

Aggies dropped from AP Top 25 Poll

From Staff and Wire Reports

Texas A&M's 20-20 tie with Baylor proved fatal to the Aggies' ranking in Monday's Associated Press Top 25 Poll. The Aggies, No. 25 last week, dropped out completely.

It is the first time the Aggies haven't been ranked in the AP poll this year. They host Rice on Saturday. With a 1-1-1 record in the Southwest Conference, A&M now must rely on other teams if they are to go to the Cotton Bowl.

Texas and Texas Christian, both in the Top 25, sit atop the SWC with unblemished conference records. Houston also is undefeated, but is ineligible for the conference crown because it is on probation.

The Aggies lost to the Cougars two weeks ago, but the Longhorns and Horned Frogs haven't played UH yet. A&M's best shot at their fourth SWC crown in six years is UH beating UT and TCU. That way, the Aggies could win the rest of their games and finish with only one conference loss.

TCU and UT, provided A&M beats them, each would have two conference losses and tie for second place.

Elsewhere in the nation, the country's No. 1 team was a clear choice, but voters were split over who's No. 2.

Auburn edged Notre Dame by one point for the runner-up spot. Nebraska is a close fourth, only 17 points behind Notre Dame.

Auburn (5-0-1) and Notre Dame (5-1) each climbed three spots after beating Top 10 opponents Saturday. The Fighting Irish beat Miami 29-20 and the Tigers downed Florida State 20-17. At the time, Miami was ranked second and Florida State was seventh.

Nebraska (7-0), which has yet to play a ranked team, remained fourth after beating Oklahoma State 31-3.

Virginia (7-0) tightened its grip on the No. 1 spot, getting 45 first-place votes and 1,469 points from a nationwide panel of sports writers and broadcasters. The Cavaliers, who defeated Wake Forest 49-14, increased their first-place support by seven votes and widened their gap over the No. 2 team by 59 points.

Auburn received four first-place votes and 1,370 points, while Notre Dame got five first-place votes and 1,369 points. Nebraska received 1,352 points and was the No. 1 pick on five ballots.

Illinois (5-1) jumped three notches to fifth after edging Michigan State 15-13 and

