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A&M cyclists finish fifth in Houston

From Staff and Wire Reports

The Texas A&M cycling team raced home with fifth place this past weekend at the Collegiate Track Nationals held on the Alkek Velodrome in Houston.

Ten teams from across the nation competed as the men's team finished fourth on team pursuit.

Patrick McGrath was the top finisher for the men's team as he took 10th place and Mike Ashton placed 18th.

The team's top place of the weekend went to Amy Berry of the women's team as she took sixth.

Other team members making the trip included Danna Burke, Kathryn Knowles, Russel Day and Stephen Haydel.

Dykes opposes SWC presidents

Rule would ban some athletes from sports

LUBBOCK (AP) — Texas Tech football coach Spike Dykes said Monday he opposed a decision by Southwest Conference presidents to enact one of the stiffest admission requirements for athletes in Division I-A.

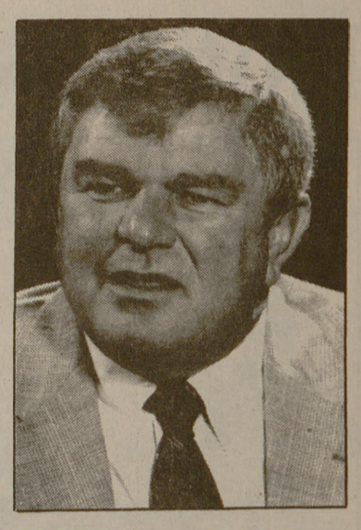
"I don't like the rule myself. I thought they built these universities for kids," Dykes said at his weekly press conference Monday.

"I think it is terrible you have to go through life with a brand on you because you didn't pass a stupid test. If they can't pass academically that's fine. But why not give them a chance?"

During a meeting in Dallas Sunday, SWC presidents finalized a proposal that will eliminate partial qualifiers from ever competing in athletics at an SWC school.

The proposal must first stand up to the scrutiny of league lawyers, but SWC Commissioner Fred Jacoby said Sunday he is certain the policy will be in place by August 1991.

The new rule requires recruits and walk-ons to score at least 700 on the SAT or 18 on the ACT entrance exams and to have at least a 2.0 high school grade point average in core classes.



Spike Dykes

Current policy requires student-athletes who do not meet both benchmarks to sit out of competition during their first year, but allows students three years of athletic eligibility if grades improve.

"To say you can never play in the conference? That's pretty severe, isn't it?" Dykes said. "I thought the whole deal was for kids and it looks like to me like that's the last thing ever considered. That's probably the wrong thing to say. But that's the truth."

Dykes said he has had several players on his teams that were admitted into Tech as partial qualifiers and went on to graduate and become successful professionals.

"I believe in young people," he said. "And I know that some of them make mistakes. I also know that they put erasers on pencils because people make mistakes."

When asked why he thought the SWC was taking the lead in toughening up admission requirements, Dykes replied:

"I don't even want to guess. I am sure it would be wrong. I don't know."

In regards to the Red Raiders' 1-4 record overall and 0-3 SWC standing, Dykes said the weeks are beginning to repeat themselves.

"This is getting to be a bad habit coming in here after a loss," Dykes said. "I hate that. It's a lot more fun when it's the other way around."

Klingler fills Ware's shoes well

Quarterback comes close to SWC record

WACO (AP) — David Klingler is no Andre Ware — yet.

But he proved on Saturday his arm has just as much endurance.

Klingler threw 68 passes, one short of Heisman Trophy winning Ware's school and Southwest Conference record, as the 13th-ranked Houston Cougars coasted to a 31-15 victory over the Baylor Bears.

Two of Klingler's passes went to Patrick Cooper for touchdowns as the nation's No. 2 offensive team piled up 467 yards against Baylor's prevent defense.

"It was a test of my patience out there," Klingler said. "They wouldn't let us go deep so we just took what they gave us."

Klingler said he was tired after throwing so many passes.

"I throw 300 balls a day and this was a good warmup for me," he said. "Still I was dragging there late. I was hoping I'd get hooked."

Klingler, the nation's total offense leader, completed 35 of 68 passes for 405 yards. The 35 completions were the most ever against a Baylor team.

