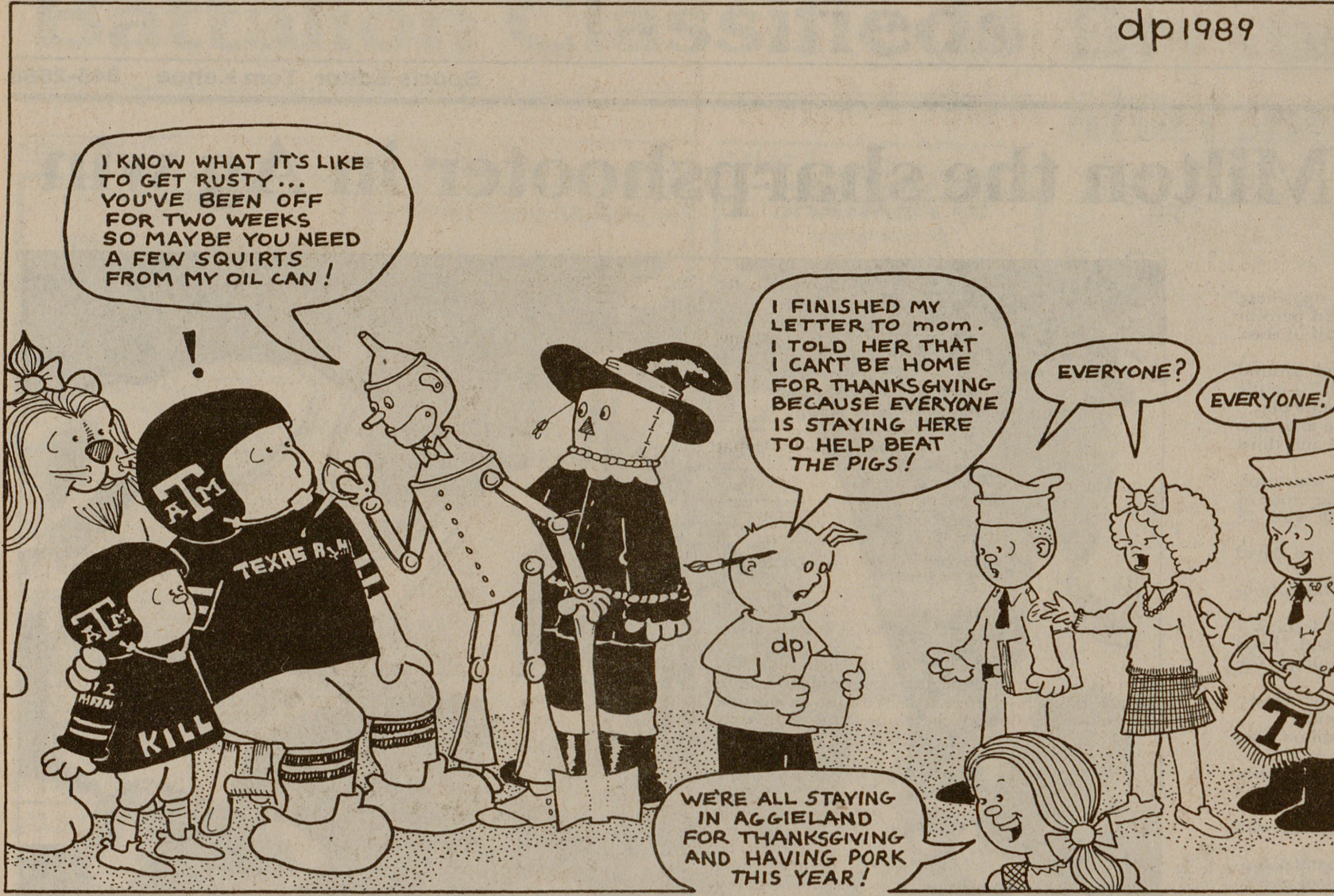


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Butkus may await versatile Francis

WACO (AP) — Baylor linebacker James Francis prefers lots of things to pointing fingers.

Try blocking kicks, breaking up passes, sacking the quarterback and stopping big-name rushers cold, for starters.

