

# SWC football coaches work to keep grid recruits in Texas

LUBBOCK (AP) — Texas grows its high school football players big, fast and well-trained. Every Division I college coach in America knows it. Every Division I coach also knows that more and more of Texas' home-grown talent is looking beyond state lines to select a college. The outsiders are more than willing to help recruits slip across the border.

What started as a minor bleeding of Texas prospects to out-of-state schools several years ago has increased over the past two years. Part of the flight resulted from a string of NCAA investigations that resulted in probation for four Southwest Conference schools — Southern Methodist, Texas, Texas Christian and Texas Tech.

NCAA sanctions recently against Texas A&M and Houston have further tarnished the SWC's faltering image and turned the heads of many players currently being recruited.

The conference's head coaches are concerned that the exodus of talent to out-of-state universities could reach an all-time high when signing day arrives on Feb. 8. There are estimates that 60 to 75 of Texas' top 100 high school football players could leave the state.

"It's sad so many players are leaving the state," Texas Tech head coach Spike Dykes said. "I guess we don't know for certain if there'll be an exodus, but we've certainly had one as far as visits. Anytime you lose visits, you're going to lose players."

Dykes and five other Southwest Conference head coaches recently taped a video in an attempt to convince recruits that SWC schools have changed their ways and that the league's head coaches are willing to

work together to correct the image problem.

Also participating in the project were Grant Teaff of Baylor, Jim Wacker of Texas Christian, R.C. Slocum of Texas A&M, Forrest Gregg of Southern Methodist and David McWilliams of Texas.



In the video, the coaches discuss the benefits Texas schoolboys can enjoy by remaining in the state.

"We've tried it with everybody pulling against the middle instead of toward the middle," Dykes said. "We want to re-establish the credibility of our conference, and the only way to do that is collectively."

"I've always felt that way. I'd rather a kid go to TCU than Nebraska. If we want our conference to get better and get back in the mainstream, we have to cooperate. It's all relative. If we lose 30 kids each year, that's three or four kids each school loses. We all get hurt."

The eagerness of Texas blue chip football players to look outside the state was one of the reasons UCLA

accepted an invitation to play in the Cotton Bowl.

"It was when the problems in the (Southwest) conference really surfaced that I thought it was an opportunity to come to Texas," said Terry Donahue, head coach of Cotton Bowl champ UCLA.

Of the 44 most highly sought Texas recruits, 28 said they will use at least three of their allotted five official visits to travel to out-of-state schools. Seven of the 44 do not list a Texas school among their visits.

Last year, 19 of the top 44 signed with out-of-state schools.

"I don't know about the Southwest Conference," said Dallas Carter linebacker Jessie Armstead, generally regarded as the state's No. 1 recruit. "If it weren't for the problems (NCAA sanctions), I most likely would be going there."

Armstead said he would visit Michigan State, UCLA, Southern Cal and Miami. He reportedly also was considering the University of Texas.

Oklahoma and Oklahoma State, which have whisked promising Texas recruits in recent years, also were hit hard by the NCAA recently. Consequently, they too have been penciled off the lists of many Texas schoolboy stars.

Cuero running back Robert Strait said he has ruled out Oklahoma because of its troubles with the NCAA.

"The probation is what scared me off OU," Strait said. "I've always wanted to go to OU. But when they were put on probation, I wasn't interested."

Strait said he would visit Texas, Baylor, Nebraska, Southern Cal and Texas Tech.

# AP names FloJo as top female athlete

NEW YORK (AP) — Florence Griffith Joyner, the Queen of Seoul, who orchestrated three golden hits and one silver at the Summer Olympics and authored two record-smashing performances during 1988, Wednesday was named The Associated Press Female Athlete of the Year.

Griffith Joyner kept the award in the family. Her sister-in-law, Jackie Joyner-Kersey, was the 1987 winner.

