

Tournament time for SWC basketball

Tournament time arrives for the Southwest Conference this week as Baylor, Houston, Texas Tech and Texas A&M will try to add to their already gaudy statistics the league has piled up through the first two weeks of the season.

Of utmost interest will be the opening this week of Baylor against Long Beach State Tuesday night in Waco and in the San Francisco Golden Gate Invitational which opens next Friday.

The Bears ended Memphis' six-game winning streak last Sunday and suddenly has the fans Waco frothing about basketball. Coach Jim Haller's club, which opened Memphis, 106-87, lured a record crowd into Heart o' Texas gymnasium for a nonconference game on Sunday.

And it also helped settle a little more that Haller felt needed setting. Former Baylor player Tony Hunter, who quit the Baylor program after a dispute with Haller, has been named to Memphis State and sat the bench during Saturday's game.

"I hope Tony enjoyed the game," Haller said. "We felt like we had a lot of things to settle with Memphis."

"We were fired up," Haller said. Baylor, the most surprising team in the league this year since 6-1 leading Jack Vinnie Johnson scored with Memphis throwing double and triple teams at him and Wendell Davis broke lose for 34.

The rest of the tournament action Friday and Saturday has Rice and Houston taking part in the Bebonnet Classic, Texas A&M in the Birmingham Classic and Texas Tech in the Volunteer Classic.

Sixth-ranked Arkansas, unbeaten against Tech and A&M, will have the week off after running its record to 6-0 last Saturday against Alabama.

The Southwest Conference had a 25 intersectional record last week — two of the losses were one-point affairs by Houston on the road against Arizona and Arizona State — which brings the season total to 21-3.

That figures out to a .711 percentage and the SWC has not had that kind of figure in quite some time — perhaps never.

Last year the conference intersec-

tional percentage was .545, the year before that it was .516 and the year before that a mere .468.

Other than Baylor, the largest surprise this year has come from the Texas Longhorns, who lost a one-point game to USC in Los Angeles to start the season and has now won five in a row.

The Longhorns crushed previously unbeaten Oklahoma State last week in Stillwater, 108-69.

Other than the tournament action the schedule is light this week.

Houston will try to bounce back from its double loss in Arizona tonight against Southwestern while Rice will play Florida State Tuesday evening. And on Saturday night SMU — which has already played and lost at Kentucky, Kansas State and Kansas — will travel to Indiana while Texas visits Centenary.

Cowboys stop 49ers 42-35

United Press International

SAN FRANCISCO — Roger Staubach passed for three touchdowns, scored once himself and set up 14 other points Monday night in leading the playoff-bound Dallas Cowboys to a 42-35 victory over the San Francisco 49ers.

In helping the Cowboys overcome four touchdown passes by the 49ers, Jim Plunkett, Staubach, who had not passed well in his two previous games, was brilliant. Staubach three 36 yards to Preston Pearson, 20 to Tony Dorsett and 22 to Butch Johnson, running his season total to 17.

In addition, Staubach ran a yard for a touchdown after setting up the drive with a 38-yard pass to Drew Pearson and put the Cowboys in position for two more scores. The 42 points were the most allowed by the 49ers since 1969, a span covering 21 games.

Plunkett more than matched Staubach, throwing four scoring passes as the 49ers helped put on a good show for the final Monday night telecast of the season. Plunkett threw scoring passes of 10 yards to Ken Harrison, 27 to Gene Washington, one to Delvin Williams and 47 to Paul Seal.



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