

UK fans take violence to bleachers

By Cray Pixley Assistant Sports Editor

An American sports writer in London First part of a five-part series

Football is not a matter of life and death — at least not in American college football.

Playing and losing to the Louisiana State Tigers is not a pleasant experience in anyone's book. Travelling to Baton Rouge and facing those jeering lunatic LSU fans has become worse than the Texas rivarly — the LSU fanatics are far more annoying, not to mention the fact that the Tigers have triumphed over the Ags for three years running.

Most Aggie fans who travel to the Cajun state know what they are in for with the fans. There are the blistering taunts and at times, violence

against Aggie property. While this is all costly and frustrating, the clashing fans have so far avoided serious physical violence and injury.

After all, A&M fans uphold the honor of the University while those LSU fans run amok.

With tempers riding high, one wonders how long physical violence can be avoided. A&M quarterback Bucky Richardson com-mented that the difference between the two uni-

versities' fans were that the Aggies were sober. Recently in the United Kingdom, there has been an escalation of the violence between the

fans of rival teams. This summer, tempers flaired to a boiling point in the football confrontation between the England club and the Scotland club.

Part alcohol related, part deeply rooted re-sentment, the English-Scottish rivalry has be-

come a glaring example of the over-zealous fan problem

Football has become more than a sport in the U.K

It *has* become a life and death situation. In the early months of this summer, the meeting of the England and Scotland football clubs was set for London's Wembley Stadium.

The U.K. had already been having enormous difficulties with fan violence at all the season's football matches. Fans were becoming uncontrollable if not homicidal.

Secret police committees were formed to counter the antics and had been of inconsiderable success at best.

The coming game between the two clubs was seen as the invasion of London by a crazed contingent of bloodthirsty fans.

Not to worry, the English supporters were ready for the challenge.

The game had become of little consequence so long as some serious head-bashing could be accomplished.

The morning of the day of the match saw the arrival of 30,000 Scottish fans.

Blood had already been spilled before they even set foot in London. One drunken fan had fallen off of a speeding train headed for London and sustained fatal injuries. All the more reason for the Scots to be on a rampage

By mid-morning, the Scottish fans were visible on nearly every street corner anxiously awaiting the coming war.

They were easy to spot draped in the plaid material of their team's colors and clutching cans

of lager. Some sang a fight song and screeched at passers-bv

The English were not so easy to spot but we present nonetheless.

Anyone not ready for a fight would have be wise to avoid Wembley Stadium for the n day's melee. Now was not the time for a can and sportsmanlike day of football.

The tension was about to explode. Crowd control at the stadium was alread shambles by the time the game began. Fans we throwing punches and shouting at each other play began.

The media kept a close eye on the hostilities The match was a shadow compared to physical contact happening in the grandstands Just what was the score of the game anywa But hey, that's not of any importance.

During the game, an English spectator tossed off the stands and onto the electric rails of an above-ground train. Other fans su bled out of the stadium with the marks of 28 vere beating.

The England club was victorious at this me ing, but the fans were in a dead tie. All had g their licks in.

The Scottish fans wandered the streets in jection after the game nursing bloody lips we waiting for a northbound train. The tray would retreat and regroup for another day. It was a truly sad sight of entertainmento ried too far.

The A&M and LSU rivalry has a way togok fore reaching the level of this fanaticism-k hope that team loyalty never goes that far in A&M fans.

Cowboy rally fails; Steelers win opener

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Earnest Jackson scored on runs of 15 and 29 yards and Bubby Brister's scrambling passes set up his own 1-yard touchdown run as the Pittsburgh Steelers held off two late Dallas drives to beat the Cowboys 24-21 on Sunday

Brister, improvising several key completions when his pass protec-tion broke down, completed 13 of 27 passes for 214 yards in his first NFL opening-day start as the Steelers withstood two touchdown passes by the Cowboys' Steve Pelluer

Pelluer, who hit 24 of 37 passes for 289 yards with two interceptions, drove the Cowboys from their own 30 to a third-and-2 at the Steelers' 4 with 3:14 to play. But a pass in-tended for tight end Doug Cosbie was picked off in the end zone by linebacker David Little. Pelluer had been 12 of 14 for 164 yards in the second half until the interception.

Luis Zendejas missed a 49-yard field goal attempt with 44 seconds left after the Cowboys had driven to a first down at the Pittsburgh 23yard line. Pelleur was sacked twice and threw an incompletion before the failed kick.

Brister, a third-year pro from Northeast Louisiana, made his first start since 1986 and his first since the Steelers traded away Mark Malone, their starting quarterback of four years, to the San Diego Charg-

With the Steelers leading 17-14, Brister hit Louis Lipps for 11 and 20 yards and Charles Lockett for 13

Landry ties longevity record with 29th straight season seasons. The others were George

seasons

pionships

PITTSBURGH (AP) — 1 om Landry tied the NFL record for coaching longevity Sunday when he began his 29th consecutive season as the Dallas Cowboys' coach.

Curly Lambeau, who coached the Green Bay Packers from 1921-49, was the only other NFL coach to lead a team for 29 consecutive seasons.

Landry, the only coach in the Cowboys' history, is the NFL's third-winningest coach with a 267-165-6 (.616) record. He and Sunday's coaching opponent, Chuck Noll of the Pittsburgh Steelers, are two of only four NFL coaches to coach the same team for at least 20 consecutive

yards before Jackson burst up the middle untouched on a 29-yard time against a tie in 29 opening-day starts under Coach Tom Landry, took a 7-0 lead when Tim Newsome scoring run with 14:53 left in the game, completing an 86-yard drive. scored from the 3 with 8:42 remain-Pelleur, who replaced Danny White as the Cowboys' quarterback ing in the first quarter to end a 79play drive.