"FloJo" brought attention to herself not only with sensational accomplishments on the track, but also with her dazzling racing attire, her Mandarin-like fingernails, her flashy rings, her flowing hair and her radiant smile.

Still, it was her track performances that were most influential in helping Griffith Joyner win the award over such outstanding candidates as West German Steffi Graf, only the third women's tennis player to win the Grand Slam and Joyner-Kersey, a double Olympic gold medalist.

Griffith Joyner, who won Olympic gold medals in the 100-meter and 200-meter dashes and the 400-meter relay, along with a silver in the 1,600-meter relay and set world records in the 100 and 200 during 1988, collected 549 points in balloting by a national panel of 155 sports writers and broadcasters. She received 78 first-place votes, 48 seconds and 15 thirds. Points were allocated on a 5-3-1 basis.

Graf, winner of the U.S., French and Australian Opens and Wimbledon, along with the Olympic gold medal, completing a "Golden Slam," finished second with 420 points. She had 49 firsts, 46 seconds and 37 thirds.

"It's a great honor," Griffith Joyner, 29, said, "especially when you go up against competition like that."

"It's amazing that success has come so late in life. But maybe it was fortunate, because it's possible I wouldn't have been able to handle it, if I were younger."

Griffith Joyner, the first sprinter to win the women's award since Chi Cheng in 1970, and Los Angeles Dodgers pitcher Orel Hershiser, the AP's Male Athlete of the Year for 1988, will be presented their awards by the Tampa, Fla., Sports Club on Feb. 24.

The world's fastest woman sprinted into prominence athletically and fashionably during the Olympic Trials at Indianapolis in July, when she blazed into the record books with a world-record clocking of 10.49 seconds for the 100 meters.

She did not clip just a couple of hundredths of a second off the mark of 10.76, held by countrywoman Evelyn Ashford, as often is the case when sprint records are broken, she obliterated it by nearly three-tenths of a second.

In addition, she shattered the American record in the 200, lowering it from 21.81 to 21.77, and captivated onlookers with her racy racing outfits, featuring one-legged suits and an "athletic negligee."

Then, at Seoul, where she spruced up her red, white and blue U.S. bodysuit with a white belt and painted her nails a sparkling red, white and blue, FloJo joined a select group of triple track and field women gold medalists.

She won the 100 in 10.54, an Olympic record. She won the 200 in 21.34, an Olympic and world record, again smashing the previous world mark of 21.71 by an astonishing margin, .37 of a second. She ran on the winning 400-meter relay team and she ran a gallant anchor leg on the 1,600-meter relay team that went under the existing world record but finished second to the Soviet Union.

# Manning leads inductees into Hall of Fame

LARCHMONT, N.Y. (AP) — Quarterbacks Archie Manning of Mississippi and Roman Gabriel of North Carolina State and fullback Larry Csonka of Syracuse are among 11 players elected to the College Hall of Fame, the National Football Foundation announced Wednesday.

The others are Bob Schloredt, Washington quarterback, 1958-60; Donny Anderson, Texas Tech halfback, 1963-65; Paul Cleary, Southern California end, 1946-47; halfback Chalmers "Bump" Elliott, Purdue, 1944, Michigan, 1946-47; Bob Johnson, Tennessee center, 1965-67; Ted Kwalick, Penn State tight end, 1966-68; Edgar "Eggs" Manske, Northwestern end, 1931-33; and Aurelius Thomas, Ohio State guard, 1955-57.

"It's a pleasant surprise," said Manning, who was reached on a business trip in Jackson, Miss.

"I've been to the induction ceremonies in New York a couple of times, and one thing that always struck me was that most of the guys being inducted were 50-60 years old."

"I'm not quite 40, and it's quite an honor to be picked so young."

Manning won MVP honors for Ole Miss in the Gator and Sugar Bowls and was voted Quarterback of the Quarter Century in the Southeastern Conference for the 1950-75 period.

