

**Texas rejects coach's request to payroll son**

AUSTIN (AP) — The University of Texas Men's Athletics Council has rejected a request by baseball coach Cliff Gustafson to add his son Deron to the school's payroll. The vote was 6-0.

Chairman James Vick said the council felt hiring Deron Gustafson, 29, would violate a regents' nepotism rule that a UT employee cannot employ a relative or make recommendations on a relative's salary.

Deron has served as a volunteer assistant for seven years. Cliff Gustafson currently pays him \$18,000 to \$20,000 a year out of his own pocket, according to the Austin American-Statesman.

Cliff Gustafson, who has the best winning percentage among college baseball coaches, has a base salary of \$87,800 a year, with a total financial package estimated at \$115,000.

"I kind of expected it," Cliff Gustafson said of Thursday's council decision. "I'm disappointed. I think the council talked to the UT lawyers and felt like the rule was pretty explicit and they didn't want to take exception to the rule."

"It's something I'll just have to live with," he said.

Deron Gustafson said, "Rules are rules. ... The three things I lose out on are the courtesy car, the country club membership and insurance. Those three are the toughest parts."

Because Deron Gustafson is not on the school's payroll, he cannot receive a credit card for baseball-related expenses, such as a recent recruiting trip to Alaska that he said cost \$1,200. "I can't even borrow my dad's (card), because that's against university rules," he said.

**SEC, Hogs decide future**

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. (AP) — Arkansas will be invited by Wednesday to join the Southeastern Conference, and university trustees will be asked to accept the invitation, the Arkansas president said Monday.

The move, if completed, would end a 76-year alliance between Arkansas and the Southwest Conference.

President B. Alan Sugg said the board will meet Wednesday in Fayetteville to discuss the proposal. Sugg said both he and Fayetteville campus chancellor Dan Ferritor would recommend then that the Razorbacks move to the SEC.

Roy Kramer, SEC commissioner, declined to confirm that an invitation would be extended to Arkansas. "They have the prerogative to make those statements. We'll have no comment," he said in a telephone interview from his Birmingham, Ala., office.

Ferritor flew to Little Rock from



Fayetteville on Monday to meet with Sugg. The pair met for about an hour at the state Higher Education Department and then again over lunch. They said the SEC was not discussed at the first meeting.

"I met with President Sugg today and gave him on behalf of the Fayetteville campus a strong, positive recommendation that the University of Arkansas enter the Southeastern Conference," Ferritor said in a telephone interview before leaving Little Rock by plane.

Arkansas is a charter member of the SWC.

Ferritor declined to say why he favored the move. Sugg said Ferritor gave him three reasons.

"His comments to me — and I'm trying to remember exactly what the comments were — were that he feels the overall competition level will be stronger, that there will be a greater fan interest in the program if we participate in the Southeastern Conference as we look to the future, and he feels that while the television revenues are really a small part of the budget of the University of Arkansas, that there's a better chance for television revenue to remain the same if not enhanced with the SEC as compared to the Southwest Conference," Sugg said.

"He feels that the future of the athletic program is more assured with the Southeastern Conference then it would be with the Southwest Conference," Sugg said of Ferritor.

Ferritor said he would reserve further comment until the board meeting.

**Trevino may pass Shoal Creek's PGA Championship because of controversy**

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. (AP) — Former champion Lee Trevino says he may skip this year's PGA Championship because of the controversy over the membership policies at the host club.

Disclosures about the all-white Shoal Creek Country Club have prompted protests from civil rights leaders and led several major companies to withdraw ads from the telecast of next month's tournament.

"The fact that Toyota, which is my sponsor, and IBM have announced they've decided to drop their commercials from the telecasts has me thinking," Trevino told the Providence Journal.

"Hey, I'm a member of the PGA and I hate to see my organization shoot itself in the foot like this."

Trevino, who won the 1984 PGA Championship at Shoal Creek, made the remarks while competing at the Newport Cup seniors tournament in Rhode Island.

The NAACP has put its protest plans on hold for the PGA Championship, but the Southern Christian Leadership Conference is still teed off about the tournament being held at an all-white country club.

The Rev. Abraham Woods, president of the Birmingham SCLC, said Saturday the organization still

plans to have pickets at the city's airport when golfers and PGA officials arrive for the tournament.

"Discussions are still going on," Woods said. "I don't know what will come out of those discussions. But our position remains the same."

Benjamin Hooks, national president of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, said Friday that the organization's protests will be "put on hold, pending further developments."