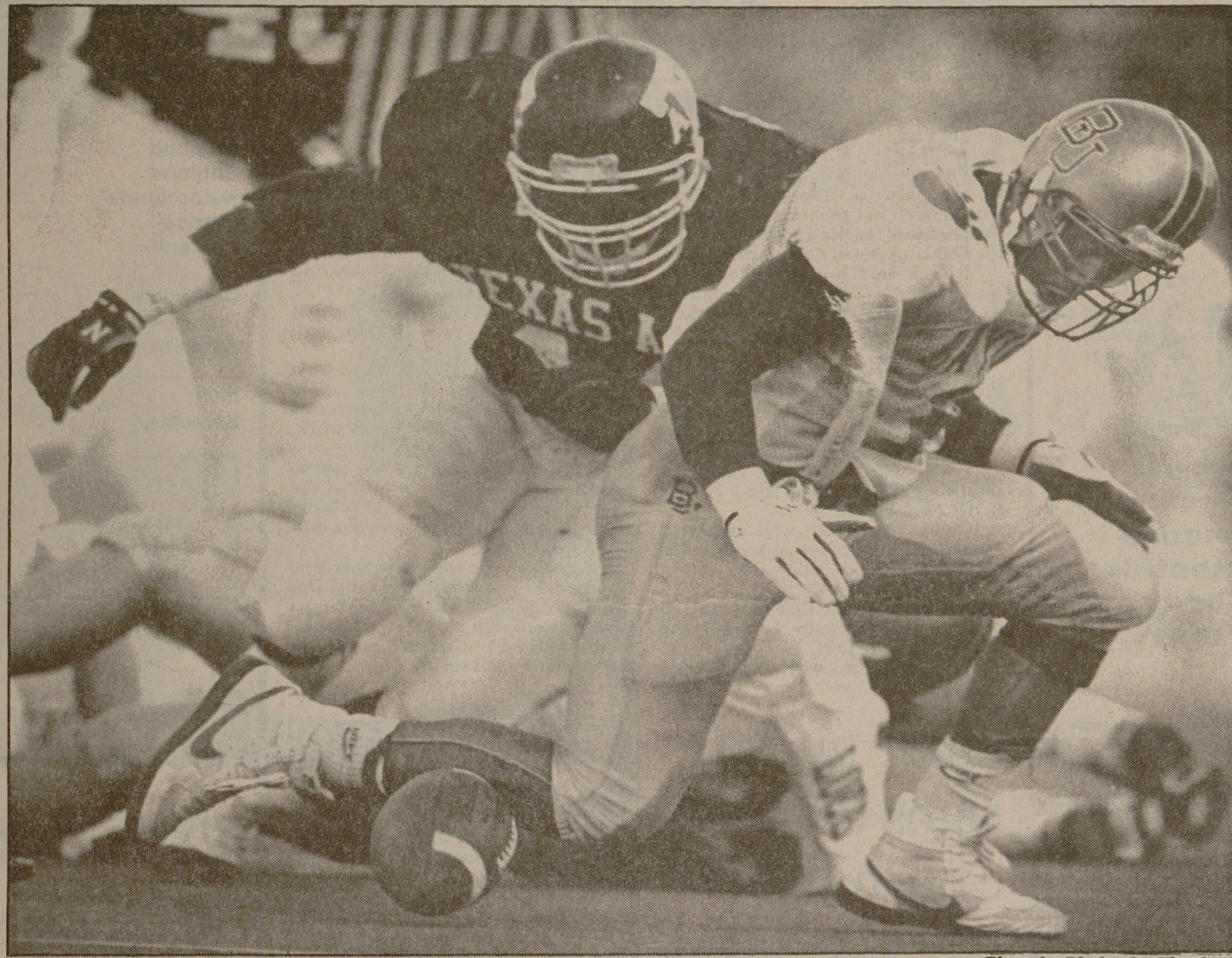


Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

Texas A&M's 20-20 tie with Baylor on Saturday wasn't enough to keep the Aggies in The Associated Press Top 25 College Football Poll. Houston, Texas and Texas Christian represent the Southwest Conference in the poll.

Nebraska received 1,352 points and was the No. 1 pick on five ballots.

Illinois (5-1) jumped three notches to fifth after edging Michigan State 15-13 and

Houston (6-0), which got one first-place vote, moved up three places to sixth following a 44-17 rout of Southern Methodist. Washington (6-1) climbed six spots to No. 7

after stomping Stanford 52-16.

Miami (4-2) fell six notches to No. 8, idle Brigham Young (5-1) remained No. 9, and

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UIL decision allows athletes easier tryouts

AUSTIN (AP)— High school senior athletes in Texas could participate in college tryouts at sites other than on college campuses under a proposal adopted Monday by the University Inter-scholastic League Legislative Council.



The decision of the 24-member council means that seniors seeking a college athletic scholarship could display their skills at a camp attended by coaches from several colleges, if approved by the State Board of Education.

The UIL council specified that the camps could not charge student-athletes for the tryouts or for any equipment associated with the camps.

Under current UIL rules, athletes may try out at colleges only when they are on a school-sponsored visit to the campus.

In that connection, the council voted to remove restrictions against high school students at tryouts practicing with college athletes. However, there could be no physical contact among college and high school athletes.

The council denied a motion to allow high school juniors to participate in the camps.

It agreed to study a proposal that would end football games after one team had built a lead of 45 points or more at the half or in the second half.

Dotson Lewis, president of the Southwest Official Association, said the one-sided games are the "hardest to work," and said it is difficult to keep such games under control.

He said the 45-point rule already is in effect for six-man football.

The council overwhelmingly rejected a proposal by the UIL Athletic Committee to poll schools in Classes A through 4A about holding their state championship football games in Austin.

In other action Monday, the council approved proposals that would:

- Allow swimmers and divers to take college-financed recruiting trips prior to Jan. 1.

- Require schools to notify opposing schools of any known conflict of interest with an assigned official prior to a contest.

- Set up a policy of public reprimand and probation for one year for any coach who is ejected from a contest for unsportsmanlike conduct.

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