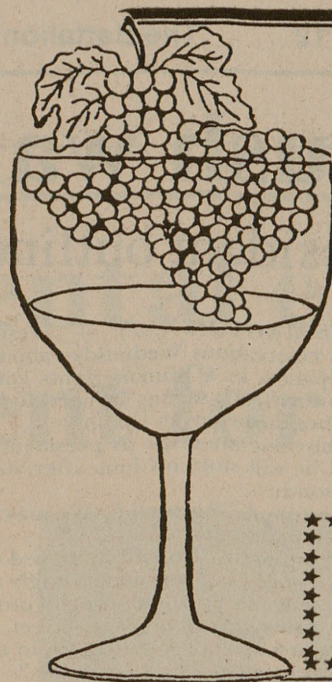
He lettered from 1968-70, was a first-round draft choice of the New Orleans Saints.

Gabriel said his selection was beyond his expectations.

"My dream was to be a professional player. Now, having an opportunity to be thought of as one of the good ones to be coming out of college, I never even perceived that," he said. Gabriel ranks third at N.C. State in all-time passing accuracy at 56.32 percent. His 19 career touchdown passes, from 1959-61, ranks third and he is rated eighth on the all-time list for passing efficiency.

He was the No. 1 draft choice of the Los Angeles Rams in the NFL and the Oakland Raiders in the American Football League and became the top passer in Rams history. He also played for the Philadelphia Eagles.

Csonka broke all of Syracuse's rushing records during his career there, 1965-7, and was co-captain of the 1967 Orangemen. He was a first-round draft pick of the Miami Dolphins and also played with the New York Giants.



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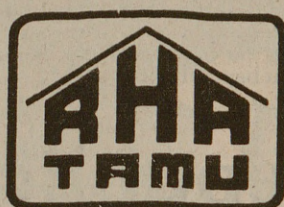
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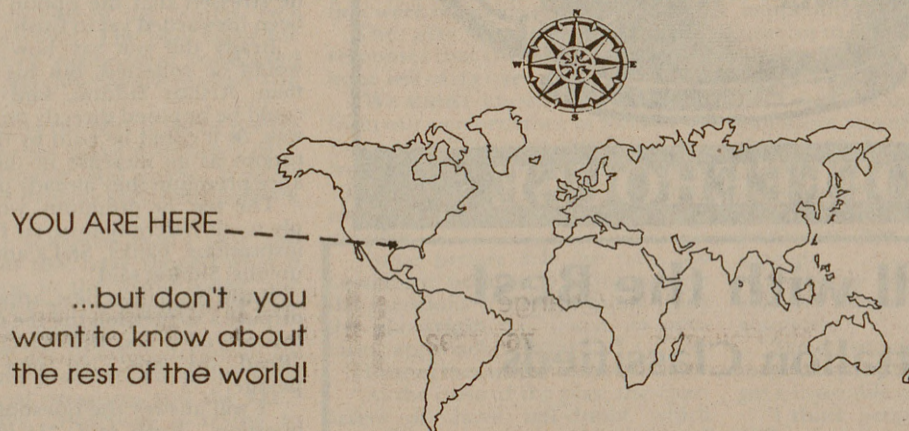
is now accepting applications for the following positions:

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Applications are now available in the RHA Office, 215 Pavilion and are due Mon., January 30th. If you have any questions please contact Mary at 260-0151

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## SWC honors UT's Mays, UH's Crosby

DALLAS (AP) — The Southwest Conference Tuesday awarded Texas' Travis Mays men's Player of the Week honors, while Houston's Jana Crosby was named women's Player of the Week.

Mays, a junior guard, won the award for the second time this season. He scored 65 points, grabbed 11 rebounds and handed out six assists in the Longhorns' two games last week.

Also a junior guard, Crosby scored 45 points, grabbed seven rebounds, handed out seven assists and had one steal in the Cougars' two games last week.

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