

## sports GLANCE

### Baseball fans want pros in 2000 Olympics

ATLANTA (AP) — On the day when Atlanta organizers unveiled the baseball schedule for the 1996 Olympics, most of the talk centered on finding a way to get the major leaguers involved in time for the 2000 Games in Sydney.

Baseball boosters are worried their sport could be dropped from the Olympic program unless they secure the best players like basketball and hockey.

### Tech, Texas square off in SWC showdown

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Former national champions Texas Tech and Texas, each with 5-0 records and leading the Southwest Conference, will collide Saturday in a super showdown for women's basketball.

The 5 p.m. tip-off is a sellout at the 8,174-seat Lubbock Municipal Coliseum, where the No. 9 Lady Raiders have won 23 straight.

"Their inside game gives me a headache just thinking about it," said Texas coach Jody Conradt.

"The pressure's probably more on us than them," Tech coach Marsha Sharp said.

Both teams already beat Southern Methodist — the coaches' season favorite to win the SWC — and together lead the conference pack, where everyone else has lost at least twice.

Sharp said the Lady Raiders (15-2 overall) grew more confident after beating SMU 86-73 Wednesday in Dallas. Sophomore post Alicia Thompson scored a career-high 30 points and senior post Michi Atkins finished with 20.

"They're pretty fired up," Sharp said. "They really have been excited about their ability to win on the road."

The Lady Longhorns (10-5 overall) beat Baylor 82-71 Wednesday in Waco. But Conradt said the status of two starters was uncertain for Tech: senior forward Erica Routt, injured by an elbow to the head, and junior guard Angie Jo Ogletree, recovering from a deep thigh bruise.

"We'll have to play well," Conradt said. "We'll have to have extraordinary defensive effort, and we have to have everybody healthy."

In other league games Saturday, Baylor plays at Houston and SMU plays at Texas Christian, both at 7 p.m.

No one has controlled SWC women's basketball quite like the Lady Longhorns, who won the first eight conference titles en route to the national championship in 1986.

### SCORES ROUNDUP

#### NBA

Bullets 120, Rockets 85  
Grizzlies 106, Raptors 101  
Pistons 93, Mavericks 92

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### Men's Basketball

The Aggies will travel to Fort Worth on Wednesday to play the Texas Christian Horned Frogs in a SWC game at 7:30 p.m.

#### Women's Basketball

The Lady Aggies will travel to Fort Worth on Tuesday to play the Lady Frogs in a SWC game beginning at 7 p.m.

# Super Bowl XXX: Old rivals, new age

## Buffalo Bills head coach Marv Levy gives his analysis of the upcoming game.

*Editor's Note: Marv Levy's Buffalo Bills lost to Dallas in the 1993 and 1994 Super Bowls and were beaten by the Pittsburgh Steelers in this season's playoffs. This is his analysis of how Sunday's Super Bowl will go. He also will provide a postgame analysis. Levy has coached the Bills since 1986.*

TEMPE, Ariz. (AP) — Picking the winner of this year's Super Bowl is easy.

Being right? That's another story.

Like almost everyone else, I feel the Dallas Cowboys will prevail. But it won't be by as comfortable a margin as the oddsmakers predict.

The Steelers, like the Cowboys, are potent, sound and productive on offense, defense and special teams.

They truly are the strongest team in the AFC this year, just as I believe Dallas is the strongest in the NFC.

For the non-partisan fan (is there such a creature?), this is the best matchup the NFL could have offered.

The biggest advantage for the Cowboys lies in their extremely well-balanced offense.

The combination of Troy

Aikman, Emmitt Smith, Michael Irvin, Jay Novacek, an overpowering up-front five and perfect-fit fullback Daryl Johnston keeps excruciating game-long pressure on the best of defenses.

It is a unit that has no equal in this year's NFL.

Yes, Pittsburgh's defense is very difficult to solve. The brilliantly crafted "zone-dog" schemes are capable of wreaking panic and pain on an offense without incurring the big-play risks that afflict most heavy blitz teams.

