A learning vs. sports at UT: Guess which is winning?

A fter watching the Longhorns squeak past underdog University of Michigan in the Rose Bowl on Jan. 2, I felt tremendous joy and pride. It seemed almost surreal after years of internal struggle and external pressure to leave the doings of University of Texas men’s football to the sports pages. I would spare Athletics Director DeLoss Dodds and head Coach Mack Brown my advice on how to run their estimated $5 million-a-year enterprise. How I was to know, then, that the big three divisions of UT’s men’s football, basketball and baseball would make front-page headline because of problems with the minor subsidiary known as academics? So I am breaking my resolution, just this once.

The difficulties facing UT’s varsity teams in Big 12 play and theiami graduation rate, the lowest in the Big 12, to the last place I leave the doings of University of Texas men’s football to the sports pages. I leave the doings of University of Texas presidents and provosts as to how to run their estimated $5 million-a-year enterprise.

When criticized for ethical lapses or the low minimum academic survival level, Athletics’ provost even believes that the university’s chief operation that reporters apparently ignore and students and earn a real education. Recruiting, scholarships and academic assistance for athletes cannot be disarmed coaches salaries. •

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