THE BATTALION Page 11D

Many changes mark storied SWC's 62 years

zed in 1914, the Southwest ic Conference arose out of eds of the larger colleges ection to create an organizaich would further the best s of intercollegiate athletics. d of higher academic ds for student athletes and of indards and practices were ines for the representatives of institutions who convened in May 6, 1914, for the purpose ding an organization that large and more closely reathletic activities of the itutions of the states repd." The meeting was held at ntal Hotel, site of the Baker

s at the invitation of L. Theo nt, then athletic director of iversity of Texas, that the atives from seven instituonvened in Dallas for the g. Present for the drafting of stitution and bylaws were Gantt and S.R. Spencer, University; J.C. Snipes, estern University; John Oklahoma A&M College; J. Potts, Texas A&M Col-T.W. Atkinson and J.F. ard, Louisiana State Univer-D.K. Sadler and R.J. Nelson, rsity of Arkansas; Dr. W.T. r and Bellmont, The Univer-

founding fathers met for a d time at the Rice Hotel in December 8, 1914, and ted the organization. Repretives from the University of ma (Ben Owen) and Rice In-

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STIN — The Trans-Pecos regfar West Texas continues to e as the major antelope habitat axas. And while the overall state ope population is encouraging, in the eastern portion of the ndle have declined signific-

it's according to a recently eleted aerial survey of antelope s conducted by the Texas Parks ildlife Department. Overall, are an estimated 10,485 adult ope spread over the Trans-s, Permian Basin and Panhanegions of the state here has been a 40, percent de-

n antelope herds in the easttion of the Panhandle over last two or three years, said des Winkler, P&WD big game ram director

is year's antelope herd in the nandle stands at an estimated 4, down from the previous es-

te of 3,100. Ince the Panhandle has the smalmcentration of antelope, the ne is significant. As a result, no O cups d ¹² In some portions of the eastern g two-ad

> th some areas of the Panhandle sete there had previously been he antelope, we found there this year's surve

stitute (W.W. Watkin) were present accepted provisionally. Thus came into existence the

Southwest Intercollegiate Athletic Conference, which two years later Southwest Athletic Conference. The league encompassed represen-tatives of only three of the five states as originally set. that were included in the original planning. LSU withdrew at the organizational meeting, while the University of Mississippi failed to that the first eligibility rule adopted ganizational meeting, while the follow through on early indications of interest.

Composed of eight members at the outset, the conference functioned with as few as six members (1916-17), had eight members in 1920, and then had seven mem-bers for 30 years (1926-55). The admission of Texas Tech in 1956 brought the membership to eight again and the admission of the University of Houston in May 1971 set it at the all-time high of nine.

Southwestern, Oklahoma and Phillips withdrew after brief periods freshmen on the varsity. and Oklahoma A&M took leave after a decade of membership. SMU joined in 1918 and TCU in 1923, last additions before Texas Tech's admission.

Membership

The eight charter members agreed that a two-thirds vote would be required to increase membership, expell or suspend a member or to amend the constitution.

Rice took a leave after participating in 1915 and Southwestern withdrew voluntarily after two years. Rice rejoined in December 1917 and SMU was admitted in time for the 1918 track and field meet. Oklahoma withdrew early in 1920. Phil-1919, but withdrew early in 1920, protesting a rule that would not allow freshmen in varsity competition at schools with enrollment of fewer than 500 male students. SMU considered withdrawing for the

TCU was admitted in December, 1922, and Oklahoma A&M resigned in 1925, bringing the conference to to begin competition in football in

1960 and other sports in 1958.

Houston was admitted at the for this meeting and their institu- May, 1971, meeting in College Stations became charter members tion, to begin competition in cross along with Arkansas, Baylor, country, baseball, golf, tennis, and Southwestern, Oklahoma A&M, track in the 1973-74 school year, Texas A&M, and Texas. Rice was basketball in the 1975-76 school year and football in 1976. At the May, 1972, meeting in Fayetteville. it was decided that Houston would begin competition in all sports other (May, 1916) was to be shortened to than football and basketball in the 1972-73 school year. Admission

Eligibility

stipulated that an athlete must take at least the minimum work pre scribed in a regular course of study and must pass at least two-thirds of work prescribed, both during and at the conclusion of a term.

The three-year rule, which after one year of residence allowed a man three years of eligibility, was adopted in 1915 to become effective January 1, 1916. In December, 1916, member schools with male enrollment of less than 400 were given the privilege of using

The three-year rule was dropped during World Wars I and II, in each instance being reinstated immediately after peace was restored. The conference abolished the three-year rule for all sports except football and basketball starting in 1968, allowing freshmen to compete on the varsity level. In April, 1972, the conference voted freshmen eligible in football and basketball, too, conforming to new NCAA permissive legislation. Under these rules athletes have five years in which to get in four years of varsity competition, with the stipulation that the

freshman year must count as one of the four competition years. Since 1962 the graduate rule also lips University was admitted in has ruled out "unearned financial aid by the athletic department" for those who have received degrees and those who have completed the scholastic requirements for a de-

In 1920 it was agreed that scholastic work during the summer should count in establishing eligibility, provided the student carried the equivalent of the normal term's the seven-institution membership work and passed in two-thirds of it that remained intact 31 years. Then Texas Tech was admitted at the could be done at any institution May, 1956, meeting in Fayetteville, without prejudicing his eligibility. The summer school rule was in effect until September, 1929. For

the next 44 years summer school work did not count for or against a student's eligibility, either from scholastic, time of entrance, residence or transfer standpoint. At its April, 1973, meeting, the conference voted that beginning in the summer of 1974, student-athletes could use summer-school work to make up scholastic deficiencies for eligibility purposes, under certain

In 1925, the conference decreed that a student athlete must have fifteen units for college entrance in order to become eligible. That requirement has been modified to necessitate that he be a graduate of an accredited high school.