The Steelers have a great corps of linebackers in Greg Lloyd, Kevin Greene, Levon Kirkland and Chad Brown. Their secondary profits from heavy pressure from the pass rush. They play with confidence and elan.

The Dallas offense, however, has qualities which should allow it to cope with the Steelers' defensive strengths.

The Cowboys' ability to run and effect football's best run-action passing game, gives them a unique advantage in countering Pittsburgh's defensive strengths.

The Steelers' offense strikes quite a contrast, not just with Dallas but with Pittsburgh's own recent style.

Their offensive approach has always been sound and well-balanced.

But this season, they have become much more daring. They have discovered and utilized the electrifying talents of what was



Dallas Cowboy stars Deion Sanders and Michael Irvin show off their matching derbies at the press conference following the NFC Championship Game.

once a relatively unknown corps of receivers.

Ernie Mills, Yancey Thigpen, Andre Hastings and Kordell Stewart have all become big-play contributors. You need big plays to win big games.

The emergence of Neil O'Donnell as a premier quarterback has been a vital component in this birth of a new offense.

The Steelers have become swashbuckling and exciting. I see parallels to what occurred to us with the Buffalo Bills when we first came riding out of the tundra with our no-huddle offense a few years ago.

Such changes, however, are not without a price and not without some risks.

The Steelers' running game isn't as integral as it once was. But that, I acknowledge, is a nitpicking observation. What they have done has been instrumental in getting them into the Super Bowl.

In a championship game, you may sorely miss not being able to run effectively. But without the bold changes the

weaponary.

Do I believe they'll be able to do that?

I'll keep it simple: Yes.

How about the kicking game?

I dislike giving this vital area such short shrift, but I will get right to the point.

Both teams are well drilled and have very capable specialists.

Neither team has employed a heart-stopping gamebreaker as a return man, although I believe Dallas is more dangerous — very dangerous if Deion Sanders handles returns.

Pittsburgh coverage units are outstanding, but they take some chances which could leave them vulnerable to a big play. I like the spirit with which both teams play.

These are two very well-coached teams.

I refer not only to head coaches Bill Cowher and Barry Switzer, but to their staffs as well.

Bill rallied a team that was floundering early.

Barry has overcome the losses of outstanding coordinators Dave Wannstedt and Norv Turner.

He has done it by being himself. Has any coach ever taken a job

where the only acceptable outcome is winning the Super Bowl?

One advantage Pittsburgh might enjoy is Dallas' role as an overwhelming favorite.

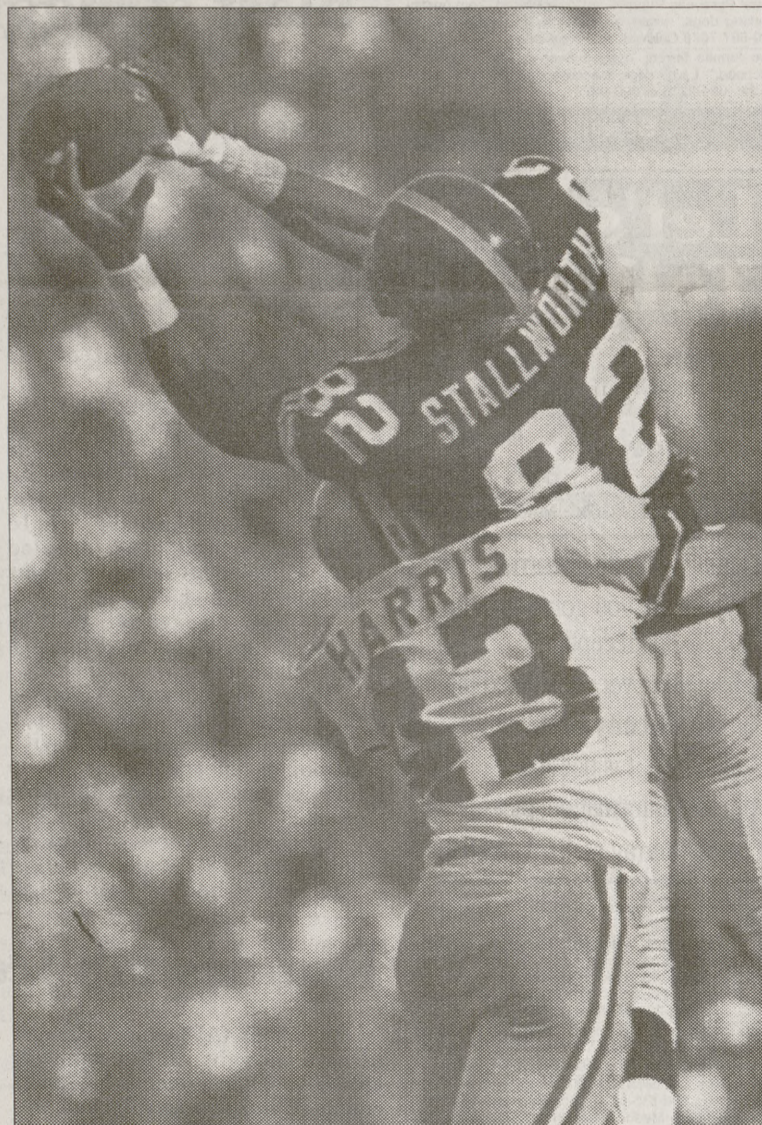
Almost everybody who has an opinion — including me — is picking the Cowboys to win.

