

Battalion Classifieds

The Battalion SPORTS

Thursday, July 13, 1989

White retires from Cowboys

Leaves 13-year career played in Staubach's shadow

IRVING (AP) — Dallas Cowboys quarterback Danny White retired Wednesday from the 13-year NFL career he played in the shadow of the legendary Roger Staubach.

"I'm grateful to the Cowboys for the opportunity they've given me to play football," said White, his voice shaking and tears welling in his eyes, "but more than that for the opportunity to have an effect on people's lives."

"That's the thing I'm going to remember most."

White, 37, reached his decision after a Wednesday morning meeting with Coach Jimmy Johnson, at which time he said it became apparent he did not figure prominently in the team's plans for 1989.

The Cowboys selected UCLA quarterback Troy Aikman with the first pick in this spring's NFL draft. They picked Miami quarterback Steve Walsh in Friday's supplemental draft, and Scott Secules is entering his second season.

Steve Pelluer, the Cowboys' starter last season, is holding out in a contract dispute, leaving Babe Laufenberg as the only player at this week's quarterback school who has taken an NFL snap.

"The direction they wanted to take was to get the young guys as much work as possible," White said.

"That opportunity was not going to be provided."

In May, White signed a contract for an undetermined length, but his role already had diminished with Pelluer's emergence over the past two seasons.

White said he was not interested in playing a role similar to that of Don Strock, the former Miami Dolphins quarterback who as a backup tutored the young Dan Marino in his early years.

When asked if he believed he could be the starting quarterback heading into this season, White simply answered, "Yes."

"Danny is such a competitor that he wanted to be a key figure," Johnson said. "The job was wide open but we have to make a decision on who gets the repetitions, who gets the practice time."

After a collegiate career at Arizona State, White played two seasons with Memphis of the World Football League before joining the Cowboys in 1976.

He was the most accurate passer in club history and holds 11 club records, but he was constantly compared to Staubach upon the Hall of Famer's retirement after the 1979 season.

Staubach, who quarterbacked the Cowboys to four of their five Super

Bowl appearances and two world championships, led Dallas to 23 comeback victories, 14 in the last two minutes or overtime.

"That's just something that's been overdone," White said. "I never tried to live up to the expectations they had of Roger."

"I consider it an honor to follow him."

All told, White led the Cowboys to five playoff appearances and two division titles. His record as a starter was 67-35.

But Cowboys fans most remembered White for the team's three consecutive NFC championship game losses in the three seasons immediately following Staubach's retirement.

His most bitter memory, he said, was a 28-27 loss to San Francisco in the NFC championship game after the 1981 season.

The Cowboys appeared headed to a record sixth Super Bowl appearance before the 49ers drove 89 yards for the go-ahead touchdown, scoring in the final minute. Even then, White was moving the Cowboys into position for a potential game-winning field goal when he fumbled as he was sacked near midfield.

White's retirement leaves center Tom Rafferty and defensive end Ed Jones as the only players remaining

from the Cowboys' 1978-79 Super Bowl team.

"We may have lost three or four championship games with him as quarterback, but you have to remember... he was the quarterback to get us to those championships," Rafferty said.

Johnson said he is not hesitating about heading into training camp later this month with an inexperienced quarterback corps.

White said that is where he agreed most with the coach.

"They're taking a step up," White said, drawing the parallel between Johnson's move from the college ranks at Miami. "The organization is growing together."

Johnson said his newly installed offense, which includes a number system opposite from one employed by the Cowboys in past seasons, eliminated any advantage a veteran might enjoy over a rookie.


White said retirement will give him more time to devote to his family and business. He also would consider a career in broadcasting as a color analyst.

"I've been fighting you guys in the media for 14 years," White said in a news conference. "Now I suppose the opportunity is right, I might be joining you."

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The Arkansas Razorbacks will successfully defend their Southwest Conference football crown but they'll be tested by Texas A&M and Baylor, a Texas Football Magazine poll shows.