The conference, long recognized as having the nation's toughest transfer rule, has not since 1925 permitted eligibility for a transfer to an SWC school who had participated in the same sport on a varsity squad at an institution granting a standard degree (senior college).

The rule was even stricter from 1925 until 1929, for during that period such transfer was not eligible to participate in any sport at the school to which he transferred.

It was liberalized in 1931 to per-mit participation by transfers from senior colleges that had discontinued intercollegiate athletics, and the transfer rule was suspended for the duration of World War II.

In 1936, the transfer rule was amended to permit participation in the same sport for a student athlete who participated only on a freshman team before transferring. This is the rule today

quirements for student athletes were increased in 1952 and the minimum work load set for at least 12 semester hours, or equivalent term hours. The student athlete from that time hence has been required to pass at least twenty semester hours during his last two semesters (three terms) of residence before participation, and not less than nine semester hours, or the equivalent number of term hours, in either semester (or term).

In addition to the aforementioned requirements, a student must, in order to maintain eligibility, pass a cumulative number of hours. The cumulative minimum totals by semesters: 6, 20, 32, 44, 57, 70, 83, 96, 108. By the conclusion of what would be his junior year, a student athlete would need credit for an average of 12 hours per semester and would be expected to maintain that average for the remainder of his eligibility.

These minimum requirements remained in effect for student athletes who enrolled in a senior college prior to January 1, 1966. For those enrolling since that date, in order to be eligible for institutional financial aid, participation in ath-letics or in organized practice sessions, they were to meet these conditions: (1) an incoming student athlete must have a predicted minimum grade-point average of 1.600 (based on a maximum of 4.00); (2) must be registered for at least twelve semester hours or equivalent term hours; and (3) must maintain a 1.600 average. In 1974, this was changed to (1) the predicted minimum grade-point average be-

came 2.000; and (2) students still had to be registered for 12 hours. The 1.6000 average was discontinued

Radio and Television

History was made at College Sta-tion in 1919, when three cadets — W. A. "Doc" Tolson, Harry M. Saunders and B. Lewis Nelson rigged up a crude but workable telegraph machine and "broadcast" A&M's 7-0 victory back to Austin. History records it as the first account of any sports event via wireless, coming the year that KDKA of Pittsburgh first "broadcast" a prize fight and baseball game, and one year before WEAF in New York originated voice broadcasts from football fields.

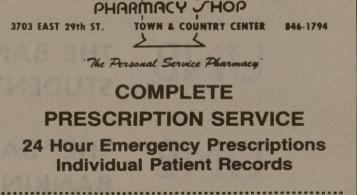
The first actual radio broadcast of a football game in Texas was Nov. 26,1925, from College Station, when A&M defeated Texas 28-0. The play-by-play was handled by the late General Ike Asburn, former A&M commandant who was active

in conference affairs. Individual members of the conference negotiated independently on radio rights, both locally and na-tionally, until 1935, when the Humble Oil and Refining Company purchased the exclusive rights for the first time.

Humble has renewed the rights annually since that time and each vear makes a side agreement for Arkansas to broadcast its own games to the state of Arkansas.

With the advent of television, the National Collegiate Athletic Association assumed control of college television with the 1951 season. The program started with a series of national telecasts and since has supplemented a varying number of national telecasts with regional telecasts numbering up to four on designated weeks.

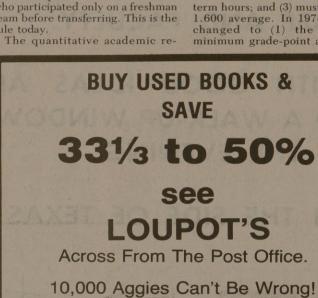
The only telecasts aside from the national and regional games are of sellout games under varying conditions. Such games may be telecast at the site, at the home site of the visiting team and at the home site of each team when the game is played on a neutral field, provided there is no other college game being played within a radius of 120 miles.



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e attributed the Panhandle decline to poor fawn producthis year, low survival rates of s born last year and increased at destruction.

mificant population declines noted in Roberts, Lipscomb, e, Hemphill and Ochiltree

largest antelope herd in the continues to be found in the ns-Pecos. According to this survey, there was no notable in the size of the herd from

ear. The sample indicated a of 6,744 adult pronghorns. only other area of the state antelope in any numbers are is in the Permian Basin. a 20 percent population infrom 1,500 to 1,884, was

surveys are an important tool y wildlife biologists in making mendations for issuance of its to landowners. As was the in 1975, only buck permits will ed this year.

year's hunting dates are Oct. or the Permian Basin and Pecos regions, and Oct. 2-5 in areas of the Panhandle where hunting will be allowed. ler had anticipated some inin the size of the overall on that did not occur.

are concerned that there was nificant increase in the Pecos and Permian Basin hough they had good fawn ction in 1975. Apparently born last year did not have irvival rates and as a result not have the expected overease in the population," he

t year, some 926 buck permits issued statewide and 572 anwere harvested. P&WD istelope permits based on the or of bucks in the overall Uso, consideration is given to roduction and survival rates. e would like to have one buck very four does. We feel we get num production with that Winkler stated.

AS

ugh factors may still change, spected that the total number mits to be issued for this huntson will be about the same as

it issuance to landowners be completed by mid-mber, according to Winkler.



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