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Page 10 The Battalion

Landry shouldn't quit, wife say

Thursday, October 27, 1988

IRVING (AP) — Alicia Landry said Wednesday she wouldn't encourage her husband to quit professional football, saying "everyone who knows anything about the game still thinks he is doing a great job.

Her husband, Tom, has undergone a crossfire of criticism from some media and fans because of the Dallas Cowboys' 2-6 start, worst in 25 years.

So far I'm not worried because I'm very optimistic in Tommy's ability to coach, and I know he can do it,' she told the Associated Press. "He has proved he can do it, hasn't he?'

Mrs. Landry said the carping "was from a very few unfair people. Their job is to say something awful. The polls are kind of tacky, but there have been a lot of people standing up for him.

Alicia said the attacks on her husband were also attacks on his age, 64.

"Don't we have a president who is over 64?" she asked. "I guess it's a sign of the times that when you

get a little older you aren't supposed to be able to do a competition. He thrives on competition. I would

Alicia and Tom aren't letting the bad times get them the one who has to live with it, go to the off

'When we came to Dallas in the early '60s, a good friend of mine from the New York Giants (Ann Mara) told me, 'Don't read the newspapers when you lose.' I guess that's why we've lived this long. I don't think Tom's morale is down. I don't think he will let it affect

A 24-23 loss to Philadelphia on Sunday triggered the criticism of Landry after Dallas blew a 20-point lead. "It was a very tough loss," she said. "I didn't

dream we could lose that game. She attends all the Cowboys' game at home and on

'Sports is a lot like politics," she said. "If you can't stand the critics, then you have to get out.

'I know what you're saying right now — he should have retired, right? You have to understand that Tom is

to influence him to get out of the game - yet those long hours every day.

Coach Landry said on Tuesday he will hour contract which lasts through the 1989 season.

She said her husband was "extremely crazy the current team. 'He's very happy with this team because it we hard, that there is no dissension," she said "team has so much heart and just a super mix.

hope someone doesn't ruin it. She said her husband does read the sports pages everthing else but football.'

been lovely. They've still been nice everywhere

Lady Aggies

(Continued from page 9)

match," he said. "I'm not afraid to use my bench or freshmen.

It was a Texas freshman, attacker Annette Garza, that put the finishing

touches on the match for the Longhorns. Texas took advantage of A&M mistakes and some hard kills to take a 7-1 lead on the Lady Aggies in the final

A&M continued to mis-hit the rest of the game while the Longhorns played almost error-free volleyball.

The high spot in Game 4 for A&M was two straight service aces by junior setter Yvonne Van Brandt to pull to within seven at 12-5.

That was all they could muster, however, and after several Ag errors, Garza put it through outstretched defenders for

Despite the loss, Givens was optimistic for the rest of A&M's season.

"Even though the scores in the last three games weren't close, we were playing good volleyball," he said. "We got beat by a better team tonight.

"But it doesn't have to stay that way. Eventually we're going to beat them. The Lady Aggies, now 15-9 (3-2 in

Southwest Conference play), have not defeated the Longhorns since 1982, dropping 14 straight matches. The win moved Texas to 19-3 on the year, 6-0 in

Senior attacker Cheri Steensma led the

Lady Ags with 10 kills and added 13 digs on defense. Sophomore Amy Cumings led in attack percentage with a low .267 Van Brandt had 16 digs to lead the

Haley had only praise for the Lady

Aggies.
"Steensma is great," he said. "She must fool 90 percent of the blockers in the country. And when (senior Vivian) Viera gets hot, she's like a rubber band."

The Lady Aggies team hitting percentage of .051, compared to Texas .273, was a major difference in the loss for

Texas was led by senior Dawn Daven-port with 13 kills for a .478 hitting percentage. Haley said Davenport is one of the top three players in the country.

The crowd of 1406 was the largest for the Lady Aggies this season. Haley said he enjoys playing at G. Rollie White

"I would hate to think what it would be like if the whole place was filled — A&M might win the first two games," he

in the top two teams in the SWC. They are currently tied for second. "Our season doesn't start and end with

how we do against the Longhorns," Givens said.

Purdue and North Carolina State in the Volleyball Monthly/Nike Classic

Campbell number to remain retired

Athletic Director DeLoss Dodds said Wednesday he would not support any move to take former Heisman Trophy winner Earl Campbell's No. 20 jersey out of retirement.

A newspaper report over the weekend had said "a big rumor floating around Austin" was that No. 20 would be pulled from retirement for Robert Strait of Cuero, who also wears No. 20 and is considered one of the state's top college running back prospects.

"Let me make my position clear," Dodds said. "There is no way I would support any move to activate that number. There has never been any discussion about Earl's number with relation to any recruit or player

Dodds said discussions with former football coach Darrell Royal, head coach David McWilliams and the UT athletics council earlier this year had centered

around the possibility of retiring the jerseys, or numbers of former Longhorn greats Bobby Layne and Tommy Nobis.

