

THE BATTALION

Wednesday, September 10, 2003

# Parcells not ready to erupt

By Jaime Aron  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IRVING, Texas — When Quincy Carter tried turning a broken play into a big one and wound up throwing an interception, he knew he'd violated one of coach Bill Parcells' biggest rules. He also knew a stern reminder was awaiting him on the sideline.



PARCELLS

Parcells indeed gave Carter an earful. But when the quarterback walked away, the coach patted him on the back. No, three years out of coaching didn't make Parcells turn soft. It's simply a case of a coach who realizes his new team has a long way to go.

The image of Parcells as a raging, scowling menace was formed when the cameras were on him most: when his teams were championship-caliber. As he's admitted, he's toughest on those teams, his best ones, because he's trying to make them live up to their potential.

He wants this year's Dallas Cowboys to do the same. Difference is, they probably don't have playoff potential.

Parcells said that by the end of training camp he'd figure out his expectations for the team, then try exceeding them. His relatively

tame demeanor during a 27-13 loss to Atlanta in the opener indicates the bar is set pretty low.

Despite having reason to berate his offense, defense and special teams, Parcells was mostly expressionless. His body language was limited to crossed arms or hands either pressed to his hips or clasped behind his back.

Parcells surely made plenty of biting comments during and after the game. They'll continue all season. Those who don't "get it," as he likes to say, will wind up unemployed.

But he won't cut anyone just to use them as an example — not even Billy Cundiff, who missed a short field goal and an extra point.

If Parcells had someone better lined up, Cundiff would be unemployed. Otherwise, don't expect any spiteful moves or scapegoats.

As Parcells has said since he was hired, his goal is to churn the roster until he finds the right 53 players, even if it takes 53 new ones for the 2003 Cowboys to stop making the same silly mistakes as the previous six squads under coaches Barry Switzer, Chan Gailey and Dave Campo.

While the mistakes were part of the reason Parcells hardly slept Sunday night, it's hard to imagine that a team coming off three straight 5-11 seasons could suddenly play error-free just because a demanding, proven-winner is now calling the plays.

These things take time.

Parcells knows it. So does Falcons coach Dan Reeves, who said Sunday that Parcells' influence "will become more evident as the season continues." That's one of those clip-and-save lines worth pulling out again in late December.

Eventually, the Cowboys will get better. And, eventually, Parcells will get meaner.

In training camp, Parcells told about the time he was concerned his Giants were full of themselves. So, to rein them in, he put in a game plan designed to make them lose a preseason game.

Then there's his first Super Bowl victory, in which Phil Simms went 22-of-25. Parcells wanted to know what went wrong on the three misses.

And there was a Monday night in 1990 when the Giants, who were on their way to another Super Bowl title, opened with three straight scoring drives against the Colts. When the fourth drive ended with a third-down incomple- tion, Parcells and Simms were seen jawing on the sidelines.

"We talk from time to time," Simms said.

So take note, Cowboys fans. When Parcells starts expecting perfection, his mission will have been accomplished.

As Sunday proved, he's only taken the first step. The second comes Monday night against the Giants with Parcells returning to his old stomping grounds at the Meadowlands.

## Rivalry

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downward Hook 'Em Horns signs on campus.

"We're aware that Texas and Arkansas is a big rivalry," said Cobbs, a Little Rock native. "Texas has been the rivalry since we all were born."

Texas (1-0) has a 54-20 edge in the series, but Arkansas has won the last two games. The Razorbacks beat Texas 14-13 in the final SWC matchup and then took a 27-6 victory in the 2000 Cotton Bowl.

There are still a few seniors on the Texas squad who remember the Razorbacks holding the Longhorns to minus-27 yards rushing.

"The score didn't really show what Arkansas did to them," said Texas receiver Roy Williams, who watched the game at home a little over a month before signing with the Longhorns.

However, most current players are being told about giving Razorback fans a downward "Hook 'Em Horns" sign after beating Texas in the Cotton Bowl. Nutt said Arkansas fans were

flashing the hand signal, and he reveled in the moment by flashing the sign back at them.

Fans at Oklahoma, Texas A&M and Texas Tech are quick to flip a downward Hook 'Em Horns sign whether on national television or driving past a vehicle with a Texas bumper sticker, so Nutt doesn't see the harm in what he did.

"I think fans have to realize that me being from Arkansas and seeing that from the time I was a little boy and it was a joyous time, an emotional time," Nutt said. "That Cotton Bowl was the first (bowl) win in 15 years for our program. Never, never, if people know my heart, would I ever do the de-Horns sign to a player, coach or fans."

"When you play Texas, I see a bunch of other schools do that. We weren't the originator of that."

Arkansas tight end Jason Peters said: "Everybody, all the coaches and all the players have been getting pumped up for this game. The coaches say it's just like any other game, but you can feel it that they're going to coach harder and they're more tensed up. We're all ready to go and play."

## News Makers/News Breakers: Conversations on Leadership in Public Life

Saturday, Sept. 13, 2003  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Texas A&M University  
Memorial Student Center, Room 292

### Keynote speakers

Dr. Robert M. Gates, President, Texas A&M University  
Wayne Slater, Austin Bureau Chief, *Dallas Morning News*

### Panelists

State Rep. Fred Brown, District 14  
Cindy Lawson, Executive Director, University Relations  
Dave McNeely, political columnist, *Austin American-Statesman*  
Gary Borders, Publisher, *Lufkin Daily News*  
Mike Sims, Class of '87, former student body president  
Brooke Rollins, Class of '95, former student body president  
Loren Steffy, Class of '87, former *Battalion* editor in chief  
Scot Walker, Class of '95, former *Battalion* editor in chief

### Online registration

<http://battalion.tamu.edu>  
Deadline: 5 p.m. Wednesday

- Registration limited to 125 student leaders and 75 student journalists
- Two participants per student organization
- Lunch provided

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**Sunday: 11 a.m. - midnight**  
**Monday - Wednesday: 11 a.m. - 1 a.m.**  
**Thursday: 11 a.m. - 2 a.m.**  
**Friday & Saturday: 11 a.m. - 3 a.m.**

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## STUDENT LIFE

### Student Conflict Resolution Services

The Department of Student Life and the Office of Student Conflict Resolution Services is pleased to publish a summary result of the most common type of violations of the Code of Student Conduct seen during the Spring 2003 semester. As students, you should be aware of the Code of Student Conduct and recognize your responsibility as an Aggie to uphold it's standards. Staff members in Student Conflict Resolution Services are available to meet individually with students or student organizations to explain the Code of Student Conduct and the conflict resolution process for judicial cases.

### Spring 2003

#### Student Judicial Services Conduct Summary

Total number of violations: **556** (This includes all violations of the Code of Student Conduct)

\*Some students involved may have more than one violation assigned to their judicial case.

Total number of cases involving **alcohol**: **89** (Minor in Possession, Public Intoxication, Driving While Intoxicated, and Open Container Violations)

Total number of cases involving **illegal drugs/controlled substances**: **10** (This includes possession of substances or drug paraphernalia)

Total number of cases involving **theft** of property or services: **10**

Total number of cases involving **hazing**: **14**

Total number of cases involving **providing false information**: **39**

Total number of cases involving **scholastic dishonesty**: **44**

Total number of cases involving **breaching campus safety**: **56**

Student Conflict Resolution Services  
Student Life Services Building, The Grove  
(979) 847-7272

<http://studentlife.tamu.edu/scrs>  
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