



State officials appeal latest ruling on Carter eligibility

AUSTIN (AP)—State officials on Thursday appealed a district court judge's action that essentially paved the way for Dallas Carter to continue in the high school football playoffs.

Appeals by the Texas Education Agency and University Interscholastic League could jeopardize Carter's chances of playing against Odessa Permian in the Class 5A semifinals Saturday, according to officials with the two agencies.

But unless the 3rd Court of Appeals takes action, Dallas Carter will suit up for the game in Austin.

"As of now they (Dallas Carter) would be playing this Saturday," said Bailey Marshall, the director of the UIL, which governs high school extra-curricular activities.

The legal struggle began when the UIL declared Dallas Carter student Gary Edwards ineligible to play football under the state's no-pass, no-play rule. Investigators said Edwards had a failing grade in algebra.

TEA Commissioner William

Kirby later upheld that decision, finding that Edwards had failed in the class for the six-week period.

But Dallas Carter officials claimed the failing grade was due to a miscalculation and that Edwards, a star football player, had actually passed.

State District Court Judge Paul Davis on Tuesday ruled in favor of Dallas Carter.

Davis enjoined Kirby from determining whether the student failed, and he enjoined the UIL from knocking Edwards and Dallas Carter out of the playoffs.

The TEA's appeal to the 3rd Court of Appeals in Austin automatically reinstates, until a hearing can be conducted, Kirby's decision that Edwards failed.

But court action is necessary to determine whether the UIL can prohibit Dallas Carter from playing, Marshall said. The appeals court is not mandated to take immediate action on the UIL's appeal.

Lucius Bunton, a UIL attorney,

said the UIL needs direction from the appeals court, because Kirby's ruling, which said Edwards failed, still stands because of the TEA appeal. This means an ineligible player on an ineligible team will be playing Saturday, Bunton said.

Kirby said Davis' decision would gut the no-pass, no-play rule and he said he was confident the TEA would win through the appeals process.

"We are appealing Judge Davis' ruling because we believe the laws of this state clearly and explicitly give the commissioner of education the authority to review decisions made at the local level in order to enforce the education laws and State Board of Education rules," he said.

If Dallas Carter were kicked out of the playoffs, Odessa Permian would face Marshall, the last team beaten by Dallas Carter in the playoffs. Dallas Carter defeated Marshall in the quarterfinals, 22-18.

Ag swimmers in Hawaii for Christmas

The Texas A&M men's and women's swimming teams will be spending 12 days in Hawaii over their Christmas break.

But they won't be there solely to hit the beach and visit the local tourist traps.

The weeks after Christmas are usually the periods of the most intense training for college swimmers.

Assistant Coach Jay Holmes said Hawaii is a great place to do this kind of training.

"We put them through two solid workouts each day," Holmes said. "But it's almost like three-a-days because everyone goes to the beach and gets in the water between workouts."

In addition to rigorous workouts, the team will compete in the Rainbow Invitational and dual meets against other schools that are doing their holiday training.

"We get to swim a lot of teams that we usually wouldn't get to swim," said Holmes.

Donahue says Bruins respect Hogs

DALLAS (AP)—UCLA Coach Terry Donahue said on Thursday that Arkansas' near upset of mighty Miami showed the country and his players what kind of team the Bruins will be facing in the Cotton Bowl Classic on Jan. 2.

Donahue said in a telephone conference call "I've heard about Arkansas' lack of respect and it worries me. All you had to do to realize Arkansas had a good team was watch the game with Miami. It kind of caught your eye."

The previously undefeated Razorbacks lost the Dec. 3 game 18-16 to Miami.

The eighth-ranked Hogs go into the Cotton Bowl against the ninth-ranked Bruins as five-point underdogs.

"I didn't know we were the favorites," said Donahue. "That doesn't matter much. I've been favored and

I've been the underdog. I do know Arkansas has a great rallying cry. Psychologically, it helps Arkansas for this game.

"All I know is that our team respects Arkansas. Anytime you go 10-1 in this country you have a great team."

Arkansas coach Ken Hatfield said he "wasn't too concerned" that his Razorbacks were the underdog again.

The two schools have only played once, tying 10-10 in the 1979 Fiesta Bowl.

UCLA and Donahue will attempt to become the first school and coach

in college football history to win a bowl game in seven consecutive seasons.

"I hope it (the streak) is a motivating factor for our team," Donahue said. "Psychologically, we have to get our team in the right frame of mind. We have to have the same kind of excitement and desire Arkansas will or it will be difficult for us."

UCLA becomes the first Pacific-10 team to play although 40 years ago Oregon of the Pacific Coast Conference lost to Southern Methodist. It's UCLA's first trip to Dallas for a post-season game.