Campbell, a former UT running back and in 1977 UT's only Heisman winner, Givens said his teams goal is to finish had said he did not think his jersey - the only one ever retired at UT - should be

'I don't think it's fair to me or fair to The Aggies travel to Florida this the guys I played football with here for weekend for matches against Florida, four years. We all worked hard and deserved the honor of having it retired. If they (UT officials) are planning on to honoring Earl.'

who played on those teams shou role in making that decision

McWilliams said, "We were last year that there's no way we'n to get Robert (Strait) since we can him No. 20. We've never to giving it to him because it's retir least, that's my feeling. As far a concerned, there's no way we colle

Dodds said UT officials prin have been discussing what to be No. 22, worn by quarterback land No. 60, worn by such players and linebackers Nobis and Johnny Irai and current middle linebacker

Hager.
"I don't want to get into a fight
a jersey, but I feel strongly about Campbell told the Aus Statesman. He said he hadn't the matter with Dodds. "Id that it's DeLoss Dodds' de would hope they would have spect for me and those guys Ipl to at least mention it to me." 'We are looking into ways

ing athletes in the future," D doing anything that would have Earl, he would have been the fir anybody discussed it with. Pers would oppose anything that do what we have already done with

Attendance

(Continued from page 9)

make it this week. As a life-long A&M fan, one who 1986 74,739 fans left Kyle Field gasping didn't get to see them play in person until for breath after the Aggies overcame a 1961 (and the 1967 Texas game was only 17-0 deficit to win 31-30. 1961 (and the 1967 Texas game was only my eighth game, six of which were here), I really thought that the stadium 50,024, the numbers have gone up since was full all the time.

That's what Aggies told me — but, sorry guys, somebody lied. The false- have drawn 57,193 per opening, only hood didn't — and doesn't — matter a 15,000 and change under capacity. bit to me, but what about the players who look up and see 20,000 or more empty but actually drew under 40,000 once seats when a "lesser opponent" shows probably when the team needed some

to SMU through the recent Rice game, posting a 75-40 record and winning three undisyears did the Ags draw an average of that day 60,000 fans, topped by last year's

Three of the seven crowds exceeding when defensive back James Flowers in-70,000 occurred last year, including LSU (71,282), Arkansas (73,511) and -surprise — Texas (78,573).

trounced Washington 29-12.

Those who missed the game also missed the only time quarterback Lance Pavlas has thrown a touchdown pass.

Yeah, the same guys play each week up or down depending on the opponent.

Attendance jumped 20,000 from the team, the stadium would have been rock-Louisiana Tech rout (32-3) to the Arkaning that day. sas game (14-0).

came to see Texas, of course, but in While the mean for the 115 games is

Coach Jackie Sherrill took over in 1982. With Sherill at the helm, the Aggies

15,000 and change under capacity

support in the worse way. After Arkans A&M has played 115 home games in the rain and sleet in Fayetteville, the Aggies returned to Kyle Field to play a

TCU team that could have gone to its puted SWC titles. Yet, in only three first Cotton Bowl since 1958 had it won Just 38,209 fans "filled" Kyle Field that afternoon, but they were rewarded

tercepted a pass in the first quarter, re-

turning it for a touchdown. Though nobody knew it at the time, One week after the Ags lost to LSU, that interception turned the entire pro-attendance dropped 13,000 as they gram around. A&M beat TCU 35-21, went to Austin and beat Texas 37-12 and has won every SWC title since then as well as being 4-0 (and ineligible) so far

Lots of you missed that, huh? Too even if the number of empty seats goes bad, for if Ags really meant it when they up or down depending on the opponent. said that they "always" support the

Sherrill has seen six different occa-

Three of the other four 70,000 crowds sions when 40,000 were in attendance,, 23 in the 50,000 range and another six between 60,000 and 67,884. Six of the seven 70,000 crowds are his, too (A&M drew 71,731 in Coach Tom Wilson's final home game in 1981).

Television tends to limit the size of the crowd, which isn't supposed to happen with devoted Aggie fans. Interestingly enough, weather hasn't been that much of a factor. The 1980 Baylor game is an example, as the eventual SWC champion Bears pounded the hapless Aggies 46-7 in cold, rainy conditions before 69,588 (the eighth largest crowd at Kyle Field).

are a drag as only 16 of 34 have drawn more than the mean. In SWC games, 50 of the 81 played have surpassed the average.

Curiously enough, considering that during the first three years of this survey A&M averaged only 36,484 for 12 games, the median and mode are extremely close to the mean (50,024).

The median game is Rice, 1978, when 51,461 watched quarterback Mike Mosely throw a touchdown pass on Coach Wilson's first offensive play (A&M won 38-21). Rice was also the 57th smallest crowd, this time in 1980 when 51,630 saw the Owls upset the Aggies 10-6.

And the number in thousands that was most frequent was, yep, 51,000, which was good for nine game

Should only about 50,000 or so show up for Louisiana Tech next weekend, who knows what the empty 22,767 seats will miss? Recall that the longest pass completion in A&M history occurred

Kubiak to Don Jones).

The longest running play at Kyl place in 1976, when reserve hi Darrell Smith raced 90 yards in fourth quarter of A&M's 59-10 vi TCU. Keith Woodside tied that des last fall against Texas. The only two times A&M is passed 700 yards in total offers

against Tulsa in 1985 (702 yards) current record of 705 in 1986 Let's not forget the every proud A&M alumni, especials

no live in either the l Metroplex or around Houston. Where are they? One place them are not is at a local A&Mi

game. Since SMU, TCU, Houst Rice all draw poorly at home, the ply is no excuse for Aggies not li their stadiums. Stallings' 1967 squad played 27,500 hardy souls against Purde Cotton Bowl stadium - some

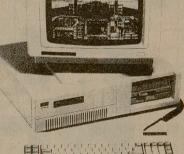
bama 20-16 in the 1968 Control Rice couldn't fill up their plaz bet, but the largest crowd A&Mithere in 21 years was 58,000-i

So what's it going to be, m Ags? Are we going to fulfill our of watching our team play all th

do we just let our words fill emp Oh, yes. I missed the SMU due games in 1967, but have other 113 in a row.



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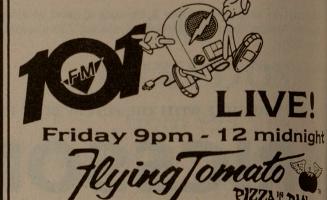
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