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### Cowboys plan to continue at Valley Ranch

DALLAS (AP) — Owner Jerry Jones said Wednesday that there is an 80 percent chance the Dallas Cowboys will still be at Valley Ranch next fall.

"We could be here the rest of the year," said Jones. "Jimmy (Johnson) would be happy to stay here another year."

Jones said progress had slowed on the sale of the club's home and practice facility at Valley Ranch. Jones had planned to sell the facility and move everything to Texas Stadium for the 1990 season.

"I'd project that it is more likely we will be right here (Valley Ranch) after our training camp in Austin," he said.

Jones said the club didn't want to get into "an awkward situation" by building practice facilities at Texas Stadium while the season was underway.

"We want to do things very orderly," he said. "Our operation is in fine shape at Valley Ranch. We've reduced the overhead 50 percent."

A group had been negotiating with Jones to buy Valley Ranch and turn it into a health farm, but sources said that deal had fallen through.

"It would take us 7 to 10 months to get practice fields on line on our property at Texas Stadium," Jones said. "So, when we do move it will be a gradual thing."

Jones said the Cowboys would eventually move from Valley Ranch although he added "We've gotten very comfortable here. We still have two or three bidders out there with viable plans."

Jones said his billfold was open and his checkbook ready to bid on Plan B free agents, who will come from the NFL list of unprotected players later this week.

"I hope to have the opportunity to spend some money," Jones said. "We know that rebuilding this team is going to be very expensive."

### Cowboys

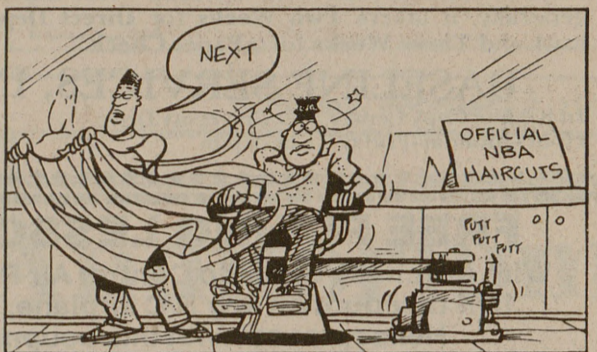
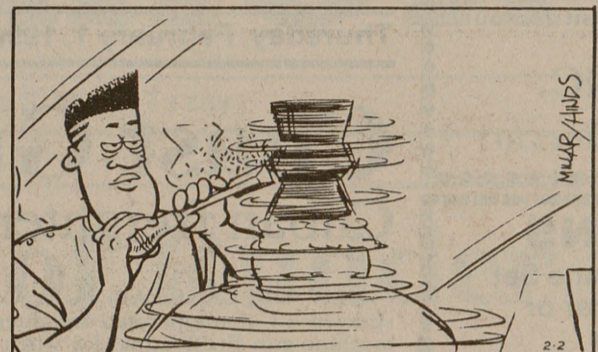
(Continued from page 10)

that wasn't the reason he was left unprotected.

"I'm not dissatisfied with Walls," Johnson said of the nine-year veteran. "It will give him a chance to check his value on the free agent market. There was no major trade value on him."

"I made my decision on what is best for the Cowboys. My relationship with players is one way — what can that player do to help the Dallas Cowboys."

### TANK McNAMARA



### Former Bear charges drug use

CHICAGO (AP) — Former Chicago Bears running back Calvin Thomas, who served a 30-day drug suspension two years ago, said he saw four teammates getting high on drugs just days before a scheduled 1987 drug test.

But Thomas said the players, who he declined to identify, were steered clear of substance-abuse problems with the assistance of the team — help he claims he never was given.

Thomas' charges come on the heels of a televised report during Super Bowl week in which Washington station WJLA said positive cocaine tests on three "star" white quarterbacks went unheeded by the league and that contrary to the NFL's own stated policies, the three received no mandatory counseling or treatment.

Under league policy, a first positive result subjects a player to counseling and "probable cause" testing, without the name being revealed to the public. A second-time offender is suspended for 30 days and undergoes drug-rehabilitation treatment. A third-time offender is banned for life, though he can apply for reinstatement one year after banishment.

Thomas said Tuesday that he believed his four teammates had tested positive in the 1987 test, but softened that statement Wednesday.

He said Wednesday that he was uncertain whether they actually tested positive, but was sure they would have been notified of such a result and with that assistance, apparently managed to steer clear of

violating the league's substance-abuse program.

"They were guys who had been on the team," Thomas said of the players he witnessed using drugs several days before the August 1987 test.

"I asked the guys, 'Don't you know this (test) is coming up?' They just kept on doing it."

