



dp 1988

Bear back's 142-yard game earns him player of week

WACO (AP) — The first question you ask after seeing Eldwin Raphael run is: How did Baylor get this guy away from the University of Oklahoma?

After all, he rushed for 1,542 yards his senior season at Lawton (Okla.) Eisenhower High School. It's not like the Sooners' Barry Switzer didn't know he existed.

The answer is plain and simple. The Sooners didn't offer Raphael a scholarship. They wanted him to walk-on.

Baylor coach Grant Teaff got a telephone call from a Baylor alumnus at Lawton Eisenhower about Raphael. And is Teaff glad he accepted the collect call.

Raphael, a sophomore, rushed 16 times for 142 yards including a 53-yard run on Saturday night in the Bears' 27-3 non-conference victory over Nevada-Las Vegas. The performance earned him The Associated Press Southwest Conference Offensive Player of the Week award.

Others considered for the weekly laurel were Texas Tech receiver Wayne Walker, who scored on two long touchdown passes; Arkansas running back Barry Foster who scored on three touchdown runs; and Baylor freshman placekicker Jeff Ireland, who kicked a school record-tying four field goals.

The AP's SWC Defensive Player of the Week award went to Baylor weakside linebacker James Francis, who led a Bears' defense that held the Rebels to only two first downs, a school record.

Raphael is a 6-foot, 177-pound slashing type runner in the style of Marcus Allen of the Los Angeles Raiders. "He does remind you a lot of Allen," said Baylor

coach Grant Teaff. "He's always going forward like Allen. And he has good speed. He won three state track titles in Oklahoma."

He was the 1986 state champion in both the 110 meter high hurdles and the 300 meter hurdles and was on a state champion 1600 meter relay team.

The Shreveport, La., native carried only 22 times for Baylor last year in his redshirt freshman season, gaining 84 yards.

"We just kind of fell into this kid," Teaff said. "We're lucky Oklahoma didn't want to offer him a scholarship. We were surprised when we checked him out. We thought he was a really good player after we saw him on film. We were the only school to offer him a scholarship."

Raphael was named to the 5A all-state team by the Daily Oklahoman and played in the All-star game.

Raphael said "I'm glad Baylor took a chance on me. I feel like I'm learning the game better. Sitting out my freshman season really helped. I feel like things are really coming together for me. I think I'm improving."

He said he liked Baylor's switch to the I formation. "I can read the blocks and use my ability," Raphael said.

Francis was devastating against the Rebels. He sacked the UNLV quarterback once, broke up a pass and tackled runners twice for eight yards in losses. He made five tackles as the Baylor defense gave up only one first down. The other game on a penalty.

"We took control of the game early," said Francis, a 6-4, 225-pound junior from LaMarque. "I know what kind of defense we can have this year and people got to see our potential against UNLV."

Landry: Pelluer gaffe 'incredible' but doesn't cost him starting job

IRVING (AP) — Steve Pelluer's wrong-way play that cost the Dallas Cowboys' a 24-21 loss to the Pittsburgh Steelers "was incredible," coach Tom Landry said Tuesday, but no thought has been given to replacing Pelluer as the starting quarterback.

"This guy is pretty strong, and I think he will do fine," Landry said. "I support him and the team supports him, and that's all it takes. Too much can be made of one game."

Pelluer threw an interception from the Steelers' 4-yard line after he went one way and his primary receiver, Timmy Newsome, went another.

Landry said "I don't guess I could have shot him but I was upset. We were in a position to win or at least get the tying field goal. We had Pittsburgh on the ropes."

He said Pelluer had a flawless second half until that one damaging play.

"Steve played extremely well," Landry said. "He audibled well. He did a lot of positive things. He will

make mistakes at times because although he has been in the league five years he doesn't have a lot of experience."

Landry said he wouldn't put up with game-costing mistakes forever.

"I'm still with him as long as he is learning from his mistakes," Landry said. "Steve has a load on his mind. With his level of experience, you have to expect him to make errors."

Pelluer became the Cowboys' starter in 1986 but was sacked 47 times because Dallas had so many injuries it fielded an all-guard offensive line.

"His has been an interesting experience," Landry said. "He doesn't quite have the maturity yet to handle all he is experiencing. He hasn't had a lot of time on the field. It's going to take awhile for him to gain the maturity he needs."

Two new faces could be seen in the Cowboys' lineup this week.

Placekicker Roger Ruzek "could be activated," Landry said.

"I'm not sure what I'm going to do," Landry said. "(Luis) Zendejas has worked hard. But we'd love to have what Ruzek did last year (22 of 25 field goals). The chances are we will probably work with Ruzek in practice another week before we activate him."

Landry said veteran linebacker Garry Cobb, picked up as a free agent after he was released by the Philadelphia Eagles, may play at least half the game on Monday night against the Phoenix Cardinals.

"Cobb was the outstanding player on our special teams against the Steelers," Landry said. "He has the experience we need at outside linebacker. We'd like to play him at least one half of the game."

Ray Alexander may replace Kelvin Edwards as one of the starting wide receivers because of a knee injury Edwards suffered against the Steelers.

Landry said he expected a hard time from the Cardinals in their home opening game which will begin at 5 p.m. Phoenix time.

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