Arkansas has a 2-3-1 record in the Cotton Bowl with its last appearance in 1976 against Georgia.

"We're excited about it because the bowl enjoys so much national prestige," Donahue said.

Hatfield said "UCLA was ranked

the No. 1 team in the nation for two weeks. They are balanced and Troy Aikman is just a great quarterback."

Hatfield announced that running back James Rouse, who had been benched since the Texas game with an injured knee, was working out and should be ready to play against the Bruins.

Also, quarterback Quinn Grovey who played in the Miami game despite a shoulder injury was fully recovered.

Both Arkansas and UCLA will arrive in Dallas late Dec. 26 and begin workouts the next day.

The game was nearing sellout status. Jim Brock, executive vice president of the bowl, said Arkansas had already bought 21,000 tickets and that he was receiving a heavier demand from UCLA than he expected.

New coach winning admirers at SMU

DALLAS (AP)—He stalks the bench in a dark business suit, barking orders and setting strategy.

Nothing escapes the intense, laser-like stare of John Shumate.

He's a disciplinarian, the new basketball coach at Southern Methodist University.

He was a tough competitor when he played at Notre Dame.

Shumate had a big role in the Fighting Irish's 1974 upset of UCLA, snapping coach John Wooden's 88-game winning streak. To this day he rates it as his biggest thrill in sports.

And he was a street fighter in the NBA when he played for Phoenix, Buffalo, Detroit, Houston, San Antonio and Seattle. He averaged 15 points and nine rebounds for Buffalo in 1976-77 on pure hustle, his best season as a pro.

He's a disciple of Notre Dame's Digger Phelps and the Dallas Mavericks' John MacLeod.

Now, back to the man in black on patrol, his Roman nose and slim features calling to mind a bird of prey.

Luckless J.D. Green travels and he's out of the game before you can say his name.

A North Carolina State player

goes unguarded in the corner. "Here, get this man right here," Shumate shouts at a coasting defensive player.

Shumate's cajoling follows the player to the other end of the court. The next time the Mustang is in perfect defensive position.

Shumate is on a mission.

"My true calling is to teach young student-athletes the game," Shumate says.

On this night, the Mustangs upset North Carolina State, the 16th ranked team in the nation.

In typical Shumate style, the Mustangs do it with "dirty baskets," the term he gives offensive rebounds put back in for scores. SMU wins 59-57 because it outmuscles the surprised Wolfpack 50-39.

It was an impressive home debut and first major college victory for Shumate, coming over Jim Valvano, the respected Wolfpack coach who has a national title to his credit.

"It was a satisfying victory," he said later. "I have a lot of respect for Valvano."

Shumate was hired by SMU athletic director Doug Single for the three E's — energy, expertise and experience.

"A lot of people know the game but only a few can actually teach the game," said Notre Dame athletic director Richard Rosenthal.

Shumate replaced Dave Bliss, who went to New Mexico University after leading the Mustangs to the Southwestern Conference title and a spot in the NCAA playoffs.

Ironically, the Mustangs knocked Notre Dame out of the playoffs with Shumate sitting on the bench as Phelps' assistant.

Shumate has been a big early hit with everyone except some members of the media.

After SMU lost at Wyoming in the Big Apple NIT, Shumate wouldn't do his postgame radio show.

He closed practices for a week to prepare for N.C. State and adhered to a strict noon to 1 p.m. window for interviews. A reporter tried to ask him a question five minutes after one o'clock and Shumate rebuffed him.

Shumate wouldn't go on a pregame television show before the North Carolina State game.

Once cornered, however, Shumate can be an excellent subject.

A Kansas City writer showed up for an interview and Shumate didn't come to the appointment. Shumate

later showed up and the writer said it was one of the best interviews he ever had. At SWC press day, Shumate gave long, expansive and thoughtful answers to questions.

Still, all interview requests have to go through the sports information department. You can't call him up to shoot the basketball bull like you can with the University of Texas' Tom Penders or Texas A&M's Shelby Metcalf or Texas Tech's Gerald Meyers.

But you can't really blame somebody who is as dedicated to winning as Shumate and who says "my greatest achievement was surviving the ghetto and avoiding drugs while growing up."

Life and basketball are much more than games to Shumate. They're survival.

SMU lost 104-87 to No. 6 ranked Oklahoma and the Mustangs were hard at work the next day working on their mistakes. Shumate workouts stretch three and four hours.

Nobody will outwork him or his teams.

The Mustangs bear watching in the SWC championship race, if he doesn't burn them or himself out first.

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