

By TED BORISKIE

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With Texas' runaway win of Saturday's SWC track meet, the Steers have finished in the top three of all seven SWC races, walking off with four championships. It is not some sort of undying Longhorn spirit that is responsible for these performances; it is, more simply, a monetary edge on all other schools that keeps Texas winning. The six-time SWC champion football team can claim the main responsibility for gathering all the loot, with the overflow after grid expenses spread around other sports. The fat wallet offers the Texas coaches an opportunity to an open expense account when it comes to recruiting and, in the case of the track team, it becomes obvious just what is the driving force around the Longhorn success. After the points were tallied Saturday, Texas garnered 182 to runnerup A&M's 73. SMU was third with 54, followed by Baylor, 50; Rice, 46; TCU, 42; Arkansas, 24; Houston, 18; and Texas Tech, 6. The 'Horns scored more than the next three teams combined and of the 495 total points, Texas had a .368 percentage of all scoring. The Longhorns had six champions, the Aggies, four, with Rice, TCU, Baylor and SMU one each. This is where the money counts because taking away Texas' tremendous recruiting advantage and counting only the athletes from the five-state area of Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Louisian and Arkansas, the outcome would have scored 73½ points followed by A&M (60), Baylor (40), Rice, (36), SMU (32), TCU (21), Arkansas (17), Houston (12), and Tech (6). Only Tech would be unaffected but one of the schools would be hurt as bad as Texas. Texas has 19 athletes on the track squad from outside the five-state area and 12 scored points Saturday. Of the seven non-scorers, 264-foot javelin thrower Siggi Busha and 46.9 440-yard dash man John Lee are redshirts and 440-yard hurdler Robert Primeaux is the defending NCAA champion. Primeaux has been hampered by a broken foot this season and, although possessing the fourth fastest time in the nation this year, finished out of the money Saturday. Texas domination

points and one event short of achieving its goals. This could have been Texas' last decent chance to achieve either of the goals as the Longhorns will be hard pressed to replace the 68 points scored by seniors Saturday. In fact, Texas will be one of the hardest hit by graduation this year, returning 114 points. A&M did not have a single point scored by a senior and will thus be re-turning all 73 points. Other schools and their points returning are Baylor, 42; TCU, 31; Arkansas, 23; Rice, 21; SMU, 13; Houston, 7; and Tech, 6.

The 41-point spread might seem like a fat enough cushion but it could be whittled down when certain factors are taken into con-sideration. For instance, A&M's Sam Dierschke didn't compete due to injuries, Charles Dawson was disqualified from both sprints and 1973 SWC pole vault champion David Peterek broke his pole during warmups and failed to score. The Aggies will be sure to receive points from these three next year. In addition, next year's meet will be held in Lubbock and Tech's young track squad will probably turn in more than six points performing on a familiar track before a home crowd.

Texas has also developed a habit the past few years of not quite performing up to expectations in the conference meet. If every athlete had duplicated his season's best mark Saturday the scoring would have been as follows: Texas, 202; Baylor, 61; SMU, 57; A&M, 56; Rice, 37; TCU, 30; Arkansas, 27; Houston, 26; and Tech, 1. It therefore appears that although Texas may be expected to repeat as champions the next couple of years, their period of absolute domination in track and field is fast coming to an end.



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