

SPORTS BRIEFS

Capers hired as coach of N.C. Panthers

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) — Dom Capers brought his defensive expertise to the Carolina Panthers on Monday, but he said stopping opponents won't be his only target as he becomes the NFL expansion team's first coach.

"It's like going into a game," Capers told a news conference formally introducing him as the head coach. "You do extensive planning, you do your homework, and then you have to react."

"I believe that a head coach has to have knowledge and control of all phases of the game. I assure you that I will know as much about what's going on with the offense and the kicking game as I will with the defense."

Capers, the defensive coordinator for the Pittsburgh Steelers, will have a relatively long time to get his hands on all facets of the Panthers, who begin play next September in the NFC West. He received a five-year contract. Financial terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Mavericks defeated by Jazz, 116-111

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Karl Malone scored 28 points and the Utah Jazz outscored Dallas 18-4 in the final 4 1/2 minutes to defeat the Mavericks 116-111 Monday night for their ninth straight victory.

A jumper by Jimmy Jackson with 4:36 to play gave Dallas a 107-98 lead. After a Utah timeout, the Jazz went on a 12-4 run with John Stockton driving the baseline for a layup to bring them within 111-110 with 1:42 to play.

After Dallas' Jamal Mashburn was called for an offensive foul with 1:22 to play, Utah's Jeff Hornacek missed on a drive, but Popeye Jones of the Mavericks was called for a loose ball foul.

Stockton then fed Antoine Carr on the right side of the key for a jumper which gave the Jazz a 112-111 lead with 41.4 seconds to play. Jackson was called for a double-dribble in the lane on the ensuing possession, and David Benoit made four free throws in the last 13.4 seconds.

Jackson led all scorers with 34 points. Mashburn had 26, but was scoreless in the last 4:45.

Top seeds fall early in Australian Open

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Not since John McEnroe was thrown out five years ago had the laid-back, no-worries-mate Australian Open rocked like this.

A national frenzy of wishful thinking accompanied the appearance of Patrick Rafter, Australia's last hope in its Grand Slam show, against Andre Agassi.

The fans got into an upset mood early on when former two-time champion Stefan Edberg fell in five dramatic sets to Aaron Krickstein and the "magic rackets" he plucked from a closet. They were the same ones he used to beat Edberg in 1988 and '89.

No sooner had Edberg exited, than No. 3 women's seed Jana Novotna did the same. She succumbed 7-5, 6-0 in a tumult of errors to 96th-ranked Angelica Gavaldon, a Southern Californian who plays for Mexico.

"Maybe in my past life I was born here or something," Gavaldon said.

Yevgeny Kafelnikov knocked out No. 8 Todd Martin, and Naoko Sawamatsu bumping off two-time finalist Mary Joe Fernandez.

Agassi played one of those rare matches when he could barely miss a shot.

Diving into a cold one

By Kristina Buffin
THE BATTALION

Texas A&M freshman diver Jodi Janssen has been on a hot streak of late, which is impressive since the only place she has to train is near freezing temperatures.

"It is a major disadvantage for us to have to practice outside," head coach Kevin Wright said. "It has helped us to be more accepting of certain situations. Our swimmers are definitely not spoiled."

Janssen is no stranger to the cold having grown up in Papillion, Nebraska. Initially a gymnast, injuries forced Janssen to take her talents to the diving board.

"I liked gymnastics but the pounding on my joints was too much," Janssen said. "The water has eased the pain of my injuries."

Janssen made it to the semi-finals in the one-meter dive and took second in the three-meter dive to help the Lady Aggies upset the 2nd-ranked University of Texas Longhorns earlier this year. The performance qualified her for the NCAA prequalifying meet in Austin, March 10 and 11. If she is one of the top nine divers at the prequalifying meet, she will go to the NCAA meet.

"Her chances are very good," Wright said. "She is showing very good potential. If her workouts go as planned she could be one of the top nine."

Janssen continues to impress even though she has faced stiff competition throughout the year. Janssen reached the three-meter semi-finals at the Austin Cup, finishing ahead of defending NCAA champion Robin Carter and U.S. National

Teamer Sherry Wigginton.

"At the Austin cut meet, she showed a lot of composure," Wright said. "This composure shows that she has promise for the future. Her strong family background, her ability to be a natural leader, her tremendous contribution and team orientation illustrates her maturity as a diver."

Coming from a strong diving background, Janssen's coaches were surprised that she decided to attend A&M. The Aggies were currently in the second year of rebuilding.

