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## New coaches in spotlight; SWC hoops season nears

DALLAS (AP) — Texas' Tom Penders and Southern Methodist's John Shumate, new coaches on the Southwest Conference basketball block, drew most of the attention on the league's media day.

Penders, who came to the Longhorns from the University of Rhode Island, promised a run-and-gun offense, saying "I think a high-risk offense is too many passes. If you have too many passes you have too many chances to kick the ball out the door."

Rhode Island averaged 90 points per game last year.

"Every team we played tried to hold the ball against us but we still got our points," he said. "I disagree with the conclusion that you can't run and play defense. We will play an aggressive, gambling defense."

Penders replaced Bob Weltlich who was fired after producing methodical, mediocre teams that drew an average of less than 4,000 fans to Texas' home games.

Shumate, who was an assistant under Digger Phelps at Notre Dame, inherited a well-stocked SWC champion from Dave Bliss, who went to New Mexico.

"We'll try to be a running team because with the athletes we have in the backcourt (Kato Armstrong and Todd Alexander) it would do an injustice to walk the ball up," Shumate said. "I'm comfortable doing what it takes to win."

Shumate gets an early test. The Mustangs play Wyoming in Laramie on Friday night in a nationally televised (10 p.m. ESPN) first round game of the Big Apple NIT.

"There's some great talent in the Southwest Conference this year," Shumate said. "I wouldn't be surprised if the league had two teams in the Top 20 and four teams in the NCAA playoffs."

There was a general consensus among the SWC coaches that the conference could have the best

guard play in the nation.

"The guards in this league are comparable to any on the outside," said Houston coach Pat Foster. "College basketball is becoming a guard game. You will see a lot of teams going to three-guard offenses. There are few great centers, and the three-point shot can offset them."

Arkansas coach Nolan Richardson said, "The really good guards from the three-point line can offset those inside aircraft carriers. And we could have the best guards in any league in the country in this country. Those guards out there can make you or break you."

There will be one brand new building to play in this year — the Ferrell Center at Baylor. It replaces antiquated Heart O' Texas Stadium.

"It's really nice," said Baylor coach Gene Iba. "It's nice not to go to practice and see a tractor pull going on. It's as good a place to play basketball as there is in our part of the world."

## Dallas Carter eligible again for high school grid playoffs

AUSTIN (AP) — After a one-day delay, the Texas Education Agency ruled Wednesday that Dallas Carter is eligible to continue its pursuit of a Class 5A state high school football title.

Carter, however, did receive one-year probation and a public reprimand from the University Interscholastic League state executive committee for failing to report the changed grade of player Ramon Wright to a UIL district committee.

Carter, 8-0-1, was ranked No. 6 in the final 5A poll of the Associated Press. The Cowboys will meet Dallas Samuell in the second round of the state playoffs Friday at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas.

The Cowboys defeated Plano East 21-7 in the first round of the playoffs last Friday.

Officials from the TEA and the UIL earlier had found that star running back Gary Edwards, who scored the final two touchdowns in the victory over Plano East, was ineligible because of an apparent failing grade in an algebra class.

But new evidence presented Tuesday showed that the teacher may have miscalculated the player's grade.

After hearing six hours of testimony Tuesday, UIL officials decided that the matter was not within their jurisdiction and referred the matter to the education agency. The

TEA then made its ruling Wednesday.

David Thompson, general counsel for the TEA, said that Carter was found not to be in violation of a provision in the Texas Education Code that deals with student eligibility for extracurricular activities.

"Our first investigation was quite thorough," Thompson said. "The information was quite correct."

"But after meeting this morning with the school's representatives and hearing all the new evidence, we have concluded that they are not in violation," he said.

Thompson said, however, that the TEA encouraged the school to improve its record-keeping procedures.

## Smith

(Continued from page 11)

the sequence of events that would put Smith in the A&M record book.

Late in the Rice game, (a 57-24 Aggie win) Smith, Armstrong and cat-quick sophomore quarterback Keith Baker got to play, though nothing spectacular happened.

A slow start against SMU kept the reserves on the bench most of the day, but once starting quarterback David Walker, Dickey, Woodard and Franklin had opened up a 29-0 fourth-quarter lead, Smith and crew entered the fray.

Baker drove A&M for a final touchdown, which he scored with less than 30 seconds to play on a 13-yard run.

He appeared to be trying to run out the clock, but jumped into the right corner of the end zone in the Cotton Bowl Stadium just before going out of bounds.

Smith was the trailing halfback on the play, but an alert Mustang had him covered up.

The Aggies continued to roll over SWC opponents, returning to the hills to decimate Arkansas 31-10, getting a little measure of revenge for the earlier loss.

