

# Dallas newspaper reports Tulsa expresses interest in joining Southwest Conference

DALLAS (AP) — The University of Tulsa may be a candidate for a slot in the Southwest Conference, a published report says.

The Dallas Morning News reported in Tuesday's editions that the school has expressed an interest in joining the SWC.

The school also has collected thousands of signatures in a petition drive.

Tulsa athletic director Rick Dickson told The Morning News there was a "groundswell" campaign from the University of Tulsa and the Tulsa community that went on for a month or so, directed toward Fred Jacoby and the Southwest Conference presidents.

SWC Commissioner Jacoby confirmed that Tulsa has expressed interest in joining the conference, which is losing Arkansas to the Southeastern Conference.

"Other than that, I really don't care to say much about it," Jacoby said. "They have expressed interest. There has been no formal application."

Jacoby would not speculate about

Tulsa's viability as an SWC candidate.

Tulsa is a private school of 4,500 students and plays its football games at 40,385-seat Skelly Stadium. The Golden Hurricane averaged 25,388 fans in five home games last season when it posted a 6-5 record. Tulsa then lost to Oregon in the Independence Bowl.

sports speaks for itself," Dickson said. "And we would bring in a community like Tulsa, which has geographic compatibility with the SWC. We are probably in the Top 30 in the country in endowments, and it is easily a Top 50 institution academically."

Tulsa is only the 56th-largest television market in the country, and

"We have not formally applied, but we have formally informed everyone at every level, from the presidents to the athletic directors to the conference commissioner, that we are very seriously interested in being considered," Dickson said.

Tulsa president Robert Donaldson added: "We would be a very good fit in the SWC. We are committed to a strong athletic program balanced with strong academics. We are very interested in talking, if they are expanding."

Jacoby has been given authority to talk to schools about expansion. Tulane and Miami have expressed interest, but Tulsa has taken the most aggressive stance.

Tulsa is a member of the Missouri Valley Conference in all men's sports except football. Tulsa is an independent in all women's sports.

The expansion issue will be discussed at an athletic directors' meeting Sept. 19-20, Jacoby said, but any decision on expansion will be made by conference presidents at a meeting in October.



The Golden Hurricane is 1-1 this season and will play Arkansas Saturday and the University of Oklahoma Sept. 22.

The Golden Hurricane plays basketball in the 9,200-seat City Convention Center. Tulsa has gone to post-season play eight times in the past 10 years.

"I think our track record in major

Oklahoma and Oklahoma State have large fan bases in the city to cut into the Golden Hurricane's fan support. And only Rice in the SWC has fewer students.

Tulsa officials say they are waiting to hear from the SWC. An application would be only a formality, because Tulsa officials have talked to people at every level in the SWC.

## Rangers squeeze past Yankees 5-4

NEW YORK (AP) — New York's Steve Adkins made his major league debut by walking five consecutive batters in the second inning as the Texas Rangers scored three runs without a hit and beat the Yankees 5-4 Wednesday night.

Adkins, who walked eight of the 11 batters he faced, survived three walks in the first inning with the help of a double play. He did not give up a hit and retired the first batter in the second but then walked Mike Stanley, Steve Buechele, Scott Coolbaugh, Jeff Kunkel and John Russell, giving Texas a 2-0 lead.

Mark Leiter relieved and walked Rafael Palmeiro, forcing home a third run. The major league record for consecutive walks in an inning is seven but the string ended when Ruben Sierra flied out.

The Rangers didn't get a hit until Palmeiro singled with two out in the fourth. Palmeiro scored on a double by Sierra and a single by Juan Gonzalez produced the decisive run.

New York pitchers issued 14 walks, one short of the club record and the most ever received by the Rangers. The generosity enabled Charlie Hough (12-10) to win for the second time since Aug. 11.

Hough, having trouble controlling his knuckleball and falling behind most of the hitters, lasted 5 1/3 innings.

## Houston knocks Reds out 3-1

CINCINNATI (AP) — Mike Simms' first major-league hit knocked in the go-ahead run in the 13th inning, carrying the Houston Astros to a 3-1 victory over the Cincinnati Reds Wednesday night.

Simms, who replaced Glenn Davis at first base in the 12th inning, singled off Tim Layana (5-3).

Eric Yelding reached first on a fielder's choice and stole second before Karl Rhodes was walked intentionally.

