M's No. 1 team of Gensler and Keller knocked off Holdren and Hulbert, the 2nd-ranked doubles team in the country, 6-3, 5-7, 6-4.

In other doubles matches, Trinity's team of Michelle Bogarrd and Crawford beat Churchwell and Haygarth 6-4, 6-2, and Graber and Watermann defeated A&M's Cindy Crawford and Williams 6-3, 2-6, 7-5.

The Lady Aggies will return to SWC action Friday with a match against Arkansas at 1:30 p.m. at the Tennis Center.

SENIOR WEEKEND 1988

Senior Bash

Friday, April 15, 8 p.m.
Texas Hall of Fame, \$5/couple
Featuring **Melissa Prescott**

Senior Banquet

Saturday, April 16, 7 p.m.
College Station Hilton, \$30/couple
Cocktail Hour, 5:30 p.m.
Guest Speaker **Gene Stallings, '57**
Coach of St. Louis Cardinals

Ring Dance

Saturday, April 16, 9 p.m.
MSC and Rudder Exhibit Hall, \$35/couple
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Ed Gerlach Orchestra

The Senior Weekend Package at \$65/couple, includes all three events. Tickets are on sale at Rudder Box Office at 845-1234. All tickets are presale.



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