

UH's Jenkins eyes MSU post

HOUSTON (AP) — John Jenkins, who engineered the run-and-shoot offense that helped Andre Ware win the Heisman Trophy last year and that led the University of Houston to a 10-1 record this season, confirmed Thursday he has been formally interviewed for the head coaching job at Mississippi State.

"There was no bargaining," Jenkins told Houston television station KRIV-TV following a three-hour visit with MSU athletic director Larry Templeton. "He said 'here's a blank check, fill in the blanks. What else do you need?'"

Jenkins is trying to upgrade coaching

contracts and facilities at Houston, where he served as offensive coordinator under Jack Pardee before becoming head coach last January.

"For me to leave to Houston means I'm making a statement, like a marriage to Mississippi State," Jenkins said. "I'm looking at a lifetime deal."

Although Jenkins said he listened to the Mississippi State offer, he said he hopes to remain at Houston.

Houston athletic director Rudy Davalos declined comment.

However, on Wednesday, Davalos said he would not get into a bidding war with

Mississippi State over Jenkins. "John's got a place here," Davalos said. "If he wants to leave, that's his prerogative."

The Bulldogs finished last season 5-6 with a 1-6 record in the Southeastern Conference.

Mississippi State officials gave no indication that Jenkins is their choice to replace Rocky Felker, who resigned Nov. 26. Felker earned a base salary of \$71,610 while Jenkins, who has a new contract offer, earned \$100,000.

"We've got basically the same contract he had," Davalos said. "We're just giving him a 4-year rollover. It's a standard contract. Jack Pardee had it, and Bill Yeoman

had it, and our next coach, if John decides to leave, will probably have it."

Templeton refused to comment on the situation but confirmed he has been in touch with Jenkins. Templeton reportedly phoned Jenkins last week in Tokyo, where Jenkins was preparing for his team's season-ending victory over Arizona State.

Other candidates for the MSU job include former Tampa Bay Buccaneer Ray Perkins, former Southern Methodist and Southern Mississippi coach Tom Collins, former Texas A&M coach Jim Sherrill and current Bulldog defensive coordinator Jim Carmody.

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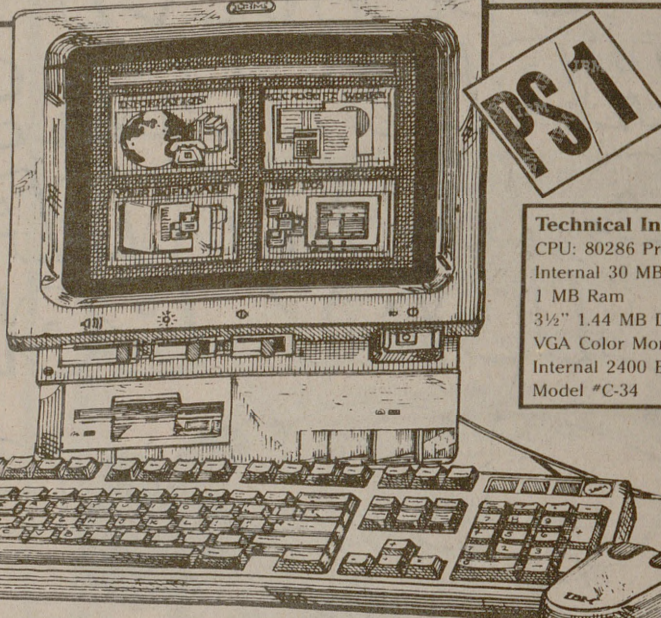
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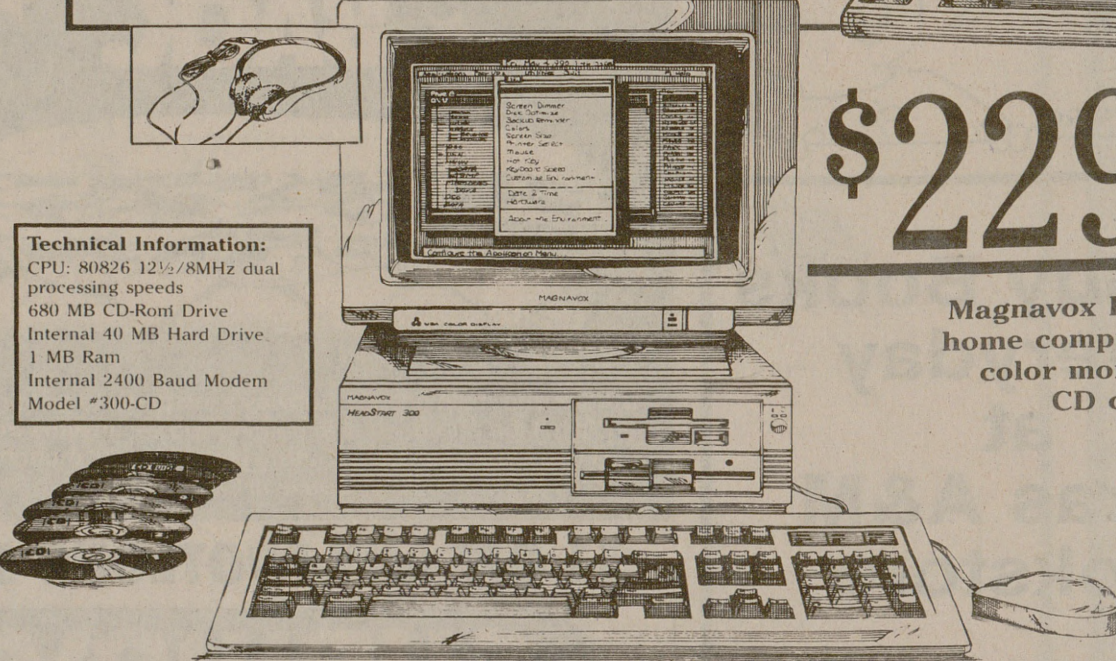
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Bonds given Golden Glove

