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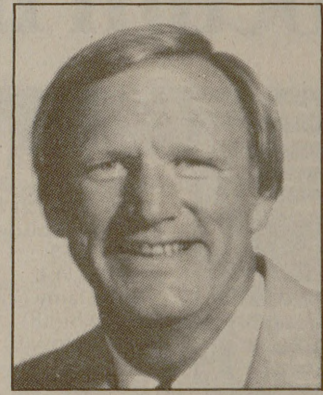
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Texas Christian extends Wacker's contract to 1992



Jim Wacker

FORT WORTH (AP) — Texas Christian ended debate over the future of football coach Jim Wacker Monday, extending his current contract until at least 1992.

Wacker accepted a "rollover" one-year contract on top of his existing pact, which extends through the 1991 season, Sports Information director Glen Stone said.

Stone said the rollover or ongoing clause means in effect that Wacker will have a two-year contract at the start of the 1991 season and each succeeding year unless other action is taken.

The announcement came after a closed-door meeting Monday between athletic director Frank Windegger and Dr. William Tucker, TCU chancellor.

"I am thrilled to death," Wacker said in a prepared statement.

"This gives me and my staff a continuing two years to develop this football program," he said. "Finally, our numbers are back up; we have nucleus of outstanding young talent, and the future has never looked better."

The decision to retain Wacker was not totally unexpected, but came on the heels of a 56-10 thrashing by Texas A&M Saturday that ended a once-promising season on a decidedly sour note.

Until quarterback Leon Clay broke his thumb in the Baylor game, the youthful Horned Frogs were 5-1, riding a 5-game winning streak and atop the Southwest Conference

standings with a 3-0 record. They lost their last five games, tumbling to 5-6. It was TCU's sixth losing season in a row and the seventh in Wacker's eight years at the helm.

His overall record at TCU is 33-54-2.

On the flip side, Wacker recaptured the magic of TCU's golden years in 1984 when he took the remnants of a 1-8-2 team to an 8-3 season, flirted with a SWC title and wound up in the Bluebonnet Bowl.

"Cinderella's a Frog!" Wacker proclaimed week after week, and he fashioned a word that became almost a battle cry: "Unbelieeeeevable!"

But Wacker learned early in the

1985 campaign that seven of his players, including All-America running back Kenneth Davis, were receiving cash payments from alumni slush fund set up during the reign of his predecessor, F.A. Dry.

He dismissed the players from the team and turned the matter over to the NCAA. The NCAA responded to Wacker's honesty by imposing the stiffest penalty ever assessed a college team prior to the so-called "death penalty" later dealt to Southern Methodist.

Stripped of scholarships and crippled by other sanctions, the Frogs struggled along under Wacker branded the "living death penalty."

TCU pulled off a couple of major upsets in 1989 and the Frogs were 7 despite an abnormal number of injuries to key players. But much more had been expected.

For Wacker, 1990 would be a pivotal year, and he knew it. It didn't help that Arkansas bolted the SWC, claiming that it could draw bigger crowds and get more television exposure in the Southeastern Conference.

That focused the spotlight on the relatively poor drawing power of TCU, SMU, Rice and Houston and to a lesser degree on Baylor and Texas Tech.

The Frogs averaged 28,292 fans their six home games this year, or from 25,560 last year and only slightly below the 29,176 of 1984.

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Southern Mississippi's Hallman getting ready for LSU coaching job

BATON ROUGE, La. (AP) — Southern Mississippi coach Curley Hallman scheduled two days of interviews at Louisiana State to iron out details of a contract that would make him the Tigers' 28th head football coach.

If all goes well, Hallman still would need approval by the LSU Board of Supervisors, but board members said they would endorse him.

The process started with a Monday interview with athletic director Joe Dean. On Tuesday, Hallman was scheduled to meet with the LSU Athletics Council.

The LSU job came open when Mike Archer resigned amid reports that he was about to be fired after four years as head coach.

Before taking his first head coaching job at Southern Mississippi in 1987, Hallman put in 19 years as an assistant under Bear Bryant at Alabama, Jackie Sherill at Texas A&M, Danny Ford at Clemson and Richard Williamson at Memphis State. He coached both the offense and defense.