"I saw potential in the team," Janssen said. "I liked Kevin (Wright) and I thought it would be good to get away from home."

As for future improvement, Coach Wright is working to expand Janssen's dive base. "We are working to enlarge her list of dives to include more different and difficult dives," Wright said. "We worked on her platform dives over Christmas break in San Antonio. Hopefully this will make her more competitive in the platform."

Janssen's goals include participating in the NCAA tournament and making the Olympic Trials in 2000.

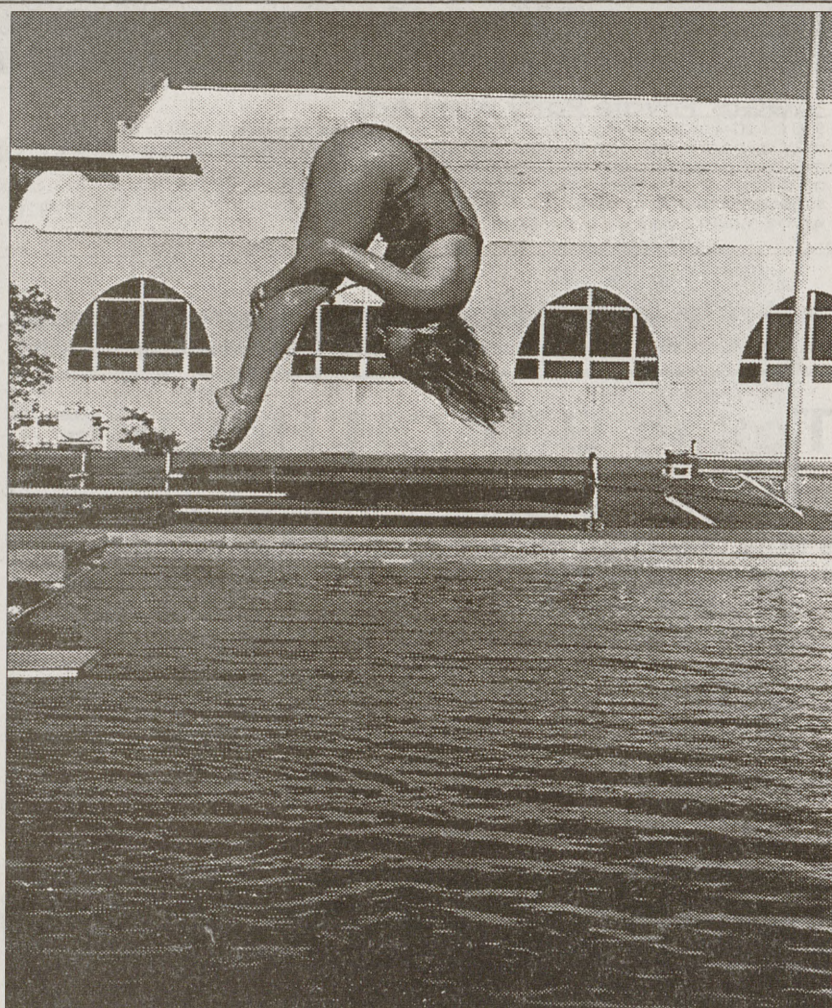
"I would eventually like to place in the NCAA's and go to the Olympic Trials in 2000," Janssen said. "Through personal effort, motivating myself and giving it my all I should be able to reach all of my goals."

Coach Wright is very optimistic about Janssen's years left at A&M and her future.

"She is intelligent and a hard worker," Wright said. "She sets pretty realistic goals and if she keeps up the hard work she should be an all-American by her senior year."

"I would eventually like to place in the NCAA's and go to the Olympic Trials in 2000."

— Jodi Janssen, freshman diver



Jodi Janssen practices her 1 meter dives Monday during a daily diving team practice.

Davis hired as Miami Hurricanes' head coach

Former Cowboys' defensive coordinator takes 5-year contract with university

MIAMI (AP) — Dallas Cowboys defensive coordinator Butch Davis has been hired as the Miami Hurricanes' new coach, The Associated Press learned Monday night.

Davis, a former assistant with the Hurricanes, was in Miami for a news conference Tuesday afternoon, said a university source who asked not to be identified.

Davis succeeds Dennis Erickson, who left earlier this month to coach the Seattle Seahawks.

Earlier Monday, Miami Dolphins offensive coach Gary Stevens withdrew his name from consideration.

