

The Sports Column

# SMU makes a moral sacrifice

By BARRY COOPER  
Syndicated Columnist

The blood already is oozing from the wrists of Southern Methodist University.

This football-crazed college in Dallas is poised with a cyanide tablet in one hand and a loaded .38-caliber pistol in the other.

SMU and its football program are ready to sacrifice all their morals for the glory of winning.

The college game has become so fiendishly competitive that almost none of the schools pays total attention to the rules. To do business completely on the up and up would be an open door to competitive suicide or severe mental anguish.

Imagine all the coaches who pace their bedroom floors and wonder how their rival lured away their prize recruit.

When a coveted prospect does do a sudden about-face, it is often because his head was turned by the sensuous smell of money.

College boosters provide this illegal cash flow

and it is that kind of pipeline financing that has SMU doing a balancing act on the edge of a casket.

The Mustangs, expected to have the best team in the Southwest Conference this season, have a large group of supporters and alumni, most of whom act as if they just stepped off the set of the television show "Dallas."

They are fabulously rich, egotistical as hell, stubborn as a pack of mules and virtually uncontrollable. Such behavior has been spotted on other college campuses, too.

For sure, SMU, which recently was sentenced to three years probation for committing virtually every recruiting violation known to man, has not been an innocent victim to its problems.

There is evidence that SMU worked in cahoots with players and helped make sure that a \$5,000 payment made it to at least one player's family and that car repairs were taken care of for other players.

Nevertheless, the SMU situation points out the

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## Local Sports

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will take on the Terry Cummings and Sidney Moncrief-led Milwaukee Bucks in the NBA exhibition game at 5 p.m.

The Bulls also feature former Duke standout Gene Banks and former Maryland guards Adrian Branch and Jeff Adkins, a Martinsville, Va., native.

### Boxers Join King

Winston-Salem boxers Harold Bennett, Thomas Warren and Kent Hardee have joined former Reynolds Park Boxing Director Whit Lowery at the Don King training camp in Orwell, Ohio.

Bennett and Warren are the latest additions Lowery has made to the King camp. Both signed four-year contracts.

Along with Hardee, they have been sparing with World Boxing Council featherweight champion Azumah Nelson.



Ernest Morris



Michael Jordan

"He has the fastest hand work I've ever seen, so fast that Bernard Taylor won't fight him," Warren said of Nelson.

Hardee had been working with a group out of Fort Bragg, but believed he was being rushed. So he decided to find another trainer. That's when Lowery

asked him to try out with King.

Lowery has been training Alphonso Ratliff, who lost to Bernard "The Bull" Benton on the same night of the Larry Holmes-Michael Spinks fight. Lowery also trained Benton a few years ago.

## College Football

From Page B1

"The thud of a blocked punt is a deafening sound," Hayes said. "It is the most demoralizing play in football. It makes a team go flat."

With Beasley, Wallace, tackle Elrod Morris and linebacker Angelo Spruill leading the way, the Rams flattened the Pirates en route to their best defensive outing of the season. WSSU limited HU to 153 total yards.

"It was one of our better games in a while," said Ram Defensive Coordinator Peter Richardson. "We played well in each area: Defense, offense and specialty teams.

"If we lost we would have been 0-2 and virtually out of the division race. So that was a heavy motivating factor."

The WSSU offense managed similar balance to that shown in the CIAA Championship Game last November against Norfolk State. In that contest, the Rams totaled 340 yards, 220 through the air. Against Hampton, quarterbacks Dana Walker and Bobby Junior combined to complete 11-of-18 passes for 164 yards and four touchdowns.

"Our quarterbacks are coming along," Hayes said. "When they execute like they did Saturday, it shows they can play."

Walker, who fired a 33-yard scoring strike to Masha Paul in the second quarter, directed a pair of third-quarter drives. Walker capped both with touchdowns, including a 15-yard pass to Pulley and a one-yard run.

Those marches enabled the Rams to pull away from the Pirates, who scored just before the half on a five-yard pass from Marco Stacy to Clarence Bailey for a 21-7 score. Indeed, WSSU outgained Hampton 120 to minus-two yards in the third quarter while building a 34-7 cushion.

Junior also had a hot hand, completing three-of-five passes for 52 yards and two scores.

Ranking	Record	Points
1. Grambling State	3-0	146
2. Miss. Valley	4-0	137
3. Tennessee State	3-1	108
4. Norfolk State	3-1	75
5. Central State	3-0	71
6. Fort Valley State	3-0	58
7. Alcorn State	1-2	52
8. Delaware State	4-1	46
9. W.S. State	2-1	44
10. Southern U.	3-1	23
11. Bethune-Cookman	2-1	22
12. Jackson State	2-2	18
13. Albany State	3-0	17
14. Livingstone	4-0	14
15. Hampton	3-1	3

Ram runners combined to finish with 160 yards. Lonnie Pulley led the way with 44 yards.