"I didn't want to be a head coach just for my ego," he said. "I wasn't going to rush right out and take the first job I could get. I wanted to be at a place I could win and be successful. It was a matter of timing. There are a bunch of good assistant coaches out there. You just have to be in the right place at the right time."

Under Hallman, the Golden Eagles are 23-11 and posted road victo-

ries this year against Auburn and Alabama, the first non-conference team to achieve that feat since 1907. Southern Mississippi has a Dec. 28 date in the All-American Bowl against North Carolina State, their second bowl game under Hallman.

Hallman has been the only candidate to continue to state interest in becoming LSU coach. North Carolina State coach Dick Sheridan all but pulled out of the race on Saturday. The other major candidate, former Pittsburgh coach Mike Gottfried, officially withdrew Friday.

A 43-year-old Alabama native, Hallman rooted for LSU as a boy and played against the Tigers as an All-Southwest Conference defensive back at Texas A&M.

"I remember sitting in my living room with my family listening to the LSU games on the radio," Hallman said. "I was listening when Billy Cannon made his great run. I played in Tiger Stadium three times. I just have a lot of good memories of LSU football. It's one of those special programs."

According to published reports, Dean chose Hallman last week and LSU Chancellor William E. "Bud" Davis approved the selection.

"For the first time in my memory, a (football) coaching change has been handled properly," said Bo Campbell, chairman of the Board of Supervisors' athletic committee.

Board member Charles Cusimano said approval of Hallman "should take about 15 seconds."

White rushes Oilers past Bills

HOUSTON (AP) — Lorenzo White baffled Buffalo with his career-best rushing and receiving game and Warren Moon threw two touchdown passes on Monday night, carrying the Houston Oilers to a 27-24 victory over the Bills and creating a three-way first-place tie in the AFC Central.

Houston increased its record to 6-5 to pull even with Cincinnati and Pittsburgh, while the Bills dropped into an AFC East first-place tie with Miami at 9-2.

The loss snapped an eight-game winning streak for the Bills, who were trying to clinch at least a wild-card playoff berth.

The outcome completed a weekend sweep, with all six division leaders in the NFL losing.

Moon's 28-yard pass to White positioned the Oilers for a 3-yard scoring pass to Leonard Harris with 7:21 to go for a 27-17 lead.

Buffalo's Thurman Thomas scored on a 2-yard run with 3:29 left to trim Houston's margin to a field goal. But the Oilers held the ball to the final gun, with Moon throwing two third-down completions for first downs.

That gave Moon exactly 300 yards passing, his fourth consecutive 300-yard game, one shy of the NFL record by Joe Montana.

White rushed 18 times for 123 yards and caught five passes for 89 yards. His previous best rushing total was 113 and his best receiving yardage was 82, both last year.

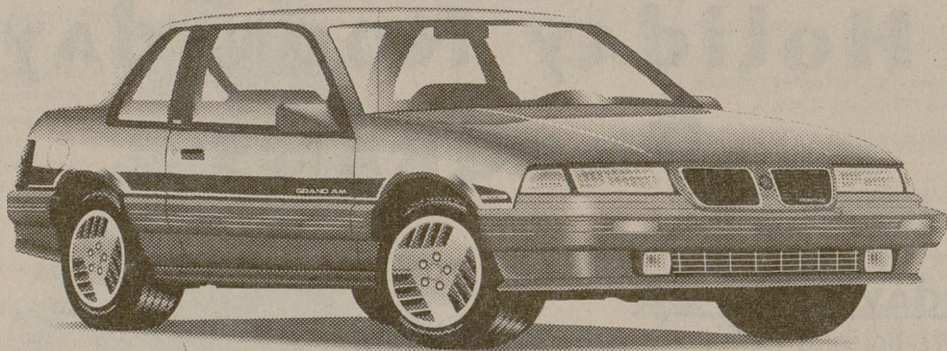
Moon's 43-yard pass to Drew Hill set up White's 1-yard run with 3:14 left in the third period for a 20-17 Oilers lead.

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