

# Conference notes...

Lou Holtz has the best starting record of a new SWC coach in the last 20 years, now that his Razorbacks have presented him victory No. 4. Sam Boyd won his first four at Baylor in 1958; the SWC has seen 28 new coaches since. Most successful opening spurt in SWC history? D. X. Bible won his first 20 games at Texas A&M, then had a tie and pushed his record to 24-0-1 without yielding a point, before Texas scored 7-3 victory in the final game of the 1920 season.

Although such records aren't kept, the 3 1/2-hour Texas-Rice game Saturday afternoon and evening must rank in the top ten for time consumed. Among other things, the game had 15 kickoffs and 38 incomplete passes. Rice sports information director Bill Whitmore noted the time of the game and decided, "Exxon is going up a penny a gallon tomorrow to pay for this broadcast."

Home attendance at SWC football games showed a slight rise last week, four games drawing just under 160,000 for a 20-game average of 37,916. In all games played to date, Texas A&M leads with an average of 61,191 after 104,802 sat in on the Aggies' loss to Michigan. Texas Tech is averaging 48,504, Baylor 47,383, Texas 46,167, Arkansas 43,421, Houston 41,085, Rice 38,250, SMU 29,025 and TCU 27,985.

NOT EVEN CLOSE: Of the 28 games played this season by SWC teams, only five have been decided by five or fewer points while seven have seen margins of 40 points or more, another four margins in the 30s.

It'll be the Dallas Metroplex vs. Mississippi, at

least at quarterback, when SMU meets Baylor Saturday. Baylor's three QBs are Sammy Bickham and Scott Smith of the Dallas suburbs of Plano and Highland Park, respectively, and Greg Wood from Jackson, Miss. SMU counters with Mike Ford from Mesquite and Tony Black from Starkville, Miss. Mark Gibson of Duncanville was also in the SMU quarterback picture before switching to defensive back.

In fact, throughout the SWC the quarterbacks generally hail from the Dallas or Corpus Christi areas or from out of state. Add Danny Davis (Dallas) of Houston, Steve Bayuk (Bedford) and Don Harris (Richardson) of TCU, and Jon Aune (Dallas) of Texas and you get seven quarterbacks from the Dallas area. Mark McBeth of Texas and Mark Johnson of Tech are from Corpus. Then there are five out-staters starting or logging a lot of time at quarter-

Russell Erxleben's NCAA record 67-yard field goal against Rice Saturday was the sixth of 60 yards or more in SWC history, and the fourth in the last two years. Before Arkansas' Bill McClard kicked the first 60-yard field goal in the SWC history in 1970 the record was 55 yards. Since 1970, there have been 14 over the old mark (by Tech's Kenny Vinyard in 1966) and two others equalling it.

YOU FIGURE IT: Penn State beat Houston by 17 points on Sept. 17, the same day Baylor beat Kentucky by 15 points. So Saturday, while Houston is beating Baylor by four points, Kentucky is also beating Penn State by four.

Rushing						Total Offense					
att	yds	avg	td	ypg		att	yds	ypg			
Covins, Ark	73	563	7.7	7	147.0	Ford, SMU	133	708	177.0		
Campbell, Tex	49	374	7.6	7	124.7	Bayuk, TCU	100	450	150.0		
Woodard, A&M	99	444	4.5	4	111.0	Covins, Ark	73	563	140.7		
Blackwell, Hou	78	401	5.1	3	100.2	Davis, Hou	72	405	135.0		
Dickey, A&M	63	370	5.9	1	92.5	Calcagni, Ark	77	511	127.7		

  

Passing						Receiving					
att	cmp	yds	int	td	cpq	ct	yds	td	ctpg		
Ford, SMU	110	56	757	12	4	14.0	Tolbert, SMU	19	319	2	4.7
Bayuk, TCU	62	31	367	5	3	10.3	Renfro, TCU	18	279	3	4.5
Hertel, Rice	90	37	390	4	2	9.2	Houser, Rice	13	246	1	3.2
Davis, Hou	36	21	301	0	0	7.0	Bass, Hou	12	182	1	3.0
Harris, TCU	56	23	303	5	2	5.7	Smith, SMU	11	133	0	2.7

  

Scoring						Punting					
td	cp	fg	pts	ppg		no	no	avg			
Campbell, Texas	7	0	0	42	14.0	Rosenthal, SMU	20	20	44.0		
Erxleben, Texas	0	21	5	36	12.0	Little, Ark	19	19	43.5		
Covins, Ark	7	0	0	42	10.5	Appleby, A&M	24	24	42.8		
Little, Ark	0	20	4	32	8.0	Fredstridge, Bay	25	25	42.8		
Aune, Tex	4	0	0	24	8.0	Erxleben, Tex	5	5	41.8		

## Blue is bad tradition

United Press International  
DALLAS — If tradition rules this week, the Dallas Cowboys will not be the only undefeated team in the NFC next week.

The Cowboys, 3-0 travel to St. Louis Sunday and will wear metallic blue jerseys. The Cardinals have beaten the Cowboys in St. Louis in each of the past three seasons. In all three games, the Cowboys wore blue.

"I feel fine about them (the blue jerseys) because I don't have to wear one," coach Tom Landry said Tuesday, drawing a laugh from reporters at his weekly news conference. "Seriously, we don't worry about it. But if we lose, it'll be the blue jerseys. Remember that next week."

queries as to how critical the St. Louis game (and the Washington game the following week) would be to Dallas making the playoffs. The Cardinals, Redskins and Cowboys traditionally are the strong teams in the NFC East Division.

"I don't know how critical they are," he replied. "The season is young and we just want to play well. I see a lot of things getting better but championships are won in the second half of the season. As long as we're in striking distance at the

halfway point I'll be satisfied."

Landry said starting guard Herb Scott, who missed the 23-7 victory over Tampa Bay last Sunday, would play against the Cardinals.

Landry said game balls for performances against Tampa Bay were awarded to fullback Robert Newhouse, who scored on a 17-yard run, linebacker Thomas Henderson, who returned an interception 79 yards for a touchdown and Bennie Barnes for his work on specialty teams.

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