"They played a 50 defense, which is tailor-made for our offense (the wing-T)," Hayes said. "With our offense, you can block the 50 blindfolded. They had their tackles pinching in and that gave us the off-tackle hole. That's exactly where I want to go.

"Supposedly, we should be able to score 50 points against a 50. One of my assistants wanted me to kick a field goal in the fourth quarter. But I didn't want to beat the man (Hampton Coach Fred Freeman) like that. It's better to let time run out."

The way the Rams blew into Hampton suggested that they've overcome their early-season doldrums. WSSU scored only 10 points and allowed 36 in its first six quarters of the season. In the last six quarters, State has outscored the opposition 78-19.

"The last thing I want to do is predict this crowd," Hayes said of his team, which hosts North Carolina Central Saturday at 7 p.m. in Bowman Gray Stadium. "It's a free-spirited, confident group.

"Last week we had good practices Monday and Tuesday, slacked off Wednesday and came back up Thursday. If we had four good days of practice with this team, I'd go crazy."

### PREP STANDINGS

Team	Conf.			All Games		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Page	0	0	0	4	0	0
Smith	0	0	0	4	0	0
Carver	0	0	0	4	1	0
East	0	0	0	2	1	1
Glenn	0	0	0	3	2	0
North	0	0	0	3	2	0

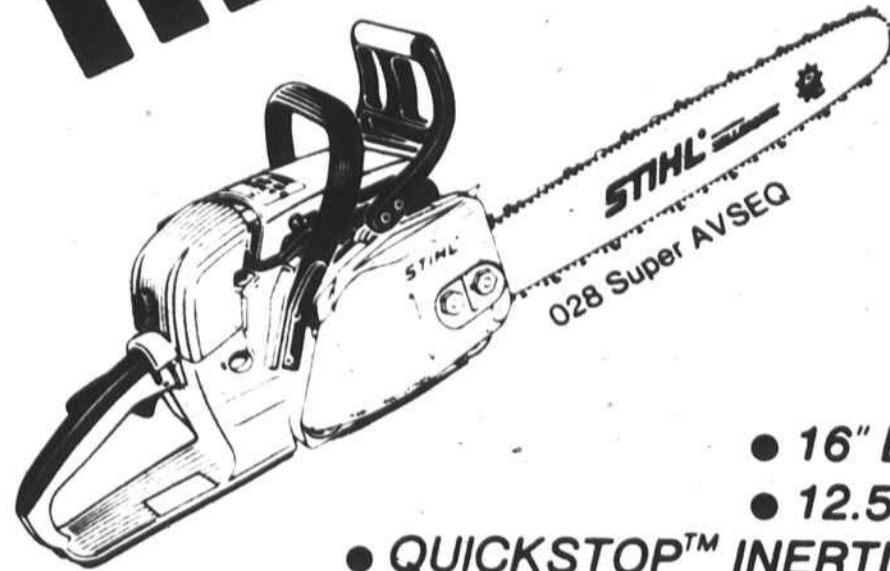
Friday's Games  
East Forsyth at South Stokes.  
Greensboro Page at Greensboro Dudley.  
Greensboro Smith at Asheboro  
Parkland v Mount Tabor at North, Kannapolis Brown at Reynolds, South Rowan at West, North Davidson at Davie County

Team	Conf.			All Games		
	W	L	T	W	L	T
Parkland	1	0	0	4	0	0
Kannapolis	0	0	0	3	1	0
S. Rowan	1	0	0	3	1	0
N. Davidson	1	0	0	2	2	0
West	1	1	0	4	1	0
Davie Co.	0	1	0	1	3	0
Mt. Tabor	0	1	0	0	3	1
Reynolds	0	2	0	0	5	0

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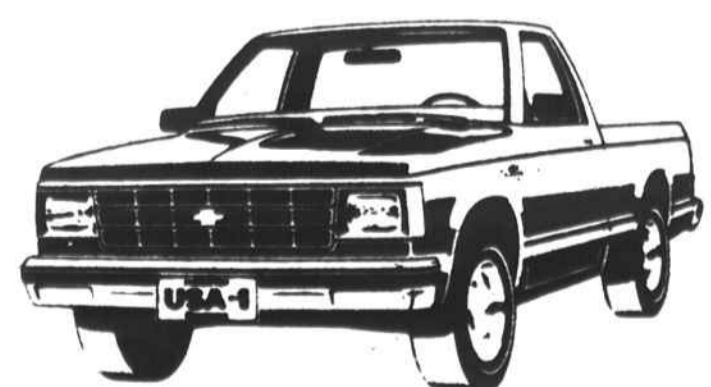
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