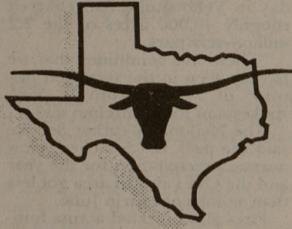


# Sports

## Texas frosh wants diversified future

HOUSTON (AP) — Willie Mack Garza, who reads poetry and plays the baritone saxophone, has ambitions beyond this week's Texas High School Coaches' Association All-Star football game.



He plans to play pro football and jazz.

Garza expects to learn both skills beginning this fall at the University of Texas, where he could become a freshman starter at cornerback. Garza led the Refugio Bobcats to the state football playoffs four straight years and finished his schoolboy career with 99 touchdowns and 594 points, including a Class 2A record 336 points in one season.

The Bobcats didn't lose a home game during Garza's career.

He also earned four letters in band, playing the saxophone, and reached the regional round in state poetry reading competition.

He could even become a poet. "I like (the) serious kind of poetry, something that has a lot of meaning," Garza said. "I like reading poetry that corresponds to life, that describes things that happen in life."

A poem of Garza's schoolboy career would have to be a long one.

Garza added four letters in track and basketball, placing third in the state Class 3A long jump as a sophomore and winning the 2A long jump as a junior.

His baseball career ended after his freshman year only because the school stopped playing the sport. Still, Garza was the district's most valuable player.

Garza started playing the saxophone because many of his friends were in the band.

"I always liked jazz music so I knew if I wanted to play jazz it would have to be the saxophone or trumpet, so I chose the sax," Garza said.

"In my later years in college, I'd like to learn to play jazz."

Despite his offensive exploits in high school, Garza realizes his future is in the defensive secondary and he'll make the move in the All-Star game.

"That's my position if I want to continue playing," Garza said. "They've said I have a good chance of starting at Texas. They don't have a lot of returning players at that position."

Refugio Coach Bobby Kelly has no doubts that Garza is tough enough to play defense.

"Mack is the most complete football player I've ever been around," Kelly said. "He's the best blocker we ever had at running back."

Kelly captured one memorable block on film when Garza was filling a hole for a pulling guard and facing a 250 pound tackle.

"Mack hit him under the shoulder pads and the kid was 10 yards off the line of scrimmage and Mack still had him going backward when the film stopped," Kelly said.

Garza was 5-8, 165 at the time.

## Cowboys battle aches, weight Sherrard to miss 2nd campaign with broken leg

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — A year ago in the Dallas Cowboys' training camp Michael Sherrard was to be the long-awaited club's catalyst into the NFL playoffs.

Sherrard, a first round draft pick in 1986, had caught 41 passes for 744 yards in the previous season. It was the most receptions by a Dallas rookie since Bob Hayes had 46 in 1965.

"Sherrard should be a Pro Bowl player, he has that kind of ability," said Dallas Coach Tom Landry.

The Cowboys planned their offense using Sherrard's speed as a primary weapon.

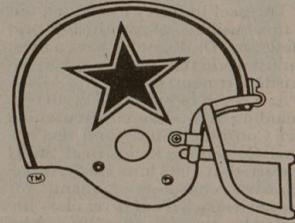
Then Sherrard broke his own leg running a route in a skeleton drill against the San Diego Chargers. He was out for the season.

The Cowboys went into shock. Club president Tex Schramm called it "the worst thing that could have happened. A major setback."

Dallas missed the playoffs for the second consecutive season with a 7-9 record.

Today, the injury-plagued wide receiver is back in camp with a limp and no part of Dallas' 1988 plans.

"Count me out," Sherrard said in the club's dining hall. "If I played it would be a miracle. My time clock is



to try to get healthy in the next 12 months."

Sherrard hurt himself again in March while jogging on a California beach against the orders of the Cowboys' team physicians. The stress fracture not only dimmed Sherrard's comeback but could have killed off his career.