Francis, a finalist for the Butkus Award as the nation's best linebacker, blocked a punt and a point-after attempt, made 12 tackles, intercepted a pass and broke up a couple of others against Rice in the final home game of his celebrated college career at Floyd Casey Stadium in Waco Saturday.

His two blocked kicks gave him eight for the year, tying the NCAA single-season record set by Arkansas State's Jimmy Lisko in 1975.

But Rice won the game 6-3 when Baylor's offense sputtered, its backup quarterbacks throwing five interceptions and fumbling an option pitch inside the 10-yard line late in the fourth quarter.

Francis had already taken out his frustrations on Rice and had no harsh words for his teammates.

"You can't say the offense cost us this win," he said. "They don't say an offense wins or a defense wins — the scoreboard only shows whether the Baylor Bears win."

Francis returned his third-quarter interception 40 yards for what should have been the game-winning

score against Rice. But it was called back on a questionable clipping of one that had Baylor coach Greg Teaff miffed. "I didn't see it," he said.

Same old story for the Bears whose high-grade defense has never felt better, but whose starting quarterback Brad Goebel, nursing bruised ribs, has never felt worse.

And the Bears, 4-6 with a game left against Texas, are assured their first losing season in Francis' four years.

But that hasn't stopped the coaches or the scouts from finding a 6-foot-4 250-pound Francis.

A two-time All-Southwest Conference pick by the Associated Press, Francis moved from weakside strongside linebacker this spring and hasn't stopped impressing opponents or NFL owners. He is a projected fourth or fifth pick in the NFL draft.

Francis was named Saturday the Walter Camp All-American Team. He also was named to the first-team squads chosen by the American Football Coaches Association (Kodak) and Football News.

But Francis wasn't in the mood to reflect upon his performance in the Rice game, Baylor's first loss since the Owls were 1981.

"No award I could win takes the place of how bad I feel because I will have a losing record," he said.

TANK McNAMARA®

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Howard ousts SMU in NCAA soccer

DALLAS (AP) — Darryl Brathwaite's overtime goal gave Howard a 2-1 victory over Southern Methodist

Sunday in the second round of the NCAA Division I soccer playoffs. The Bison (14-3-2) will meet No.

1-ranked Indiana next weekend in a rematch of last year's championship game, won by the Hoosiers, 1-0.

Bowl picture focused

Jan. 1 matchups set despite Saturday deadline

ASSOCIATED PRESS

A week before bowl bids can be extended, most of the major matchups are set. But seventh-ranked Miami can still change their importance, and the race for the national championship.

Notre Dame and second-rated Colorado are expected to meet on New Year's night in the Orange Bowl. Before that game of unbeaten, though, the No. 1 Irish have another date at the Orange Bowl against the Hurricanes.

Bowl invitations will go out before

Notre Dame and Miami play at 6:30 p.m. EST, so the outcome will not change the pairings.

Notre Dame has won 23 straight games, the longest winning streak in the nation among major college teams and in school history. Sugar Bowl-bound Miami, whose bid to win consecutive national titles ended last year with a 31-30 loss to the Irish, is 9-1 with its only defeat to No. 5 Florida State.

Fourth-ranked Alabama, meanwhile, still is unbeaten and hoping for a chance to win the championship. First, the Crimson

Tide must win Dec. 2 at No. 11 Auburn.

Third-ranked Michigan needs to win its final game, Saturday at home against No. 22 Ohio State, to gain the Rose Bowl and face No. 8 Southern California. If Michigan loses, No. 12 Illinois could win the trip to Pasadena with a victory over Wake Forest Northwestern.

The Fiesta Bowl, which has produced its share of national champions, won't do it this time. Still, good game is brewing with No. 6 Florida State against No. 6 Nebraska.

