

Lewis is All-American Sanders is prominent name on AP team

Associated Press

Florida State cornerback Deion Sanders and Oklahoma State's Barry Sanders head the Associated Press 1988 All-America football team named Thursday.

The All-America team also includes defensive tackle Tracy Rucker of Auburn, winner of the Outland and Lombardi Trophies and Derrick Thomas of Alabama.

Sanders is joined in the backfield by two other underclassmen — junior quarterback Steve Walsh of Miami and Texas A&M sophomore running back Darren Lewis.

The wide receivers are two more record-breakers — Jason Phillips of Houston and Hart Lee Dykes, Sanders' Oklahoma State teammate.

Top-ranked Notre Dame placed three players on the All-America team — offensive tackle Andy Heck, defensive end Frank Stams and linebacker Mike Stonebreaker.

Nebraska placed center Jake Young and defensive end Broderick Thomas on the squad, while Arkansas had placekicker Kendall Trainor and defensive linemen Wayne Martin.

The rest of the offensive unit consists of tight end Wesley Walls of Mississippi, tackle Tony Mandarich of Michigan State and guards Anthony Phillips of Oklahoma and Mike Utley of Washington State.

Rounding out the defense are down lineman Mark Messner of Michigan, linebacker Keith DeLong of Tennessee, defensive backs Louis Oliver of Florida and Markkus Paul of Syracuse and punter Keith English of Colorado. The return specialist is Texas Tech's 5-foot-3, 130-pound Tyrone Thurman.

Lady Aggs slam Pan Am

By Stan Golaboff
Sports Writer

The Texas A&M Women's basketball team overcame a sluggish start to coast to a 100-39 win over Pan American Thursday night at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Senior center Nette Garrett, who started because of an injury to Lisa Jordan, led the Aggies (4-2) with a career-high 26 points.

"It was great to get a game like this out of Nette. She is a great defensive player and it's been a long time since we have gotten this kind of offensive production from her," A&M Head Coach Lynn Hickey said. "I think this will give her some confidence, which is important since we won't know until tomorrow how long Lisa will be out," Hickey said.

Garrett also had a team high 12 rebounds as the Aggies outscored the smaller Lady Broncos 59-28.

"It is hard to stay up against a small team like this," Garrett said. "It is harder for me to block them out because they get up under you. The important thing to remember is to stay motivated and not slack up."

"We knew we were going up against a small more inexperienced team, so we were needed to play with some intensity. Our freshmen came through for us again," Hickey said.

Freshman Dena Russo had 14 points and Irving LaTanya added 12 points. Lisa Herner (10 points) and Donna Roper (14) also scored in double figures for the Aggies.

Roper now has 1,164 career points and needs just eight more points to move into second place ahead of Michell Tatum.

Pan American was led by center Shelli Ingram with 13 points and guard Melinda Sandoval with 11 points. Pan American's losing streak was extended to 34.



Lady Aggie guard Sheri Dillard drives against Pan American's Liz Arevalo in the first half of Texas A&M's 100-39 victory Thursday night. Dillard scored three points for A&M in the contest.

A&M scored twelve of the game's first 14 points and never looked back.

"We came out a bit sluggish, but I think that's because the girls have a lot on their minds with finals, the end of the semester and having to play basketball," Hickey said. "I think we played with a lot more intensity in the second half."

A&M outscored the Lady Broncos

20-5 over the first seven minutes of the second half and the only question left was whether A&M would break the 100-point mark.

Freshman Vanessa Edwards answered the question with 16 seconds left in the game when she hit a bank-shot free throw.

Edwards had three points and four rebounds in seven minutes.

Lewis surprised; Roper makes 2nd team

By Doug Walker
Sports Editor

Sophomore running back Darren Lewis expressed surprise at being named to the first team of the Associated Press All-America team announced Thursday.

Outside linebacker John Roper made the second team as a defensive end.

Lewis, who set a new A&M record for yards rushing in a season with 1,692 yards, broke the conference record for rushing attempts with 306.

His yardage total was the second-highest season total in Southwestern Conference history behind Texas' Earl Campbell's 1,744 yards in 1977.