The Razorbacks, 10-2 last season and unbeaten in SWC games, received 16 first place votes from the magazine's panel of 37 sports writers.

Texas A&M, with new coach R.C. Slocum, got 10 first place votes and Baylor received six.

Texas and Houston each received two first place votes and were forecast to finish fourth and fifth.

Individual honors went to Texas A&M running back Darren Lewis as

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the pre-season offensive player of the year and Baylor linebacker James Francis was named defensive player of the year.

Lewis was the No. 2 rusher in the nation last season behind Oklahoma State's Barry Sanders.

Lewis gained 1,692 yards, accounting for 38 percent of the Aggies' offense.

Francis made 82 tackles last season, including 51 solos, and had eight tackles behind the line of scrimmage. He recovered two fumbles and blocked a kick.

Texas free safety Willie Mack Garza is the sophomore of the year, beating out teammate quarterback Mark Murdock.

Cuero running back Robert Strait, expected to be ready for fall practice

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after undergoing knee surgery, was voted the SWC newcomer of the year.

The Razorbacks must replace eight defensive starters but they have eight returning starters on offense, including quarterback Quinn Grovey and running back James Rouse.

Grovey produced 1,481 yards passing and rushing last season. Rouse has 2,018 career yards despite missing nine games in 1986 and half of last season.

Barry Foster led the Hogs' in rushing as a sophomore last season. He gained 660 yards and averaged five yards per carry.

The Aggies also return a veteran group that includes eight offensive and six defensive starters.

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Lance Pavlas has the early nod to replace injured Bucky Richardson as quarterback when fall drills begin next month.

Quarterback Brad Goebel, following an outstanding spring, will direct the Baylor offense and Francis, a turning All-SWC force at linebacker, will anchor the defense.

Writers had various reasons for their team selections.

Jon Mark Beilue of the *Amarillo Globe-News* chose Arkansas. "The Hogs are about as pretty as they name, but they will return to the Cotton Bowl," Beilue said.

Steve Estes of the *Tyler Courier-Times* said the Aggies would win because "Darren Lewis said so. But watch out for Baylor."

Baseball's 2nd half begins pennant run

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Baseball's second half starts Thursday, and that means things get a little more serious.

"You can't say it's still early anymore," Los Angeles manager Tommy Lasorda said. "Some clubs only have a few weeks to get close or forget it."

The defending World Series champion Dodgers are one of those teams. The Dodgers are fifth in the National League West and trail first-place San Francisco by 11 games. Los Angeles lost 16 of 23 and five of six before the All-Star break.

The Giants lead Houston by two games in the West because of Kevin Mitchell and Will Clark.

The Giants have played 87 games. Mitchell has 31 homers and 81 RBI. He's on a pace to hit 58 homers with 151 RBI. Roger Maris set the all-time record with 61 homers for the New York Yankees in 1961.

Clark is hitting .332 with 14 homers and 64 RBI. It's the Giants' best 3-4 punch since Willie Mays and Willie McCovey — both Hall of Famers.

"I'm confident in our hitting; our main job is to keep the pitching healthy," Giants manager Roger Craig said.

Mike Krukow is out for the rest of the season after surgery for a torn rotator cuff and Scott Garrelts is on the disabled list with a pulled left hamstring.

The Giants helped their chances a great deal on June 18 by acquiring reliever Steve Bedrosian from Philadelphia.

Off last year's play, neither the Orioles or the Angels were expected to be challenging for a playoff spot.

Last season, the Orioles lost 21 straight to start the season and spent every day in last place. The Birds enter the second half of this year's race leading the New York Yankees by 5 1/2 games in the AL East.

The difference has been solid pitching, the best defense in baseball and timely hitting. Also some unexpected hitting.

Mickey Tettleton has 20 homers and 51 RBI, and Phil Bradley is hitting .312 and has a 14-game hitting streak.

Everyone waited for the Orioles to collapse. It hasn't happened.

Last season, the Angels lost their last 12 games and fired manager Cookie Rojas. General Manager

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Mike Port signed free agents Lance Parrish and Bert Blyleven and gave Jim Abbott a chance to start his pro career in the majors.

