

the sports

A quick glance at the conference

Fall workouts begin for SWC

The Texas A&M Aggies, the SMU Mustangs, the TCU Horned Frogs and the Rice Owls are first out of the blocks for fall training as that four-some begins preparation for the 1978 football season on Aug. 17. The rest of the league gets a slightly later start.

Arkansas Coach Lou Holtz welcomes 45 lettermen and 21 starters back when the Fayetteville workouts start Aug. 18. The Houston Cougars begin Aug. 19, followed by Texas Tech and Baylor starting workouts on Aug. 21. The Texas Longhorns get the latest start, Fred Akers blowing his whistle for practice on Aug. 22.

It's all in preparation for the race to the Cotton Bowl and a formidable non-conference slate, which includes three of last season's top ten finishers in the country. The 23 non-conference opponents include seven bowl teams from last year, those being Ohio State, a 35-6 loser to Alabama in the Sugar Bowl; Florida State, a 40-17 winner over Texas Tech in the Tangerine Bowl; LSU, a 24-14 loser to North Carolina State in the Peach Bowl; LSU, a 24-14 loser to Stanford in the Sun Bowl; Oklahoma, a 13-6 loser to Arkansas in the Orange Bowl, Southern Cal; a 47-28 winner over Texas A&M in the Astro-Bluebonnet Bowl and Penn State, a 42-30 winner over Arizona State in the Fiesta Bowl.

The 23 non-conference opponents which will test SWC teams in 1978 combined for a 137-115-3 record in

1977. That's a winning percentage of .544, somewhat below last year's non-conference strength, which had posted a .573 winning norm in 1976.

Joe Paterno's Penn State teams, ranked No. 4 last season by UPI and fifth by AP, has 1978 dates with SMU on Sept. 23 in University Park, Pa., and TCU on Sept. 30 in University Park. Sixth-ranked Kentucky, coming off a 10-1 season, has a Sept. 23 meeting with Baylor in Lexington. And Oklahoma, ranked sixth by UPI and seventh by AP, keeps its traditional date with Texas in the Cotton Bowl on Oct. 7, in addition to a Sept. 23 date with Rice in Norman.

Based on 1977 records, the Rice Owls have the toughest non-conference schedule, meeting Iowa State, Oklahoma and LSU, three teams that combined for a 26-7-0 record last year. Baylor's opposing trio of Georgia, Kentucky and Ohio State, got together for a strong 24-9-0 mark last year while SMU's opponents, Florida, Penn State and Ohio State, were 25-7-1 last fall. Texas' non-league foes, Wyoming, Oklahoma and North Texas State, combined for a 23-9-1 slate last year.

On the same basis, Arkansas would have the easiest schedule. Vanderbilt, Oklahoma State and Tulsa combined for a 9-24 mark in 1977. TCU's opponents Oregon, Penn State and Tulane were 15-18-0 last season. Texas A&M's foes, Kansas, Boston College and Memphis State, were 15-17-1. Texas Tech's

opponents, Southern California, Arizona and New Mexico, were 17-18-0 last year. Houston's opponents, Memphis State, Utah and Florida State, were 18-15-0.

The Tech opener with USC in Los Angeles Sept. 9 marks the first meeting between the two schools and only the third time the Raiders have faced a PAC-8 school. (Tech has a 46-year rivalry with Arizona, which along with Arizona State enters the PAC-10 this year.) The Raiders are 2-0 against the West Coast league, having defeated Washington State, 165-7, in the 1963 opener and again in 1964 with a 28-10 victory.

But overall, the SWC has some catching up to do against the Trojans. USC leads the series with SWC schools 16-4-1. Arkansas (1974) and Baylor (1960) have wins over USC while TCU took wins over the Trojans in 1954 and 1960. Both Baylor and TCU each have a series loss to Southern Cal, Arkansas, Rice and SMU have two losses to them, A&M has three losses and Texas is at the short end of an 0-5 series with the California school.

