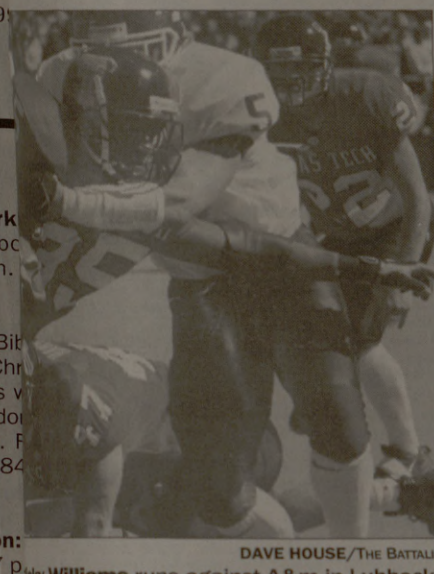


Monday • November 4, 1997

Tech officially under NCAA investigation



DAVE HOUSE/THE BATTALION
Ricky Williams runs against A&M in Lubbock.

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — Texas Tech's athletic program must answer to 18 alleged NCAA rules violations in a case investigators deem "major in nature," according to a long-awaited infractions letter released by the school Monday.

Tech has 90 days to respond to the allegations, two of which already had been reported by the school. Without being specific, Chancellor John T. Montford said the school would dispute some charges.

"The allegations, now that they are official, will be reviewed in depth," Tech President Donald Haragan said at a Monday night news conference. "We expect to agree with some of them, and we expect to disagree with some of them."

Tech's acknowledgement a month ago that 76 athletes in eight sports competed ineligibly since 1991 made up one of the alleged infractions. A second was that the university gave too many scholarships in football, baseball, men's golf and men's track.

The 16 other allegations related to

men's basketball and football. Most already were reported in a 2 1/2-year series of Houston Chronicle stories.

Four points accuse Tech of improperly using correspondence courses through Southeastern College of the Assemblies of God in Lakeland, Fla. Two counts involve the use of Howard College in Big Spring to help prospective recruits earn credits.

Other allegations include:

- Football coaches allegedly paid former defensive lineman Stephen Gaines \$1,010. Former assistant football coach Rhudy Maskew then allegedly lied to school officials about potential rules violations involving Gaines.
- Bail bondsman Bob Matney allegedly arranged for athletes to make bail at free or reduced rates.
- A local law firm partnered by John Sims, a Tech regent at the time, allegedly provided free or low-cost legal services to athletes referred by basketball and football coaches.
- Cases of athletic staff providing mi-

nor "extra benefits," including petty cash and automobile rides.

—A general "lack of monitoring and a lack of appropriate institutional control" in the athletic department.

"Please note that based upon a review of the alleged violations set forth in this inquiry, this case appears to be 'major' in nature," NCAA enforcement director David Berst said in an Oct. 31 letter to Haragan that accompanied 57 pages of allegations.

Since the NCAA investigation began in February 1996, Montford has restructured the athletic department and hired several new compliance officers. Many of the individuals accused no longer work for Tech.

Within 30 days of Tech's response, school officials and NCAA enforcement staffers will meet to discuss any differences of opinion. New Tech compliance director Robert Burton said the NCAA Committee on Infractions, which formally hears cases and metes out punishment, probably will consider the

matter at its April 24 meeting.

The committee usually issues sanctions about six weeks after the hearing, though the university could impose sanctions upon itself well before then.

"It's a consideration," Montford said. "At this point, we aren't ready to make that decision. There are a wide range of responses on the issue of self-imposition."

He wouldn't speculate on what kind of sanctions the NCAA could issue.

The football team is now tied for first place in the Big 12 South Division and could go to a bowl game by winning two of three remaining games. Montford wouldn't say if he might remove the Red Raiders from bowl consideration this season.

According to league rules, however, Tech would remain a candidate for the Big 12 championship game even if it declines to pursue a bowl.

"Either way, they're not going to take away the Big 12 Championship game, and that's our main goal," safety Keith Cockrum said earlier Monday.

Chronological time line of the alleged rule violations committed by the Texas Tech Athletic Department