ROSEMONT, Ill. (AP) — Bonds became part of the day's news as the Gold Glove award ceremony was held in St. Louis. The award is given to the best fielder in baseball.

Bonds, the National League Most Valuable Player, joined other recipients in 34 years.

Bonds said, "I'm glad the award is voted on by league managers and coaches presented by Rawlings Goods Co."

Ozzie Smith, the all-time leader in Gold Gloves at shortstop, won his 11th consecutive honor.

Ryne Sandberg of the Cubs tied the record shared by Mazonoski and Frank White.

Cleveland catcher Sandy Alomar Jr., the rookie of the year, won his first Gold Glove.

Other newcomers include first baseman Mark McGwire of the St. Louis Cardinals.

Chicago White Sox shortstop Guillen, outfielders Ken Griffey Jr. and Ellis Burks of Seattle, and pitcher Mike Boddicker of Boston last season.

"I was hoping to win a Gold Glove before I retired. As an old baseball fan, I'm glad the award is voted on by league managers and coaches presented by Rawlings Goods Co."

Texas outfielder Gary Pettit won his fifth Gold Glove and second consecutive award.

Against Arkansas, but we can't win it. With games against Texas Tech, Texas Christian University, Southern Methodist, a 3-1 record wouldn't be a stretch of the imagination.

For the Aggies to put them in that situation, they must grow as a team. On several occasions this season, the team's inexperience has gotten set or before anyone gets in the paint.

As a result A&M is prone to up some easy buckets in transition but Davis said that is the one they work on the hardest.

The Aggies are still a year from making a serious run at the SWC's upper echelon, which season once again includes the ranked Razorbacks, the 23rd-ranked Longhorns and the Houston Oilers.

Baylor (6-0), TCU (5-1) and (3-1) are off to quick starts Saturday the Owls play host to other than the No. 6 George Mason on Saturday, Arkansas plays on Saturday, Arkansas plays on Saturday at 8:30 on ESPN in one of eight nationally televised games.

To say the conference is full of talent this year would be understating the matter. So far, the 32-16 in its non-conference schedule and the fact that teams considered to be in the lower portion of the conference like Rice are playing ranked teams shows that respect the league is growing.

With Arkansas leaving the conference after this season, there is a feeling that the reputation of the conference will leave with it. The reason a successful coach like Shelby Metcalf era to the program that Texas' Tom Penders and Pat Foster are running at SWC should move along just fine.

In the meantime, check out going on over at G. Rollie White all possible and if not make check the sports pages at home. Just how fast the Aggies up will be determined during holiday stretch.

Even if success is a couple of down the road, Davis' policy of applying a pressure defense will keep A&M in almost every play this year.

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