The Astros scored an insurance run on Layana's wild pitch. Rhodes advanced to third and Simms to second on a throw to the plate following Simms' hit.

Juan Agosto (7-7) pitched 1 2/3 innings for the victory.

Brian Meyer got the last out for his first save of the season.

The loss cut Cincinnati's lead in the National League West to six games.

## Cubs crush Phillies 9-3

CHICAGO (AP) — The Chicago Cubs scoring six runs in the first and Greg Maddux defeated the Philadelphia Phillies 9-3 Wednesday, for his ninth win in 13 starts.

Andre Dawson had three hits and drove in three runs. Ryne Sandberg hit a two-run homer, his 34th. Both homers came in the fourth inning.

The first seven batters reached base off Jose DeJesus, 5-7, who walked the first three men he faced.

Maddux, 13-13, went the first seven innings, allowed eight hits and struck out four.

DeJesus lasted two-thirds of an inning, giving up six runs on four hits and four walks.

After the three walks, Dawson hit a two-run single. Rookie Derrick May, Luis Salazar and Damon Berryhill followed with consecutive RBI singles.

Salazar scored the sixth run when the third baseman, Charlie Hayes, bobbled Mark Grace's easy grounder.

## Luck o' the Irish

# Notre Dame must prove worth as No. 1 to doubtful coach Holtz

SOUTH BEND, Ind. (AP) — This week's college football poll says Notre Dame is No. 1. The Fighting Irish will have to prove it to Coach Lou Holtz.

"Right now we've accomplished absolutely nothing," said Holtz, whose team opens on Saturday at home against No. 4 Michigan. "As far as being No. 1, I don't even think about it anymore. They're going to vote again."

The Fighting Irish carried the No. 1 ranking into last year's game against the Wolverines and emerged with a 24-19 victory. The Irish went on to an 11-1 record and a No. 2 national ranking, and Michigan went on to claim the Big Ten title in Bo Schembechler's last season as coach.

Holtz was 3-0 against Schembechler but said he never looked at the game as a matchup of coaches.

"I've never looked on it as Bo against Lou Holtz," the Irish coach said Tuesday. "Maybe it's because of my ego, that I don't want it to be that way, because most of the time, you come out on the short end."

But, he adds, "We've been exceptionally lucky."

A lot of the Irish luck was provided by Raghieb "Rocket" Ismail, who returned two kickoffs for touchdowns last season on a rain-slick artificial turf that stymied the offenses.

"I don't think there's any doubt he's a marked man," Holtz said of his speedy flanker.

"I've always felt that when teams play somebody like Notre Dame first, it really helps their team," he said. "Win or lose that first game, you are going to be further ahead when you come out of that first game. Then it's a question of how well you react to the win or the loss."

"I don't think there's any doubt that one of the reasons Michigan's won that Big Ten championship the last couple of years is because they've looked forward to playing the University of Notre Dame."



Photo courtesy of Notre Dame Sports Information

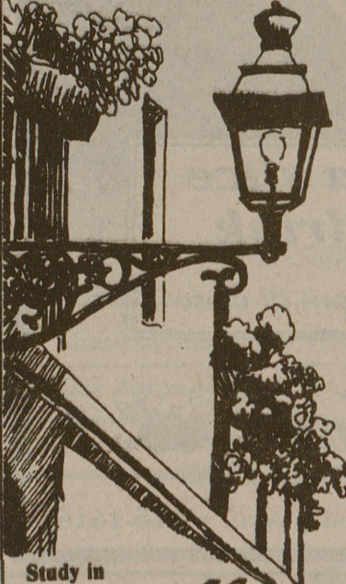
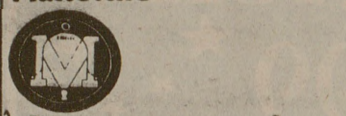
ND Coach Lou Holtz is pessimistic about the Irish's No. 1 rank.

The Wolverines, now coached by longtime Schembechler assistant Gary Moeller, may have learned something since then from Mike Bossary, a Notre Dame graduate assistant hired by Michigan in July to help coach the offensive backfield. Bossary worked spring practice and was

privy to Irish strategy.

"It was an unusual time for him to leave, but those are things I can't control," Holtz says. "I don't think Mike Bossary would do anything to hurt Notre Dame. But I do think he would do everything to help Michigan, which is what would be his obligation."

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