The Angels enter the second half with baseball's best record at 52-33 and a 1 1/2-game lead over Oakland in the AL West.

California leads the AL with a 2.89 ERA and has allowed three or fewer runs in 11 of its last 13 games.

The Athletics have been hit hard by injuries, losing Jose Canseco, Walt Weiss and Dennis Eckersley. With Eckersley in the bullpen, Oakland had 19 saves in 20 opportunities. Since he was sidelined with a shoulder injury, the A's are 13-for-19.

The New York Mets were expected to run away with the NL East. But the hitting just hasn't been there and Keith Hernandez and Gary Carter have been out since May.

The biggest blow for the Mets is the loss of Dwight Gooden, who sustained a muscle tear in his right shoulder and is out until at least mid-August.

Since joining the Expos, left-handed Mark Langston is 5-0 on the road, allowing four earned runs in 49 innings.

The names to watch in the second half other than Mitchell are Nolan Ryan and Bo Jackson.

Ryan, who is 10-4 for Texas, seems to flirt with a no-hitter every other week and needs 77 strikeouts for 5,000 in his career. At 42, Ryan leads the majors with 148 strikeouts.

Jackson, the MVP of the All-Star Game, reached the break with 21 homers and 23 steals and has a chance to join Canseco as the only other member of the 40-40 club.

Police arrest more Carter students as investigators examine recent robberies

DALLAS (AP) —

Police arrested a ninth current or former Carter High School student Wednesday on armed robbery charges in a series of holdups that have been linked to at least five varsity athletes.

Norbert Rogers, 18, of Lancaster, was arrested on one count of aggravated robbery and was being held under \$25,000 bond, said Dallas Robbery Lt. Jerry Calame.

Rogers is a first cousin to Deric Evans, 18, a 1988 All-America defensive back for Carter who was charged last month with aggravated robbery in the same investigation, police said.

Police on Tuesday arrested Cowboy teammates Carlos Dwayne Allen, Keith Campbell and Patrick "P.K." Williams, members of the 1988 state championship football team. All were 18.

"We got seven warrants and that's all we're after right now," Calame said Wednesday of the latest arrests.

Rogers graduated from Carter in 1988 and has been attending a community college, Calame said.

Former junior varsity football player Aric Andrews and the basketball team's reserve forward Jimmy Lee Edwards Jr., both 18, also were arrested Tuesday.

Gary Edwards, 17, a Cowboy running back-cornerback, was ar-

DALLAS (AP) —

rested last month along with Evans on armed robbery charges. Edwards, who had signed with the University of Houston, and Evans, who was signed by Tennessee, are accused of holding up video stores and a dry cleaner.

Over the weekend, both men made public apologies to their families and the victims of the robberies.

Campbell was a third-string senior tight end who did not graduate this year; Williams, a defensive tackle who lost his starting position midseason; and Allen, had been one of the area's top running backs before he broke a leg in midseason.

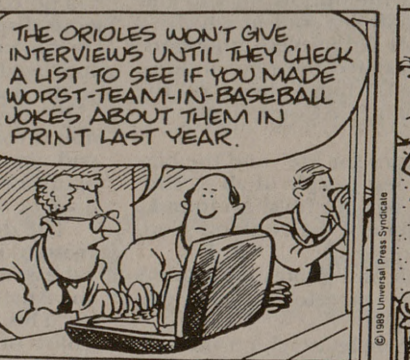
Allen, Jimmy Edwards and Williams each were charged with three counts of aggravated robbery and were being held in lieu of \$75,000 bail. Campbell had been charged with four counts of aggravated robbery and was being held in lieu of \$100,000 bail.

All but Andrews remained in custody Wednesday.

One suspect, who was 16 when the robberies occurred, was handled by juvenile authorities. He was released to his father, pending a trial. His name was not released.

Police said the athletes and their friends are accused in at least four armed robberies at restaurants where some suspects had worked.

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