"The stress fracture I suffered in March has almost healed," he said. "But there are still seven holes where they put in the original plate that still need to fill in with calcium."

Since Sherrard is out this year, the Cowboys want to put a rod in the fi-

bula to strengthen the bone. Sherrard says no.

"I'm against that procedure," Sherrard said. "I think it could set me back."

Sherrard had a meeting with club officials on Saturday and they encouraged him to have the surgery. He said he would think about it.

The accident-prone Sherrard just shook his head and added "the bad luck has to end somewhere."

Sherrard said "I was really looking forward to this year. Now, all I can do is walk but I can't run. It will be a

tough test on me mentally and psychologically."

He spent the season last year with his parents in Chico.

"Last year wasn't that bad because I had accepted what happened," he said. "I would sometimes see a game on TV, but I wasn't involved."

He will try to take his mind off playing this year by going to graduate from business school at UCLA.

"I have to start preparing for the fact I might not be able to play again," he said. "I have to get the ball rolling for other options."

## Newton grows while on diet

THOUSAND OAKS, Calif. (AP) — Nate Newton is in big trouble, again. All 331 pounds of it.

Newton, the Dallas Cowboys' food-loving offensive guard, somehow gained 6 pounds last week while on a restricted diet the training camp "fat man's" table.

Newton is supposed to be at 320 at this juncture of training camp and down to 300 pounds when the sea-

son starts.

"I just don't understand it," said Cowboys' offensive line Coach Jim Erkenbeck. "How can it happen? I do have a hunch, though."

While Newton eats lightly under the coaches' watchful eyes, he's been sighted at a fast food restaurant.

Also, a pizza express passes through training camp every night around 10:30.

## UK Wildcats face NCAA investigation

LEXINGTON, Ky. (AP) — The Kentucky basketball program, one of the nation's most successful and tradition-laden, is being investigated by the NCAA for allegedly sending \$1,000 to a recruit's father.

The announcement was made in a letter from David Berst, director of enforcement for the NCAA dated July 22, who also wrote that "approximately 10 additional allegations" will be submitted to the university within the next 30 days.

Berst did not specify what the allegations would concern.

"It appears reasonable to expect that the NCAA Committee on Infractions may find a violation of NCAA legislation," Berst wrote.

The primary investigation stems from allegations that assistant coach Dwane Casey sent a package March 30 to the father of Chris Mills, a California high school star the school was attempting to recruit.

No one answered the phone at the Mills home. Several employees of Emery Air Freight Corp. said the package popped open in transit, reveal-

ing \$1,000 in cash. Casey has denied sending the money, and Chris Mills and his father, Claud, have denied receiving any.

Casey has since filed a \$6.9 million lawsuit against Emery, contending the company mishandled the package, defamed his character and violated his privacy. He also contended he suffered "severe and grievous mental and emotional suffering."

UK President David Roselle, reading from a statement at a news conference, said, "I am saddened that a serious allegation has been made by the NCAA concerning the men's basketball program."

But he added, "We will defend the basketball program against any unfounded allegation, but we will take full responsibility for any wrongdoing judged to have occurred."

Kentucky has won more games than any school in NCAA basketball history — 1,453 while losing just 457 and tying one. Its winning percentage of .761 is also the highest and its five NCAA championships tie it for second with Indiana behind UCLA's ten.

"As soon as we receive notice of the other allegations, we will investigate them and respond to the NCAA accordingly," Roselle said.

Athletic Director Cliff Hagan declined comment.

Coach Eddie Sutton, who was out of town, said in a statement issued through the university: "I can say unequivocally that I have not been involved in any wrongdoings nor was I aware of improprieties that might damage the Kentucky basketball program or the university."

Berst said the NCAA would set a deadline for the university's response after the other allegations had been submitted. At NCAA headquarters in Mission, Kan., he would not elaborate, saying the statements made public in the letter stand for themselves.