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<u>Smocked Ornaments</u> Wednesday, Nov 29 6-9pm \$10	<u>Woven Melon Baskets</u> Wednesday, Nov 29 6-9pm \$14
<u>Etched Glass Ornaments</u> Monday, Nov 27 6-9pm \$14	<u>Kitchen Gift Baskets</u> Monday, Dec 4 6-9pm \$20
<u>Stained Glass Ornaments</u> Tuesday, Nov 28 6-9pm \$14	<u>Ceramic Whistles</u> T/Th, Nov 28 & 30 6-9pm \$18
<u>Cross Stitch Ornaments</u> Wednesday, Dec 6 6-9pm \$14	<u>Cross Stitch Welcome Mats</u> Tuesday, Nov 28 6-9pm \$18
<u>Ukrainian Eggs</u> Tuesday, Dec 5 6-9:30pm \$14	<u>Hand-Painted T-Shirts</u> Monday, Nov 27 6:30-9:30pm \$16
<u>Mr. & Mrs. Reindeer</u> Wednesday, Dec 6 6-9pm \$16	<u>Wooden Teddy Bears</u> Wednesday, Nov 29 6-9pm \$16
<u>Cornhusk Wreaths</u> Wednesday, Nov 29 6-9pm \$16	<u>Cutting Boards</u> M/W, Dec 4 & 6 6:30-8:30pm \$16
<u>Pinecone Wreaths</u> Tuesday, Nov 28 6-9pm \$18	<u>Wooden Reindeer</u> Monday, Nov 27 6-9pm \$16
<u>Grapevine Wreaths</u> Thursday, Nov 30 6-9pm \$16	<u>Wooden Trains</u> T/Th, Dec 5 & 7 6-9pm \$20
<u>Natural Nut Wreaths</u> Thursday, Dec 7 6-9pm \$18	<u>Keepsake Photo Albums</u> Thursday, Nov 30 6-9pm \$18
<u>Peppermint Wreaths</u> Monday, Nov 27 6-9pm \$12	<u>Gingerbread Houses</u> Thursday, Nov 30 6-9pm \$28
<u>Santa Wreaths</u> Monday, Dec 4 6-9pm \$12	<u>Gingerbread Houses for Kids!</u> Wednesday, Dec 6 6-9pm \$28
<u>Christmas Potpourri</u> Monday, Nov 27 6-9pm \$16	<u>Gingerbread Men</u> Tuesday, Dec 5 6-8pm \$15
<u>Hand Stenciled Cards</u> Wednesday, Nov 29 6-9pm \$10	<u>Bow Making</u> Thursday, Dec 7 6-9pm \$12

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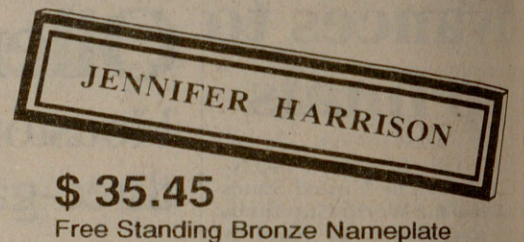
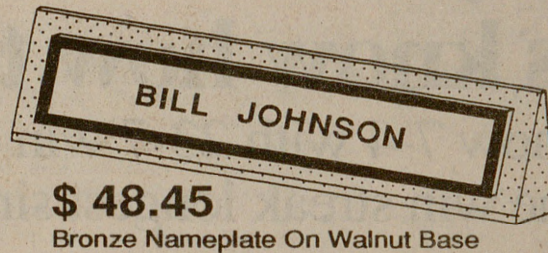
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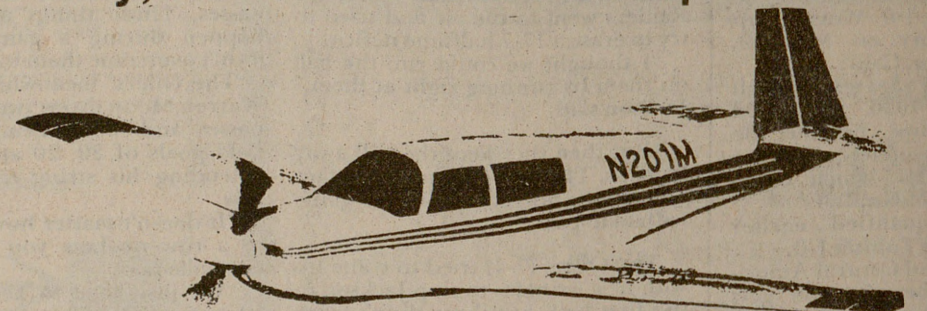


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For information
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