The Raiders, picked by Dave Campbell's Texas Football magazine to finish eighth in the SWC this year because of the heaviest personnel losses in the league, have only nine seniors to greet new head coach Rex Dockery on Aug. 21. They have the least number of starters returning with 12 and the least lettermen with 30.

The Texas Aggies open with the Kansas Jayhawks Sept. 9 in Lawrence. In the 1977 opener at College Station, the Aggies took a 28-14 win. A&M returns 44 lettermen, including 17 seniors and 15 starters.

The Rice Owls defeated Iowa State, 13-7, the last time the two teams met. That was in 1930 in Houston. On Sept. 9, they meet again in Houston. New Rice boss Ray Albom welcomes back 48 let-

termen, 20 seniors and 16 starters from last year's 1-10 squad.

Sept. 9 also hears the starting gun in the SWC race as SMU and TCU renew their 63-year neighborhood rivalry at the Cotton Bowl. The Horned Frogs lead that series which started in 1915, 28-25-7. SMU won last year's meeting, 45-21, at Amon Carter Stadium.

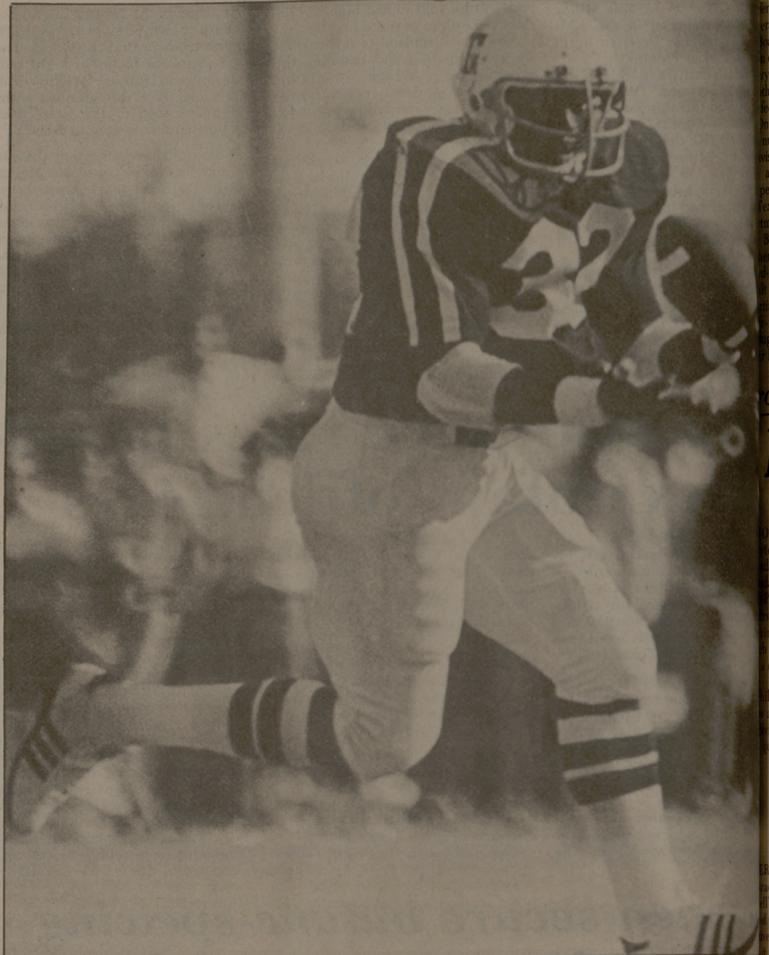
Baylor, Houston, Texas and Arkansas all open their 1978 seasons on Sept. 16.

The Longhorns open defense of their conference crown (they are trying for their 22nd league championship or co-championship) against Rice in Houston. The Longhorns return 36 lettermen for Fred Akers' second year. There are 13 seniors on the squad and 15 starters.

The Houston Cougars, Cotton Bowl champions following the 1976 season, take their show to Memphis for the ninth meeting with Memphis State. The Cougars lost their last meeting in 1975 by a score of 14-7, putting the series at 5-3 in Houston's favor.