Claud Mills said last Friday that he would take legal action to get information about the NCAA investigation.

Chris Mills apparently still plans to attend UK. If it is determined that violations were committed in his recruitment, he could be barred from playing there.

## Wrigley Field readied for night light baseball

CHICAGO (AP) — Towering banks of floodlights set the stage for Monday at Wrigley Field as the Chicago Cubs gave a preview of night baseball in the 74-year-old park.

The Cubs scheduled a 9:15 p.m. workout under the lights and made it a festive affair with a preceding autograph session and a home-run contest featuring Cub greats Ernie Banks, Billy Williams, Andre Dawson and Ryne Sandberg.

The first night game is Aug. 8 against Philadelphia, but it took more than the flick of a switch to bring the lights to Wrigley Field.

The Tribune Co. bought the team in 1981 and said soon after it wanted to put in lights. The ensuing fight was bitter with lawmakers at the city and state levels wrangling over the issue amid Cubs' threats to move and protests from fans who feared night

baseball would bring noise, congestion and vandalism.

Finally, in February, the City Council lifted its anti-noise ban, and installation of the lights began.

Opponents of night baseball scheduled a Monday practice.

"We will be out there because these are our city streets," said Charlotte Newfield, president of Citizens United for Baseball in Sunshine. "Our new motto is 'It ain't over 'til it's over.'"

Twenty-six panels of lights, with latticework mirroring the arches found throughout Wrigley Field, have been installed over the past three months.

The team has scheduled seven night games this year — 53 years after the first major-league night baseball game in Cincinnati. The Cubs have scheduled 18 annual night games through 2002.

## UTEP hopes to be next Akeem

EL PASO (AP) — This has been a year of transition for Francis Ezenwa, the Texas-El Paso basketball team's 6-foot-9 Nigerian recruit.

In a land that idolizes soccer and track stars, Ezenwa had a different vision. He crossed the Atlantic last August hoping to emerge as a basketball player — like Nigeria's Akeem Olajuwon, an all-star NBA center.

"Almost everyone in Nigeria knows about Akeem," Ezenwa said during a workout in the Miners'

weight room. "But he wasn't always well-known. When he left Nigeria, he was skinny. He had a lot to learn about basketball."

Like Olajuwon in the early 1980s, Ezenwa has several basketball lessons to study. But he figures he'll learn from one of the game's top coaches — Don Haskins.

Ezenwa, 22, is projected to be a forward or backup center next season.

Miner coaches describe Ezenwa as

a raw talent. They say he's gifted with speed, leaping ability and coordination. He lacks strength, shooting touch and basketball instincts.

Texas-El Paso assistant coach Rus Bradburd said the sophomore works hard to refine his skills. He plays in practice games daily with the Miners at the Special Events Center and lifts weights four times a week to develop his 205-pound frame.

"Francis has a lot of potential," Bradburd said. "He has the physical

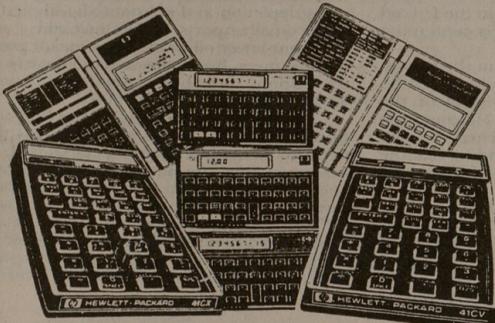
tools necessary to become a good player. More important, it seems like he wants to work hard."

Part of Ezenwa's transition to the United States deals with food.

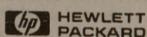
In Nigeria, he lived on a diet of soup, rice and vegetables. In the United States, he's adjusting to meat, potatoes and fast food.

Said one coach, "Francis isn't crazy about hamburgers, but I told him he ought to eat a few to gain weight."

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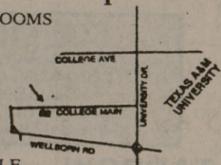
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