Davis, 43, accepted a 5-year

contract that will guarantee him almost \$700,000 a year, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram reported. The contract includes a \$1 million end-of-contract bonus and an additional year of guaranteed salary for every year the Hurricanes might spend on NCAA probation.

Davis had expressed some concern about accepting the job because of the possibility of NCAA sanctions against the school. His salary of \$110,000 this season with the Cowboys was lowest among NFL coordinators.

Dallas led the NFL in total defense this past season.

"It'd be great to get the opportunity to be a head coach,

you know, and we'll just see where all these negotiations go," Davis told a television station Monday before flying to Miami.

At the outset of Miami's search, athletic director Paul Dee expressed reservations about candidates with no head-coaching experience. Davis falls in that category.

But several college head coaches reportedly declined invitations to interview for the job. Two others — Colorado State's Sonny Lubick and Jim Tressel of Youngstown State — withdrew from consideration after being interviewed.

Miami officials were anxious to conclude the search because recruiting season is at its peak. Prospects can sign a national letter of intent beginning next

Wednesday.

Stevens, the first candidate interviewed and a former Hurricanes assistant, remains a candidate for head coaching jobs with the Denver Broncos and Philadelphia Eagles.

"I have been coaching in pro football for the last six years, and I feel at this point in my career that I would feel most comfortable remaining in the NFL either as a head coach or as the Dolphins' offensive coordinator," he said in a statement.

Stevens was passed over by Miami six years ago when the school picked Erickson to become head coach.

Both he and Davis received strong backing from alumni, boosters and both current and former Hurricanes players.

Gymnastics, Wrestling prospective sports at A&M



Texas A&M will officially join the Big 12 Conference for the 1995-96 year. While this move will help gain national attention for our varsity teams, it will also open the eyes to two sports some Big 12 schools have that A&M does not have. Wrestling and gymnastics.

Oklahoma State and Iowa State, both soon-to-be Aggie opponents, are considered national

powerhouses in wrestling. Both hold numerous NCAA titles and both look at Texas high schools for prospects.

Texas A&M Athletic Director Wally Groff said it is not in his plans to add any new sports at Aggieland. I strongly believe Texas A&M should have a wrestling program in order to compete with the Big 12 schools as well as other schools and conferences involved in wrestling.

Yes, we may get spanked by Oklahoma State or Iowa State, but it will be a good experience for the Aggie wrestlers. It takes awhile for any strong sports program to build into a high-caliber program.

Texas A&M would have no

problem getting students to participate in wrestling, especially if it becomes a varsity sport. My cousin, a blue-chip wrestling prospect from Indiana, has received many letters from wrestling schools in the Big 10 and the Big 8 conferences.

He would like to go to A&M, however, because of the academic excellence. He's willing to help the school become a wrestling powerhouse, if a program was started here.

A&M does a wrestling club which competes against military bases and other club teams from around the country. Alan Leifeste, the president of the A&M wrestling team, said A&M has some wrestling talent. It

just needs to be localized.

There are two main problems which will hinder the athletic department before any new sport is added to the varsity repertoire. Title IX and money. However, I believe I have the solution for Mr. Groff.

First, the Title IX problem. Title IX is a NCAA rule which states more or less, there has to be an equal number of men's and women's varsity sports programs at every NCAA school. Well, if Texas A&M decides to add wrestling for the men, how about adding gymnastics for women.

Just as with wrestling, other schools come to Texas high schools. See Rodriguez, Page 8

Longhorns skin Bears in overtime

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas made up a 14-point deficit and then survived an overtime to defeat Baylor, 107-100, Monday night behind the 27 points of Terrence Rencher.

Rodrick Anderson added 25 points for Texas (10-4, 3-1 Southwest Conference). David Hamilton scored 23 points and Aundre Branch 19 for Baylor (6-10, 1-3 SWC).

The Longhorns' victory created a four-way tie for first in the SWC among Texas, Texas Tech, TCU and Rice.

The Longhorns' Reggie Freeman stripped an errant Brian Skinner to Troy Lewis pass, was fouled by Lewis and sunk both free throws to ice the victory.

Texas led 89-85 with 39 seconds left in regulation, but Baylor came back.

The Bears' Nelson Haggerty tipped the Longhorns' inbound pass to Branch for a goal that cut the margin to 89-87. Baylor's trap defense then forced a UT turnover that led to another Branch layup with nine seconds to play, forcing the overtime.

In overtime, Texas jumped to a 103-98 lead. Skinner's layup made it 103-100, and Haggerty then knocked the ball away from Anderson on the in-bounds throw-in.

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