"None of those guys were suspended," he added. "I don't know if they were told or what."

Bears spokesman John Bostrom said the club would have no comment until it had gathered more information regarding Thomas' remarks.

### Mavericks saying rookie White needs to stop pouting, grow up

HOUSTON (AP) — His Dallas Maverick teammates say Randy White has to grow up and realize exactly what he has gotten himself in to.

White was a glamor boy in college at Louisiana Tech. A year ago, he was the American South Conference Player of the Year. He also was an honorable mention All-American.

And he was even being hailed, in numerous circles, as the next Karl 'The Mailman' Malone.

But the only mail the 6-foot-8 forward has been delivering these days is a permanent seat toward the end of the Mavericks' bench. And that's a very discouraging and frustrating spot for the eighth pick of the 1989 National Basketball Association draft.

"Randy's been frustrated since Day 1, and that's natural for a rookie," says Mavs Assistant Coach Garfield Heard, interviewed in Houston.

"But he's got to realize that he's got guys that's been in the league 10-12 years that's playing ahead of him, and it wouldn't be fair to those guys to sit them down, and Randy hasn't really beat them out yet."

"Unless you're a Magic Johnson, Larry Bird or Michael Jordan, you don't come in this league and play the first year. Besides, if Randy wants to get some playing time, he has to show us in practice that he's ready to play. If he does that, he'll get some time."

Lately, White has done more pouting than proving he deserves more playing time. He was fined \$250 and reprimanded by the Mavs 10 days ago, and was also criticized by Mavs Head Coach Richie Adubato for failing to warm up for the second half and pouting on the bench during a recent game against the New York Knicks.

After Dallas defeated the Houston Rockets this past Saturday when every Maverick who suited up played but White, White was the first Dallas player dressed. He proceeded to put on his blue leather suit, hurriedly spray cologne on his body, and when repeatedly asked for comments about his situation, would only say: "I don't have anything to say."

White is averaging just 4.5 points, 3.2 rebounds and 13.1 minutes per game for the Mavs. He is shooting 40.7 percent from the field and 0.5 percent from the line.

White is playing behind Sam Perkins, Adrian Dantley and Herb Williams. He slid even farther down the Mavs' rotation when Roy Tarpley recently came back from his drug suspension.

In fact, since the Mavs are top-heavy on the front line, White may have a better chance getting extensive playing time with the Dallas Cowboys than he would with the Dallas Mavericks.

"It's really tough on Randy," said Dallas center James Donaldson.

### Lehmann

(Continued from page 10)

baseball, so it's understandable that Esiason wouldn't want to risk a career-ending injury in a game that's played only for pride.

The Pro Bowl certainly isn't played for money, the \$10,000 paycheck for winners — \$5,000 for losers — is a fraction of what Esiason gets paid for a regular-season game.

Not that the hitting is intense in the Pro Bowl. Anyone who's seen a recent one knows that it's watered-down football at best.

The players who've made it this far are professionals. They understand the consequences of a cheap hit, so they take it easier and generally don't play for blood.

Another drawback is the short preparation time. Football is a sport that requires 11 players to think as one unit, and develop their timing. With less than a week to practice together, Pro Bowl teams are restricted to running only the most basic plays.

Also, the Pro Bowl is played at the

### Illini deny allegations

Henson sticking to his guns

CHAMPAIGN, Ill. (AP) — Illinois basketball coach Lou Henson is standing by Jimmy Collins, his chief recruiter, who has been a key figure in allegations of irregularities in basketball recruiting at the school.

An NCAA investigation is believed to have ended Tuesday and Illinois is expecting a letter of official inquiry from the association later this week.

Illinois will have approximately 60 days to respond to any charges.

"I believe in Jimmy, I'm 100 percent supportive of him through this," Henson said Wednesday. "Anyone might inadvertently break a rule in recruiting, but it will be a surprise to me if a major rule was broken."

The NCAA has been checking into possible irregularities in the recruitment of 6-foot-9 forward Deon Thomas, a 1989 graduate of Chi-

### Illini deny allegations Henson sticking to his guns

cago Simeon who had been one of the nation's top prep prospects.

Iowa assistant coach Bruce Pearl has given the NCAA a tape recording of a telephone conversation in which Thomas reportedly said he received \$80,000 and a car for attending Illinois.

Thomas, a freshman, has been withheld from competition this season by the Fighting Illini pending completion of the probe.

In another development, Notre Dame's LaPhonso Ellis reportedly has told the NCAA that he was offered an automobile and an \$85,000 package to attend Illinois. Ellis graduated in 1988 from East St. Louis, Ill., Lincoln after leading the school to successive Class AA Illinois High School championships.

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