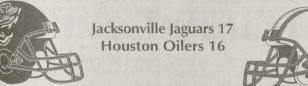
londay • October 2, 1995

TAMU

SPORTS

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Jags dump Oilers for Cowboys' loss first franchise win



A last-second missed field goal sealed the **Oilers' fate.**

HOUSTON (AP) - After ending most of the game payg for their own mistakes, the pansion Jacksonville Jaguars d two things right and ended celebrating their first victory. Desmond Howard caught a 5-yard touchdown pass from ckup Mark Brunell with 1:03 o play and Mike Hollis added winning extra point for a 17-6 victory Sunday

Against the team that gave em their first franchise loss, he Jaguars (1-4) got their big reak with 2:27 left when safety arren Carrington recovered a mble by Houston's Rodney

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nomas at the Oilers 45. Brunell, who entered the ame with 12:56 remaining, mpleted four straight passes, including the winner to Howard, a former Heisman Trophy win-mer discarded by the Washingon Redskins.

The Oilers, who scored 13 oints off Jacksonville miscues, ad one more chance, but Al Del Greco's 52-yard field goal at-tempt was wide left as time ex-

Houston (2-3) fell behind 10-0 mly 8:30 into the game but Del Greco kicked a 29-yard field mal. A fumble by James Stewart and recovery by Glen Montomery preceded Del Greco's econd field goal, a 53-yarder with 4 seconds remaining in the first half.

The Oilers went ahead 13-10 nthe third quarter. Houston got



ter linebacker Barron Wortham recovered Steve Beuerlein's fumble, and Chris Chandler threw a 7-yard touchdown pass to Thomas.

The Oilers increased their lead to 16-10 in the fourth quarter when a 23-yard pass interference call against Jaguars cornerback Vinnie Clark led to Del Greco's 32-yard field goal.

Brunell completed seven of nine passes for 57 yards and Beuerlein, playing for the first time since Sept. 10 because of a knee injury, hit eight of 18 for 117 yards.

The Jaguars scored 3:46 into the game on rookie Ryan Christopherson's 1-yard run, and Hollis added a 22-yard field goal almost five minutes later.

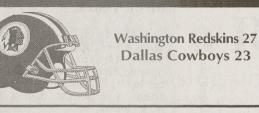
Rodney Thomas, making his first pro start at running back for the Oilers, caught a touch-down pass and rushed 59 yards.

He also had two fumbles, the last setting up Jacksonville's winning touchdown drive. Al Del Greco's 52-yard field

goal attempt as time expired was only his second miss in his last 19 attempts. Jacksonville became the

third expansion team to get a victory in its first five games. Minnesota won its opener in 1961 and the Cincinnati Bengals won their second and third games in 1968

The Oilers' home attendance falls behind their 1994 pace with each game. Through three home games this season, the Oilers have drawn 116,545. They had 150,041 fans during that stretch last season.



hurts twice as much

Troy Aikman will miss at least two weeks with a calf injury.

WASHINGTON (AP) - First, Troy Aikman left the game and then the Cowboys fell apart. The Redskins, sensing a vul-nerability in their most hated ri-

val, responded with a perfor-mance full of gritty second effort Sunday and held off a late rally for a 27-23 victory over previously unbeaten Dallas.

The Cowboys became stun-ningly mortal in all phases of the game after Aikman left with a strained calf on the Cowboys' first possession

The Redskins defense put eight men up front and dared Wade Wilson to pass, and the 36year-old backup didn't find his rhythm until it was too late.

Emmitt Smith failed to rush for 100 yards for the first time this season, and the Dallas offensive line allowed two sacks, as many as it had given up previously all season.

The Cowboys' defense was pushed aside by a patchwork Redskins offensive line, weakened by injuries to Jim Lachey and Tre Johnson. Terry Allen's 1-yard run in the third quarter that made it 27-10 was the first rushing touchdown against Dallas this season.

Many of Allen's 121 yards on 30 carries — came on second

and third efforts. Suddenly, his moves looked like Smith's, and quarterback Gus Frerotte's connections with receiver Michael Westbrook had the look of Aikman-to-Michael Irvin as the Red-

skins picked on cornerback Clayton Holmes

The Cowboys, meanwhile, made the mistakes one would expect from the young, rebuilding Redskins: Smith lost a fumble for the second time this season; motion penalties at the line of scrimmage slowed down big second-half drives; Kendall Watkins tried to lateral to no one in particular while sitting on the grass during a kickoff return; and Barry Switzer used up a timeout in third quarter while hesitating whether to kick a field goal or go

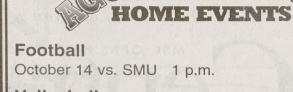
for a fourth down. The Redskins (2-3) effort was best exemplified by a Allen's TD reception late in the first half.

On first-and-goal from the Dallas 5 with 25 seconds remaining and no timeout, Allen juggled the ball, then bounced out of the arms of linebacker Dixon Edwards before stretching the ball over the end zone pylon for the score.

Frerotte (13-for-24, 192 yards) had his own rookie mistake, sailing the ball high while under pressure and into the hands of Cowboys safety Darren Woodson, who returned it 37 yards for a touchdown in the first quarter to put Dallas up 10-3.

But Frerotte-to-Marc Logan for 9 nine yards tied it on the Redskins next possession, and Eddie Murray's 46-yard field goal and Allen's first TD made it 20-10 at halftime.

After a Chris Boniol field goal, Wilson (21-for-29, 224 yards, one interception) passed 28 yards to Irvin early in the fourth quarter to cap a 96-yard drive that closed the gap to 27-20.



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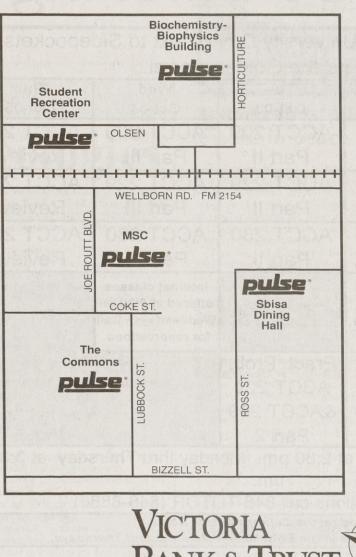
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