Again, though the Ags had rolled to an early 24-3 lead, their failure to blow the game open kept the super subs on the pine during the snowy afternoon.

But the next Saturday — Nov. 20, 1976 — before a crowd of 44,055, the Ags totally dominated the TCU Horned Frogs from start to finish, defeating the Frogs 59-10.

Led by Walker, the smooth junior QB from Louisiana, A&M scored on five of its six first-half possessions, taking a 35-3 lead into the locker room.

This was also a game of individual firsts for young Aggie offensive players, as Brothers, Armstrong and Smith all scored their initial A&M touchdowns.

Brothers' score came on a 4-yard run following Hayes' interception of a Jimmy Dan Elzner pass at the TCU 44 in the third quarter.

Smith began what turned into his best rushing day at A&M with a nifty 53-yard touchdown run off the option with 1:38 to play in the third quarter.

On the play, Baker had run to the right side of his offensive line, then cut down the field for a few yards before pitching out to the trailing Smith.

Once Smith caught the ball, he had clear sailing into the south end zone at Kyle Field.

TCU spent most of the afternoon at turtle-like offensive speed, rushing for 89 yards on 33 carries and passing for 163 yards (17 completions in 43 attempts with three interceptions).

The Frogs' touchdown in the fourth quarter seemed to inflame the Aggies, who produced their final touchdown in a record-setting manner.

With 3:51 left in the game, A&M

put the ball in play from scrimmage from its own 10 yard line following a clipping penalty against them on the ensuing Frog kickoff.

Baker again took the snap and headed to his right (toward the student seats on the east side of the stadium).

Though the Frogs had already been suckered once on the play, they fell for it again because, just as he was hit, Baker simply flicked the ball into Smith's waiting hands — and he was off to the races again.

This time he was in the clear so much that he raised a hand high over his head at midfield to let his teammates know that he was going to score (and not to block and get a penalty).

His 90-yard run was second only in Aggie history to Bean's 94-yard run against Texas Tech in 1975 in Lubbock and was the longest ever at Kyle Field.

For the game, Smith rushed four times for 147 yards and the two touchdowns, the fewest carries an Aggie has had while running for 100 yards.

"We had the game under control early," Ballard said. "I was very pleased with our starting unit. They

1977 and had some important moments in the Aggies' 8-4 season.

On October 15, he caught two touchdown passes against Baylor, a game that A&M won 38-31 after once leading 35-7 late in the second quarter.

Smith's initial score came on an 8-yard pass from Walker in the first quarter. Then he caught a 61-yard pass from Walker on which the quarterback faked out the Bear secondary so bad that Smith was easily 15 yards behind the nearest defender.

A&M defeated the Owls 28-14 in Houston a week later, and Smith aided the win with consecutive kickoff returns of 51 and 39 yards.

At Kyle Field on October 29 (and after five consecutive road games), the Aggies fell behind SMU 21-7 at halftime, then made a complete turnaround in the second half, outscoring the Ponies 31-0 and winning 38-21.

Smith scored the lone first-half A&M touchdown on a 25-yard pass from Walker.

The pair combined on a 34-yard touchdown pass during the Aggie rally, which culminated with Mike Mosley's 11-yard touchdown run at the clock expired.

Smith returned to his hometown on November 19 and again played a part in yet another Aggie offensive explosion against the Frogs.

The Aggies rushed for a school-record 606 yards, second in SWC history to the 611 yards the University of Texas gained against SMU in 1970.

The A&M rushing game was so successful, particularly to the right side, that Smith was able to score unscathed on a 31-yard end around in the second quarter.

On the play Mosley had bobbled the snap, but was able to pick the ball up and toss it to Smith before his knees touched the turf.

Again, Smith was so open that he not only again raised his hand to his teammates, but was also the only player on the left side of the turf (heading north) at Amon Carter Stadium.

As a senior in 1977, Smith moved to defensive back and helped A&M post another 8-4 record. Defensive coordinator Melvin Robertson made good use of Smith's outstanding speed and quickness.

"We needed Darrell in the defensive backfield because that had been a weakness the previous season," Robertson said in 1981. "All of us knew that he was a tough kid who could handle the pressure back there, and he did."

Certainly Darrell Smith wasn't a legend in Aggie football lore, but he was one of the few players that played — and played well — at three different positions on either side of the ball.

And, on the list of long Aggie carries, you will find his TCU carry second (and now tied with Keith Wood) side, who rushed 90 yards for a touchdown in the second quarter of the 1987 Texas game at Kyle Field.

Certainly Darrell Smith wasn't a legend in Aggie football lore, but he was one of the few players that played — and played well — at three different positions on either side of the ball.