Baylor and the Georgia Bulldogs will entertain a regional television audience Sept. 16 in Athens. The last time the two teams met, it was Grant Teaff's debut as a head coach in the Southwest Conference. The Bears lost that 1972 season opener in Athens, 24-14. Baylor returns 40 lettermen, 16 seniors and 16 starters.

Arkansas, favored by many to win their 11th SWC title this season, opens in Little Rock against Vanderbilt. The Razorbacks and Vandy played a home-and-home series back in 1949 and 1950. Arkansas, under then Coach John Barnhill, won the '49 game at Nashville, 7-6, then in 1950 at Little Rock, under new Coach Otis Douglas, the Razorbacks lost, 14-13. Arkansas returns 45 lettermen to the hills in 1978, including 15 seniors and a league high of 21 starters.



The 1978 Texas Aggie football team begins two-a-day workouts tomorrow. One man who will have to work exceptionally hard is David

Brothers, who will move from halfback after the loss of George Woodard Eddie Hardin with injuries.

SMU, Bama cancel

United Press International
DALLAS — Southern Methodist University and Alabama have canceled their scheduled 1979 football game because of a conflict about where the game would be played,

Mustang Athletic Director Russ Potts has announced.

The Mustangs will replace the contest with a road game against Wichita State Nov. 10.

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Chandler, five Aggies prepare to play in Italy

By Derrick Grubbs
The United States World Tournament, coached by Texas A&M's Tom Chandler, is now in Alaska preparing for the XXV World Amateur Championship Tournament to be played in Italy beginning Aug. 25.

Five members of the 1978 Southwest Conference champion Texas A&M baseball team have been selected to play for the United States in the tournament.

Pitchers Mark Thurmond and Mark Ross, first baseman Kyle Hawthorne, catcher Buster Turner and outfielder Mike Hurdle were named to the team of college all-stars by the coaches of the U.S. team. Thurmond, Ross, Hawthorne and Turner will be seniors for A&M next season while Hurdle will be a junior.

The Americans will work out in Fairbanks until Aug. 23 and have a series of exhibition games scheduled against the Canadian national team, a team from Charter Oaks, Calif., and the Alaskan League clubs from

Fairbanks, Palmer, Kenai and Anchorage.
The schedule for the World Tournament was announced last week as national teams from 12 countries meet in Italy to determine the 1978 World Champion of amateur baseball.
The U.S. team, sponsored by the United States Baseball Federation,

will leave Anchorage on Aug. 24 to arrive in Milan, Italy around 11 a.m. on Aug. 24. The tournament competition begins Aug. 25 and continues for five consecutive days through Sept. 1. Games will be played in the Bologna, Rimini and Parma arenas. Ceremonies will be held Sept. 1 in Bologna.

Herrera confident about Seahawks

United Press International
SEATTLE — Efran Herrera, the Dallas Cowboys' All-Pro kicker traded to Seattle, said Tuesday he was confident he soon would come to terms with the Seahawks.

"I may be up there by tomorrow," Herrera said from Los Angeles. "My agent told me it looks pretty good."

Herrera was obtained from the Cowboys Monday for an undisclosed draft choice that both clubs said was not a high one. The third-ranked kicker in the NFL said he had been unable to negotiate a new contract with the Cowboys.

"I never did report to training camp," Herrera said. "I wouldn't do that, then walk out. The Cowboys weren't fair with me. They gave me an offer which was take it or leave it. At the start of camp the offer was the

same. I told them, 'Sorry, I can't accept that.'"

Herrera, 27, is entering his fourth year in the NFL.

"This is a good acquisition for a good kicker," Seahawks general manager John Thompson said. "My agent added the Seahawks to the two seasons, 'is still out kicker until proved otherwise.'"

Herrera said he was happy the prospect of going to the Seahawks.
"I'm excited, really looking forward to it," Herrera said. "Seattle looks like a great place to go. They're hungry to get a kicker. They've installed a good coach. I definitely think this will help me, and it will help me."

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