"We do, however, reserve the option of implementing demonstrations at Shoal Creek if any evidence emerges that our good faith intentions are being abused," Hooks said.

Hooks' statement came one day after Birmingham's mayor, Richard Arrington, asked that demonstrations be called off.

The Shoal Creek controversy began six weeks ago when the country club's founder, businessman Hall Thompson, told a reporter that Shoal Creek would not be pressured into accepting black members. Thompson later apologized and said his remarks had been taken out of context.

**Ex-Tech QB fights for field dominance**

**Tolliver thrust into lead role**

LA JOLLA, Calif. (AP) — Billy Joe Tolliver was raised in a working-class Texas town by a working-class family, and he had to grow up fast. The San Diego Chargers are asking him to do the same thing.

"My parents raised me to be an independent person. I was paying room and board when I was a freshman in high school," Tolliver said. The second-year quarterback became the Chargers undisputed starter when Jim McMahon was cast aside in late April.

Personality differences, to say nothing of his money demands, played a part in McMahon being shown the door, but the promise displayed by Tolliver in his rookie season also was a factor.

"He's electric," quarterback coach Ted Tollner said. "He has a big-league arm. He's a tremendous competitor and he really loves to play the game. He's young, and there's a certain amount of risk but looking at the alternative, we felt this was the best way to go."

The only quarterback controversy is over the competition between Mark Vlasic and David Archer for the backup job and whether sixth-round draft choice John Friesz wins a roster spot.

Tolliver, 24, started five games last season, returning from a disastrous midseason debut against Seattle (6-of-17 for 41 yards, 1 interception) to twice surpass 300 yards passing in the final four games.

In a 26-21 loss at Washington Dec. 10, Tolliver threw for 350 yards and two touchdowns, the fourth highest yardage total by a rookie. But overall, he had more interceptions (8) than touchdowns (5) and finished with a 48 percent completion average (89-185 for 1,097 yards).

"What we've got to do is increase his consistency so his ability comes through and his young mistakes are diminished," Tollner said. "We have to make him grow up fast. That's always a concern. Some young players, you have to bring them along slowly



Battalion file photo

Tolliver felt the heat from A&M defenses in his years with Texas Tech. Now he is the starting quarterback for the Chargers.

because they don't have the ability to deal with the negatives.

"He has that ability to deal with the negatives and still have the fight in his eye, the clear head and not lose his composure. We did see that in ballgames last year. When he did play poorly and threw interceptions he shouldn't have, it doesn't destroy him. That probably more than anything else was the quality that gave us

the confidence ... to make the commitment to him now."

The Chargers are counting on Tolliver to bring a struggling offense to life.

Once the envy of the league for its productivity under retired quarterback Dan Fouts, the Chargers offense has struggled in recent years. In 1989, the Chargers ranked 21st in offense, 22nd in passing and 23rd in

scoring.

Tolliver, a second-round draft choice out of Texas Tech, said he feels no pressure about being thrust into the starter's role.

"You don't get nervous over things you're good at," he said. "If I had to shoot free throws in front of 40,000 people, then yeah, I'd probably be a little nervous. But throwing passes in front of 60,000 people, that's no big deal."

If he has a drawback, it's that his physique doesn't fit the mold of an NFL quarterback.

"I'm a throwback to 20 years ago when the guys were short and fat," said the 6-foot-1, 225-pound Tolliver. "I'm not the 6-4, 225-pound guy like a (Dan) Marino or (John) Elway. But that height deal is overrated. Well, I don't know. I've never been that tall but either you're a football player or you're not."

The son of a truck driver and a homemaker who cleaned office buildings in her spare time, Tolliver has been working since he was in fourth grade.

He went to work for an oil company in his native Boyd, Texas, when he entered high school. That's when he started paying his parents, Sharon and Charles Tolliver, \$125 a week for room and board.

"My dad believed in that. But there's advantages to paying room and board because then you have a say in what you get to eat. The first check I gave him, I told him right then — 'No more goulash. Get that out of here.'"

"We were poor. We never had any money. But we survived. We never starved. It wasn't that bad," said Tolliver, who has two sisters and a younger brother. "My father was the hardest working guy I know. He taught me a lot."

But not about football. The younger Tolliver learned that on his own.

"My dad knows nothing about the game. He doesn't know what a first down is," Tolliver said. "I used to sit and watch a couple of Cowboys games with him and the only thing he'd ever say is, 'Sack that quarterback! I'm going. Hold on, pop. I'm one of those guys.'"

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