Overconfidence has been responsible for more upsets than fumbles and interceptions.

Overconfidence comes from believing that the "experts" determine who will win.

That said, I feel Dallas has a stronger team, one that can keep the pressure on in a hard-fought, well-played game.

I predict Dallas will win 28-23.



Pittsburgh's John Stallworth sails over Cowboy Cliff Harris to haul in a Terry Bradshaw pass during Super Bowl X in Miami in 1976.

**"The biggest advantage for the Cowboys lies in their extremely well-balanced offense."**

— Marv Levy  
Buffalo Bills Head Coach

## NBC to employ 'Deion-cam' Sunday

Commercial time for the game costs an average of \$1.2 million per 30 seconds.

(AP) Call it the Deion-cam. It's one of the little jewels of technology that NBC will use to track one of the NFL's most bejeweled performers Sunday when it does its 14th Super Bowl.

But while NBC will place an emphasis on Deion Sanders, network executives stress that this is not a game of toys and trinkets to them.

"I'm going to cover the game from the standpoint of basics," NBC game director John Gonzalez said. "You start with the same basic cameras and the additional facilities will be mostly for isolation."

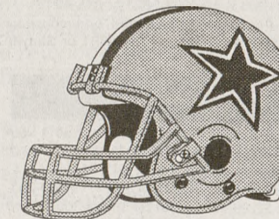
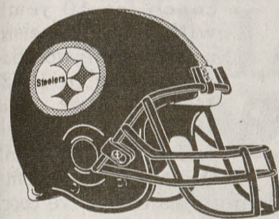
In a game of this magnitude, producer John Faratzis said, the cardinal rule is: "You don't want to miss anything."

Faratzis said that with the Dallas Cowboys meeting the Pittsburgh Steelers, NBC expects big ratings.

The network, which has sold 58 commercial units for a record average of \$1.2 million per 30 seconds.



Sanders



## Super Bowl XXX Pittsburgh Steelers vs. Dallas Cowboys Sunday, Jan. 28 in Tempe, AZ

Super Bowl XXX	Nick Georgandis	Tom Day	Lisa Nance	Stephanie Christopher	Philip Leone	Nicole Smith	David Winder	Kristina Buffin	Wes Swift	Jody Holley	<b>Consensus</b>
The Winner	Oilers	Steelers	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Dallas: The Boys are Back in Town
The Score	34-31	23-21	24-7	34-17	34-13	42-31	54-17	24-14	35-24	28-17	37-17: Big suprise, a rout by the NFC
The MVP	Mike Renfro	Barry Switzer	Deion Sanders	Deion Sanders	Mark Tuninei	Emmitt Smith	Jimmy Johnson	Emmitt Smith	Emmitt Smith	Emmitt Smith	Smith: But you gotta love the Switzer joke

**BATT SPORTS presents The Super Bowl Picks**