- March 23, 1995: The Houston Chronicle reports the NCAA is looking into possible men's basketball and football violations beginning in 1991. Then school President Robert Lessner says the university will cooperate.
- Feb. 28, 1996: The NCAA sends Texas Tech a letter of preliminary inquiry into possible men's basketball and football violations beginning in 1991. Then school President Robert Lessner says the university will cooperate.
- Dec. 5, 1996: Some members of Tech's Faculty Senate claim that football players tend to expect preferential treatment in terms of grades and class workload. Players and coaches from many sports deny the accusation.
- Feb. 16, 1997: The Chronicle reports All-America running back Byron Hanspard, a junior, and senior offensive lineman Casey Jones had 0.00 grade point averages for the fall 1996 semester. Hanspard had entered the NFL draft after the season ended.
- Feb. 18, 1997: Former defensive lineman Stephen Gaines sues Texas Tech, claiming coach Spike Dykes and two others used him for his playing ability and without regard to his academic progress. A judge later dismisses the case.
- March 7, 1997: Men's basketball players Duce Jones and Gracen Averil are pulled from a Big 12 tournament game because of academic ineligibility. The team withdraws from NCAA Tournament consideration.
- March 12, 1997: Chancellor John Montford demotes three academic officials who handled eligibility and compliance.
- May 9, 1997: Tech admits its baseball team, ranked No. 1 the week before, violated the NCAA-mandated scholarship limit.
- Aug. 30, 1997: Linebacker Eric Butler and cornerback Tony Darden are suspended from Tech's opener at Tennessee for making an unauthorized long-distance call on athletic department phones.
- Oct. 2, 1997: An internal audit reveals that 76 athletes in eight sports competed ineligibly since 1991. Tech also confirms violations of scholarship limits in baseball, football, men's golf and men's track.

Longhorns use Williams as motivation as year lingers on

AUSTIN (AP) — Texas coach John Mackovic did not help the chances of his job by losing to Baylor, a Bears' own coach called the "America."

Texas Longhorns (3-5, 1-4 Big 12) in a state of confusion Monday, trying to come up with motivation for their three games against Texas Tech (4-5, 2-3 Big 12), Kansas and Texas A&M.

"Integrity and Ricky Williams' attack on Earl Campbell's single season rushing record of 1,744 yards were the only incentives players could get with."

"I'm going to try to play the spoiler in the Big 12 South race," said Texas line-backer Brandon Nava. "I didn't come to play spoiler, but we have to make the most of the situation we're in."

The summer headline in the Austin American-Statesman after Texas' 23-21 victory over Baylor was "The Darkest Hour: A picture of Mackovic. Baylor coach Dave Roberts had called Baylor the best team in America after the Bears were beaten by then-winless Iowa

State two weeks ago.

Reports quoting unidentified sources have said Mackovic will be fired at the end of the season, but he again refused to address the situation Monday.

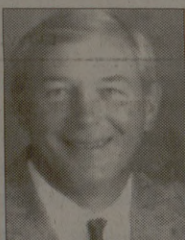
"I've said all I'm going to say on that," Mackovic said.

Last week, after a loss to Colorado, Mackovic said he would only talk about the team, adding that he expected to coach at Texas for many more years.

Nava, in trying to find any positives, said he thought the defense had improved in the Longhorns' loss to Baylor.

"We gave up 23 points, and we had been giving up 40," Nava said. "You have to start somewhere."

The one obvious bright spot is Williams, who ran for his fourth-straight 200-yard game (226) and increased his lead as the nation's top rusher (175.5



Mackovic

yards per game).

Texas officials say replays show Williams should have been credited with 41 more yards than he was. They petitioned to Baylor to have Williams' output reported to the NCAA as 267 yards, which would increase his per game average to 180.6 yards.

With a fifth straight 200-yard game this week against Tech, Williams would tie the NCAA record shared by Barry Sanders and Marcus Allen.

"It's frustrating because I'm going for 200 yards, but we keep losing," Williams said. "It's hard to get excited about anything right now."

Texas' offensive linemen said they are finding incentive in blocking for Williams, a junior who is likely to head for the NFL after this season.

Center Ryan Fiebiger and tackle Jay Humphrey both said they wanted Williams to break 2,000 yards. He currently has 1,404 yards and would need to average 199 yards per game to break it. He needs to average 113 yards per game to break Campbell's mark.

"He's capable of getting 2,000 yards the way he's been going," Fiebiger said. "If he did it, that would be something, as an offensive lineman blocking for him, that I could tell my grandkids about."

Texas' bowl hopes were greatly diminished by the Baylor loss. Texas has to win its last three games to even qualify for a bowl berth.

"Right now, I'm playing for myself and for Ricky," Humphrey said.

Mackovic praised Williams for his effort against Baylor, which included two rushing scores and a halfback pass for a TD.

"That pass worked just the way we drew it up, and that hasn't happened too much this year," Mackovic said.

In assessing the season, linebacker Dusty Renfro said there wasn't a game on the schedule that Texas shouldn't have won. Asked if that meant Texas had underachieved, he said, "I guess you could say that."

The Longhorns have had trouble at home against Texas Tech, which has won two of the last four meetings in Austin.



COURTESY TEXAS SPORTS INFORMATION
UT's Ricky Williams is on pace to break Earl Campbell's single season rushing record

Aikman remains confident Dallas can still reach playoffs

Quarterback sets goal of 10-6 record after team's poor start

DALLAS (AP) — Troy Aikman thinks the Dallas Cowboys — their sputtering offense notwithstanding — still have what it takes to be a part of the second season.

"I believe we can still make the playoffs, it's not just talk," Aikman said Monday, in the wake of the Cowboys' 17-10 loss to San Francisco that left Dallas at 4-5. "Why? Because we have the personnel to do it."

