

Hogs wild

Razorbacks' 82-77 loss Saturday blows chance to move up in poll

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The Arkansas Razorbacks know exactly how Mike Tyson feels. They got knocked out by nobody famous. David Wesley was Arkansas' Buster Douglas.

Wesley, an unheralded sophomore guard from Longview who has been nursing a leg fracture most of the season, damaged the third-ranked Hogs' chances to move up in the national polls Saturday.

The Bears snapped Arkansas' 12-game winning streak with an 82-77 ambush as Wesley hit 12 of 12 free throws, got six steals and scored 23 points.

The Hogs are still coasting toward the Southwest Conference title with an 11-1 league ledger and a 20-3 overall mark, but the loss could hurt them in the NCAA playoff seedings.

Arkansas was almost certain to move to No. 2 before the upset.

"Well, at least the pressure is off," said Arkansas coach Nolan Richardson. "The kids couldn't go anywhere without a microphone in their faces. Maybe we can regroup now."

Arkansas has a road game left against Texas Christian in Fort Worth on Wednesday night, then finishes with three straight games at Barnhill Arena in Fayetteville.

"Coach Richardson told us to keep our heads up and that the season's not over," said Lee Mayberry, who led the Hogs with 16 points.

"He told us to look ahead to because TCU is as tough as it is and it's another tough road game."

Forward Larry Marks said Hogs will be ready for the Frog. "Believe me, we will be ready for TCU," Marks said. "They will be come beat but I guarantee come back."

Marks said it will hurt when Hogs see the national ranking week.

"We were expecting to go No. 1 and now we just hope to stay in the Top 10 and bounce," he said.

Richardson said the Baylor just proves what he's been saying along.

"This league is tough enough no matter where you go, you have to be ready to lose," he said. "The has come of age."

Richardson said No. 1 would be nice right now but the Hogs will win it at the end of the year.

"We would have liked that because our kids have worked extremely hard," he said. "But rankings are like a report card at the end of the semester. The final when we go to the NCAA."

The victory was the biggest Baylor coach Gene Iba.

"This was an emotional win for my biggest at Baylor," Iba said. "You had told me at the beginning of the season we'd beat Arkansas. They came in ranked No. 3. I have had a hard time believing

Class of '86 Checklist: Top recruits Waddle, Pavlas falling short

HOUSTON (AP) — Andre Ware and Anthony Thompson were No. 1 and No. 2, respectively, in the Heisman Trophy balloting. Nigel Clay and Bernard Hall are No. 184913 and No. 184915, respectively, in the Oklahoma Department of Corrections.

Jake Young didn't get to keep the interest on a million dollars. Demetrius Hill finally learned to read. Tony Bill plans to enter an alcohol rehabilitation program. Zarak Peters has recovered from his gunshot wound. Mark Carrier has a Thorpe Award. Johnny Bailey has three Harlon Hill Awards. Sal Aunese is dead.

Roll call for the college football recruiting class of February 1986.

Most came out of high school a certified, can't-miss blue-chipper. A few of them made it. Most didn't. Few found college

football what they expected when they signed their letters of intent four years ago.

Four names dominated Texas football recruiting four Februaries back: wide receiver Percy Waddle of Columbus, quarterback Lance Pavlas of Tomball, running back Harvey Williams of Hempstead and linebacker Melvin Foster of Yates.

Waddle was the king of the hill, an all-state receiver who set state records for receptions and receiving yardage. Recruiting analyst Max Emfinger rated him as one of the top 10 players in the nation.

Waddle, however, became the first prominent player to fall victim to Proposition 48, the NCAA's stiffened academic requirements that took effect in 1986. He signed with Texas A&M, sat out a year and played three years for the Aggies, complet-

ing his eligibility last fall with 53 catches for 847 yards and six touchdowns.

Waddle, who still has faint hopes of catching on with an NFL team, doesn't regret going to A&M. He is, however, frustrated by his lack of performance and disappointed that Proposition 48 — and his own lack of academic preparation — wrecked his high school dreams.

"I guess it's a good rule, but they shouldn't take the whole year (of eligibility) from you," Waddle said. "It hurt me a lot when they took that year from me. Then when I became eligible, I put too much pressure on myself to perform. Finally, this year (when he made 30 catches and was all-conference), I eased my mind."

All-America plaudits have eluded Pavlas, who came out of Tomball touted as the sec-

ond coming of Vinny Testaverde, 1985's Heisman Trophy winner from Miami. He signed with A&M and, after a redshirt year, played well in the Cotton Bowl after the 1987 season.

Pavlas lost his starting job in 1988 but regained it last season and completed 134 of 227 passes, second-best in school history. 1990 is his final year of eligibility.

Several prospects lost a year of eligibility due to Proposition 48. Only one of them achieved college stardom — quarterback Sal Aunese of Colorado — and his legend came not in life, but after his death from stomach cancer last September at age 21. The Buffaloes dedicated their season to Aunese, finishing the regular season unbeaten and ranked No. 1 in the country before losing to Notre Dame in the Orange Bowl.

Others are still struggling with the aftermath of high school stardom. Clay Hall, both of whom signed with Oklahoma, are serving prison sentences for violating the Sooners' athletic dorm.

Contrast that with the tale of Yates' running back Johnny Bailey, another Proposition 48 candidate who spurned the college ranks and signed with Texas where he could play immediately.

Bailey ended his career last fall with an NCAA-record 6,320 rushing yards. TDs, three Harlon Hill Awards as the nation's top small-college player and America recognition from the Football Writers Association of America — the small-college player so honored.

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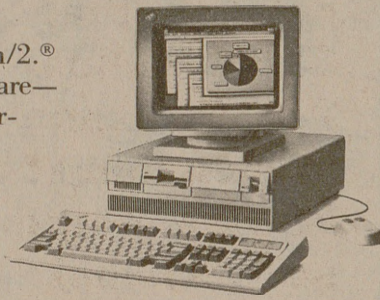


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