

UH looking to extend win streak to two against Aggies

Houston's defeat of SMU broke their 11-game losing streak.

By Kristina Buffin
THE BATTALION

The University of Houston football team ended its two-season, 11-game losing streak last week by defeating Southern Methodist University, 38-15. The Cougars are looking to win two games in one season, for the first time since 1992, with a win over the 19th-ranked Aggies this Saturday.

"We do have some momentum after the SMU win," junior quarterback Chuck Clements said. "We would have been down this week if we had lost to SMU. But I think we're pretty upbeat going into A&M."

For senior defensive end Carlos Chester, the win came just in time before the matchup against A&M.

"It was definitely a difficult struggle to lose 11 games in a row," Chester said. "We knew it would end, and we had the confidence that we just needed to get over the hump."

"The win did not come at a better time — right before the A&M game. It will give us extra enthusiasm for the game."

Last year, in the Astrodome, the Aggies defeated Houston 38-7, and the Aggies have won nine of the last 10, including

the last four. However, the Cougars believe that this year they have more experience and will be able to give A&M a run for it.

"I think we are competitively dangerous," Houston Head Coach Kim Helton said. "We've gone from poor to good in this program. We are still 20 players short. We are young; we play hard, and we have one of the toughest schedules (in the nation)."

One of the Cougar's main worries is the improved A&M offense. Last week against Baylor, the A&M offense compiled 271 total yards and did not turn the ball over. Chester said that the Houston defense must stop the entire offense, not just Heisman Trophy candidate Leeland McElroy.

"We prepare for them just like any other team," Chester said. "We must contain Leeland. We have to have our whole game plan. We can't overemphasize Leeland because they have a good passing game as well."

The Cougar offense had a 17-0 lead at halftime against SMU last week. Then SMU closed the gap to 17-15 with a pair of

fourth quarter touchdowns, but Houston responded with two touchdowns in the final 1:35 to seal the victory.

Despite this production, Helton is worried about the "Wrecking Crew," who have held opponents to only 258.8 yards per game and have forced 10 turnovers this season.

"We'll have to get him (Clements) thicker pads," Helton said. "A&M is a blitzing team. They (A&M) have a gamble defense. We need to have more good plays than bad ones and not allow the defense to score points."

Saturday's game at Kyle Field will be the last Southwest Conference match between Houston and A&M before they join different conferences. While Chester said that the demise of the SWC will add a bit of spice to the game, Clements said he has not really considered the significance of the breakup.

"I haven't really thought about it that much," Clements said. "I think it will hit us next year when we're playing other people that it's all over with, and we may not play those teams ever again. It's strange to think about it."



"We do have some momentum after the SMU win."

— Chuck Clements
UH quarterback

Davis received disability insurance

TCU running back Andre Davis is still practicing with the team.

HOUSTON (AP) — The NCAA has obtained documents showing a professional sports agent bought disability insurance for Texas Christian tailback Andre Davis, a former teammate and a Jackson State receiver, the Houston Chronicle reported Wednesday.

Sources told the newspaper documents obtained by the NCAA show Houston lawyer Jeffrey Newport bought disability insurance for the three last December.

A check for \$5,940 was drawn Dec. 29, 1994, on Newport's account and made payable to Pro Financial Services of Schaumburg, Ill., the chief U.S. correspondent for Lloyd's of London.

A notation on the check indicates the policy was for Davis, Jackson State's Greg Spann and former Horned Frogs receiver Jimmy Oliver, the newspaper reported.

Newport declined to speak with The Associated Press.

"We are conducting an internal investigation in concert with

the NCAA," said TCU athletic director Frank Windeger. "We would like to see the matter resolved by the end of the week, and we would like to see it resolved favorably, with Andre able to play."

Davis has continued to practice with the team.

Under NCAA rules, student-athletes may not receive disability insurance through an agent. An athlete found to have violated the regulations can lose his eligibility and must seek to have it restored by the NCAA.

TCU withheld Davis, the Southwest Conference's leading rusher, from last Saturday's game with Tulane pending completion of its inquiry.

The TCU investigation is being conducted by Mike Glazier, the Overland Park, Kan., attorney who directed the Southwest Conference inquiry of the Baylor basketball program.

Jackson State officials, who suspended Spann from the

Tigers' game with Grambling State last Saturday, are working with the NCAA to determine the nature of Spann's dealings with Newport.

The Texas Secretary of State's office is looking into whether Newport, 40, violated any laws in his dealings with the three.

"We're just making preliminary inquiries," said Guy Joynner, who directs the Secretary of State's efforts to oversee sports agents. "It's what we do anytime something like this comes up. We're following procedure."

He said his office became interested Saturday when TCU suspended Davis, the school's third all-time leading rusher.

Texas' athlete agent law, enacted in 1987, prescribes civil and criminal penalties for sports agents who offer cash or other gifts to anyone competing for state colleges and universities.

The stiffest criminal penalty an agent could receive if found to have meddled with a college player is one year in prison on a misdemeanor conviction, Joynner said. The civil fine in such a case could be as much as \$25,000.

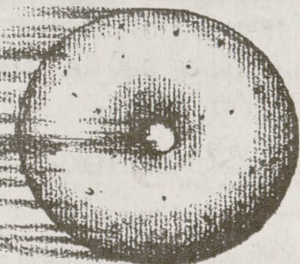
Another facet of the Davis investigation, sources told the Chronicle, is an attempt to find if Newport provided gifts to the player during a shopping trip.



Davis

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