Lewis finished second nationally in rushing yardage behind Heisman Trophy winner Barry Sanders of Oklahoma State.

Roper finished the year with 98 tackles, 16 for losses, and

added 15 quarterback sacks for 99 yards in losses.

He was twice named SWC Defensive Player of the Week for his performances against Houston and Texas Christian.

"Darren is truly a great running back and he deserves the award," A&M Head Coach Jackie Sherrill said. "It's a little unusual for a sophomore to make All-American but Darren is not your usual running back."

Lewis missed nearly all of the second half of the Aggies' 23-14 loss to Nebraska and the entire Louisiana State game (a 27-0 LSU victory) with a toe injury but still managed to run away with the SWC rushing title.

"The amazing thing is he was at about 75 percent efficiency with that turf toe," Sherrill said.

"Most great players have obstacles that they overcome and Dar-

ren proved he belongs in that class."

"It surprised me because usually juniors and seniors get these kinds of awards," Lewis said. "Naturally, I'm happy — especially for our team and coaching staff."

Three Aggie offensive linemen were named honorable mention All-Americans. Offensive tackles Matt McCall and L.B. Moon joined offensive guard Jerry Fontenot in that category.

"I couldn't have gained the yards I did without the offensive line doing such a good job up front," Lewis said. "The holes were there all year long and I just went through them."

Other Aggies to make the honorable mention list were defensive back Alex Morris, wide receiver Rod Harris and punter Sean Wilson.

Ryan legacy is worth more than money, involves pride

I thank my lucky stars I'm not an Astro's fan. It's not that I dislike the Houston nine. The fact of the matter is that I'm ambivalent. But if I were a fan I'd be enraged.

John McMullen has committed the public relations blunder of the year (perhaps the decade) by letting the Ryan Express depart Houston and head up the tracks to Arlington.

Nolan Ryan came to the Astros in 1980 as the highest-paid player in baseball. Since that time he has insured himself a place in the Hall of Fame by hurling his fifth no-hitter and becoming the all-time career leader for strikeouts in the major leagues.

Since that time he has also been Houston's best and most consistent pitcher.



Tom Kehoe
Sports Writer

Ryan wanted to stay in Houston. That's where his family is. That's near his home. McMullen's initial offer would have resulted in a 20 percent pay cut for Ryan. That hurt the Alvin native's pride and

prompted him to offer his talents elsewhere.

It's presumed that McMullen didn't think there was much of a market for a 42-year-old right hander who went 12-11 last year. Apparently there was.

In addition to the Rangers, the Giants and the Angels were ready to open their coffers to the tune of \$1.5 million.

It's true — 12-11 is not a banner year. But you do have to remember he was pitching for the Astros. With their anemic run production even Orel Hershiser might encounter difficulty wrenching a million and a half out of McMullen.

And don't think Ryan abandoned Houston just for the money. Angel's owner Gene Autry had always regretted letting

Ryan get away. This time around California was the high bidder at \$1.9 million.

But Ryan said he is a "die-hard Texan" and he chose to forsake more money to stay in the Lone Star State.

On top of all the negative press this is generating, the loss of Ryan is going to have more tangible effects on the ballclub.

Houston is losing a man who threw right around 200 innings a season every year. He could also be counted on for 30-35 starts and would strike out 200 batters a season.

He also put fans in the seats. Page one of the Houston Post Sports section had a photo of a fan holding the telegram she sent to Astro's GM Bill Wood. It read: No Nolan, No Tickets.

For the Rangers this could be the

crowning achievement to their volatile activities at the winter meetings.

The hapless Rangers are getting all the aforementioned good qualities that Ryan possesses. They are also getting a pitcher with 38 major league records and 21 years of big league experience.

This could help buoy the Rangers ultra-talented but also very young pitching staff.

The Rangers have also just acquired a pair of .300 hitters that should bolster their ability to score. Perhaps that will allow Ryan to carve a few more notches in the win column.

However it works out Astro fans will have to bear the sight of Nolan Ryan going to the Hall of Fame in a Texas Ranger uniform.

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