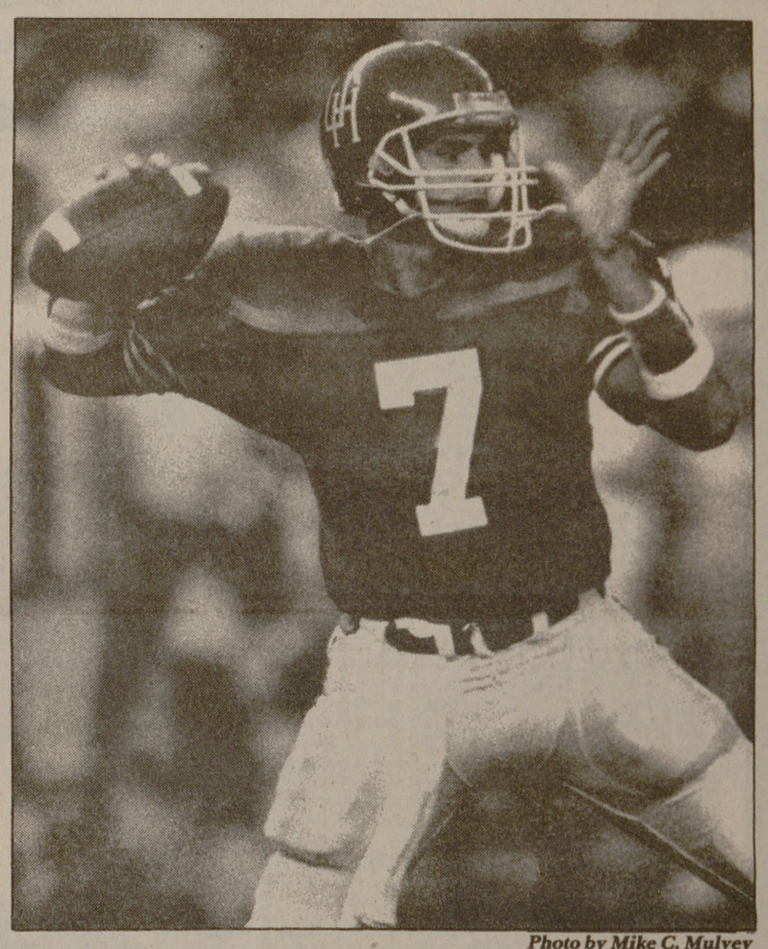


Photo by Mike C. Mulvey

UH's David Klingler threw 68 passes in Saturday's 31-15 win.

"Klingler had two key drives and you have to give him credit because he never threw the ball up for grabs," Baylor coach Grant Teaff said. "Still, Houston isn't as good as the Ware team last year. These guys are beatable."

Unbeaten Houston stretched its record to 4-0 overall and 3-0 in the SWC.

Houston coach John Jenkins said Klingler did a good job of being patient.

"He was sharp on finding his secondary receivers," Jenkins said. "After it was 13-7, Klingler took us to a touchdown. That's something you've got to do — throw water on a fire and stamp it out."

It was Klingler's fourth straight game over 400 yards.

Baylor dropped to 2-3 overall and 1-1 in the loss before 36,289 fans in Floyd Casey Stadium.

The Bears, humiliated 66-10 by the Cougars last year, made a game of it early in the third period. They drove 80 yards in 12 plays, with Robert Strait scoring on a 3-yard run to cut Houston's lead to 13-7.

Then Klingler put the game away with scoring passes of nine and 18 yards to Cooper.

Baylor quarterback J.J. Joe hit Brad Stogner with a 7-yard touchdown pass with 2:03 left after the outcome had been decided.

Klingler hit 21 of 41 passes for 269 yards in the first half as the Cougars built a 13-0 lead.

Baylor, rushing only three linemen, kept the Cougars from hitting the long strike but Klingler piled up yardage on short passes.

The only long pass Klingler hit in the first half went for 53 yards to Cooper. Six plays later, Chuck Weatherspoon scored from a yard out on fourth down.

Houston also scored in the first half on field goals of 19 and 22 yards by Roman Anderson, who had a 19-yarder in the fourth period.

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Oilers accomplish goals despite Sunday's 24-21 loss to 49ers

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Oilers accomplished several goals against the San Francisco 49ers, but victory, their No. 1 priority, eluded them because of a few plays, coach Jack Pardee said Monday.

After leading the defending world champions most of the game, Houston allowed Joe Montana to rally the 49ers with 10 fourth quarter points and a 24-21 victory Sunday. Montana completed three touchdown passes, including two for 78 and 46 yards to John Taylor.

"It boiled down to those two plays that Taylor made, giving them the long touchdowns," Pardee said. "I'm not totally convinced the 49ers are as good as they were at the end of last season," Pardee said. "They still have some guys making the plays that are getting them over the hump."

The Oilers held the 49ers to 57 plays instead of their usual 70 plays, Pardee said.

"He (Montana) completed 20 of 28, and they were moving the chains but they weren't really able to control the ball," Pardee said.

Baylor finds SMU may be tough match

WACO (AP) — After limiting the run-and-shoot Houston Cougars to 31 points Saturday, the Baylor Bears find themselves going up against a Southern Methodist team that could be called Houston II.

"They're similar," Baylor Coach Grant Teaff said Monday. "They both have the same basic philosophy but they are not exactly alike. They do things a little bit differently."

"It helps us that we have had a week to prepare for that style of offense," Teaff said during his weekly news conference.

While both Baylor, 2-3 overall and 1-1 in the Southwest Conference, and SMU, 1-3 and 0-1, are coming off losses, the Mustangs' loss was a disheartening 14-7 setback at the hands of Division II North Texas.

Teaff said he isn't sure what state of mind the Mustangs will be in when they enter Floyd Casey Stadium on Saturday.

"They have had their bright spots and low spots," Teaff said. "My job is to get our team ready to play. We're coming off a loss, too."

Although they lost, the Bears could count the Houston game as a moral victory after holding the Cougars to a 31-15 loss. Last season, the Bears were humiliated 66-10 in what Teaff called his most embarrassing loss ever.

"We did a good job of making them pluck away at us," said Teaff, whose Bears surrendered 405 yards passing.

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