Aikman said the Cowboys would have to win their last seven games.

"I guess 10-6 would do it," he said. "We haven't lost yet at home and we still have five games left. We'd have to win one on the road. It would be tough to make the playoffs this year with just nine victories."

Coach Barry Switzer thinks nine wins would do it.

"I think the team the division could be won with a 9-7 record," he said. "I told them right away we were in the same boat with Philadelphia and Washington. We're all about the same. We're all as they are, and they're as good as we are. The (New York) Giants (6-3) have a tough schedule the rest of the way. If we win six of seven, we would be in great shape."

The Cowboys have won five consecutive NFC West games, but have lost four division games on the road in their worst start since 1990.

A focal point of the Cowboys' subpar play is offensive ineptitude — went unchanged at San Francisco.

The Cowboys have reached the end zone only 13 times in 34 forays into inside the opposition's end zone — the worst record in the NFC.

Aikman said none of the Dallas players cared to report Switzer had been out until 4 a.m. after a game a month ago.

"Our guys are just going out and doing the job we can and don't worry about all that stuff," Aikman said.

The Cowboys also have big injury problems.

Head coach Nate Newton has a knee injury and is expected to be unavailable for next Sunday against Arizona.

Tyson expects to be banned for life

NEW YORK (AP) — Mike Tyson believes he will not regain his boxing license, suspended by the Nevada Athletic Commission because he bit Evander Holyfield twice during their heavyweight championship fight.

In an interview Monday night on ABC television, Tyson was asked by Alex Wallau whether he thought the commission would reinstate him next year.

"Truly, I think I'll be banned for the rest of my life," Tyson said.

Wallau asked the ex-champion why he believed that.

"I truly think everyone hates me," he said. "I truly believe that. Because no one gets punished more than I am. But I understand. I'm a big boy and I believe big boys have big ordeals to be dealt with."

Tyson was suspended by the commission following the Holyfield fight last June at Las Vegas. He can request reinstatement after one year.

Tyson said he believed people want him to beg for mercy.

"I'm not that way with anyone," he said. "This is who I am and maybe sometimes it's the insecurity. I want to be the

Stewart receives honor from Big 12

DALLAS (AP) — Texas A&M quarterback Brannon Stewart, Nebraska rush end Grant Wistrom and Kansas defensive back Jason Harris have been named the Big 12 players of the week.

Stewart, the offensive honoree, was 18-of-33 for 226 yards and a touchdown. His 2-point conversion pass to Sirr Parker with 43 seconds left in regulation forced overtime and led to A&M's 28-25 victory over Oklahoma State that put the Aggies into a three-way tie for the Big 12 South lead with the Cowboys and Texas Tech.

Wistrom, a consensus All-American last year, earned top defensive honors by making nine solo tackles and three sacks, forcing three fumbles and recovering one as No. 1 Nebraska destroyed Oklahoma 69-7. It was his sixth career game with two or more sacks.

Harris earned special teams honors for blocking two punts, returning the second for a touchdown, as Kansas beat Iowa State 34-24.

Boston's Garciaparra sweeps award

NEW YORK (AP) — Nomar Garcia-parra was the unanimous winner of the American League Rookie of the Year award Monday following one of the best seasons ever by a shortstop.

Garciaparra hit .306 for the Boston Red Sox with 30 homers, 98 RBIs, 122 runs and 22 steals. He set major-league records for most RBIs by a leadoff hitter and most homers by a rookie shortstop.

The 24-year-old Garciaparra, the sixth unanimous winner of the AL Rookie award, received all 28 first-place votes and 140 points in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

Other unanimous winners were Carlton Fisk (1972), Sandy Alomar Jr. (1990), Mark McGwire (1987) and Tim Lincecum (1993).

Jose Cruz Jr., an outfielder traded from the Seattle Mariners to the Toronto Blue Jays, was second with 61 points, followed by Anaheim pitcher Jason Ligon (27), Detroit shortstop Deivi Cruz (12), Cleveland pitcher Jaret Wright (7) and Chicago White Sox outfielder Mike Cameron (5).

Ballots were cast before the postseason, in which Wright went 3-0.

In a season where the Red Sox floundered, Garciaparra led the majors with 68 multihit games and paced the AL with 209 hits and 11 triples. His 30-game hitting streak from July 26-Aug. 29 set an AL rookie record; four more than Guy Curtright's previous mark in 1943.

Garciaparra broke Johnny Pesky's Red Sox rookie record for hits (205 in 1942), and his 365 total bases broke Ted Williams' team rookie record (344 in 1939). He also became the first Boston player to reach double figures in doubles, triples, homers and steals since Jackie Jensen in 1956.

Garciaparra batted .241 in 24 games with the Red Sox in 1996, then won the shortstop job in spring training when John Valentin was moved to second base. Garciaparra became the sixth Boston player to win the award, following Walt Dropo (1950), Don Schwall (1961), Fisk and Fred Lynn (1975).