Halas and Steve Owen.

Landry, the Miami Dolphins'

Don Shula (26 seasons) and Noll

are the only active coaches with

20 or more seasons as head coaches. Shula, who also coached the Baltimore Colts, has coached

the Dolphins for 19 consecutive

Noll, the NFL's fifth-winning-est coach with a 178-121-1 (.595)

record and the only coach to win

four Super Bowls, began his 20th

season Sunday. Between them, Landry and Noll have 445 career victories, 58

postseason games, 22 division ti-tles and six Super Bowl cham-

in their next-to-last game last season, then marched Dallas on a 60-yard scoring drive, capped by his 8-yard throw to Ray Alexander on a third-and-4 play. Pelluer had made it 17-After Jackson's score tied it, the Steelers took the lead for good at 10-7 on Gary Anderson's 32-yard field goal. Anderson, the second-most accurate kicker in NFL history, later 14 earlier with a 35-yard touchdown missed a 46-yarder.

Dallas, losing for just the sixth

the final 1:30 of the half after an ing to a first down at the Cowbon when rookie Warren Williams held to two yards on three can and Brister threw an incompletion

Pittsburgh had the NFL's we passing offense last season, but Bi ter began airing it out on the Ster ers' first possession of the seen half. He hit Lockett for 44 yards third-and-17, then found fully Merril Hoge for eight yards a Lipps for seven yards on third-ma plays for a first down at the 19.

Dwight Stone gained 18 yards three carries before Brister do over the top from a yard out w 8:33 left in the third quarter, poing the Pittsburgh lead to 17-7.

Jackson had 12 carries for yards and Herschel Walker had for 79 yards for the Cowboys.

Pittsburgh's youthful defease which forced 47 takeaways last se son, was pushed to the limit be didn't break in Dallas' final two pa sessions.

Pelluer led the Cowboys fm their 30 to a first down at the Stee ers' 12 with just under four minu to go but threw incomplete on fir down at the 12. He scrambled up it middle for eight yards on second down, but was intercepted by Litt on third down as he tried to in h

said pre was offe

said

dov

they

Agg

ery

riou

qua S

tor

mue

ont

strin the half.

> tern that

> gam

Sa W

grip near

was.

tend

out

purp excu

you i Tł

as the Tech

at al

tired

Tł plima

so sir

.

first affec say ir

Pittsburgh also failed to score in Cosbie in the end zone.

Zendejas field goal gives Oilers OT win

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Tony Zendejas, who missed two attempts in regulation play, kicked a 35-yard field goal at 11:09 of overtime on Sunday to give the Houston Oilers a 17-14 NFL victory over the Indianapolis Colts.

The Oilers' winning drive took six plays after the Colts' Eric Dickerson fumbled a pass reception at the Indi-anapolis 42.

Second-year quarterback Cody Carlson, subbing for injured Warren Moon, completed a third-down pass for 21 yards to Drew Hill at the Colts' 24-yard line. Then, after two short runs by Mike Rozier to the 18, Zendejas kicked the winning field

yards in the third quarter and 26 ond period when Rozier's 1-yard yards with two minutes left in the run capped a 90-yard drive.

fourth period when the ball hit the right upright.

throw to rookie Michael Irvin.

Dickerson, who rushed for 109 yards and caught six passes for 98 yards from quarterback Gary Hoge-boom, gained 12 with the reception on the first play of overtime. But he was hit by Houston's John Grimsley and Robert Lyles caught the ball in mid-air

Neither team scored in the second half of regulation, with the Oilers losing the ball twice on fumbles and the Colts once.

The Oilers' first touchdown also came on an Indianapolis turnover when Steve Brown returned an intercepted pass 44 yards in the closing seconds of the first quarter. Houston scored its second touch-He earlier missed attempts of 47 down in the final seconds of the sec-

Moon, who hit 11 of 15 passes for 137 yards, suffered a bruised right shoulder early in the third quarter and Carlson, making his first NFL appearance, went the rest of the game

The Indianapolis touchdowns came on a 23-yard pass from Hogeboom to Matt Bouza in the first quarter and a 1-yard dive by Albert Bentley midway through the second period.

Last year, in a 51-27 Indianapolis victory over Houston, it was Hogeboom who suffered a shoulder injury that sidelined him for the rest of the season

The Colts reached the Houston 37 on the first play of the second quarter on a 27-yard pass to Bill Brooks and a personal foul on the Oilers But hereafter for Oilers. But a penalty for intention-ally grounding the ball and a loss of

7 yards on a sack took Indianapoli back to its own 46.

Hogeboom passed 15 yards Bentley, but a fourth-down, 57-yar field goal attempt by Dean Biasun hit the crossbar, ending a streak a 10 in a row — one short of the text

record — started last year. The Colts broke a 7-7 tie on th next possession, with Dickerson has ing a part in six of the eight plays.

Four straight runs by Dickers took Indianapolis to its 30. Brod then caught a pass for a 10-yard and lateraled, as he was be tackled, to Dickerson, who ran a yards down the sideline to the Oilen

Mark Boyer caught an ll-par pass, and after Dickerson ran for gain, Bentley leaped into the zone for the touchdown.

