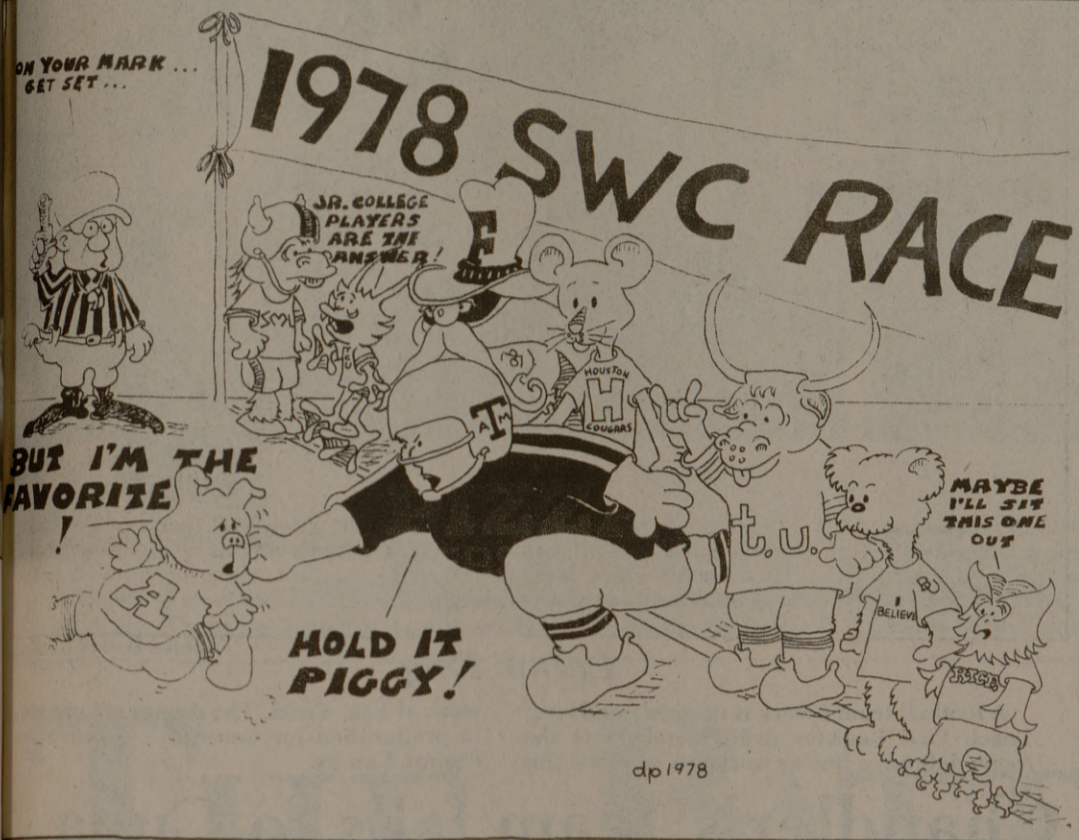


the sports

# SWC race about to begin



United Press International  
The Southwest Conference football season opens Saturday with three games including a league battle between two clubs that seem intent on heating up a one-time scalding rivalry.

This year's action commences with the University of Arkansas Razorbacks a popular choice to dominate the conference and perhaps even win the national championship.

But favorites have had a way of being knocked aside during the past few years and Texas, Texas A&M, Baylor and Houston all have hopes of doing just that to the Hogs.

Of that group only Texas A&M opens its season this weekend, traveling to the University of Kansas for a 1:30 p.m. kickoff.

New Texas Tech coach Rex Dockery will take a squad ravaged by graduation to Los Angeles for a first-ever evening meeting with Southern California in the other non-conference game on the schedule.

And in Dallas' Cotton Bowl Saturday night, Southern Methodist University and Texas Christian University, which in years past staged some bitter battles, will open against each other.

"I'm scared to death about TCU and I hope our players are, too," said SMU coach Ron Meyer, who recruited well this year only to have his No. 1 recruit — noseguard Dean Haugum — leave school and return home to Colorado.

In advance of the season Meyer has also brought up a sore topic, that of the 1977 meeting between SMU and TCU in Fort Worth. That game began at 4 p.m., with temperatures well over 100 degrees on the artificial surface, and SMU officials were not too thrilled about it.

"Someone could have died out there," Meyer said, reopening the discussion.

The rest of the SWC teams open their season a week from Saturday — defending champion Texas visiting Rice in a conference game, Arkansas hosting Vanderbilt at Little Rock, Baylor going to Georgia and Houston traveling to Memphis State.

As has happened every year since

1968, the Southwest Conference will begin the year with at least one new coach.

In addition to Dockery, who inherits the Texas Tech job from his close friend Steve Sloan, Ray Alborn will move in at Rice for Homer Rice, who left the school one day after spring practice ended.

Alborn will be the first Rice graduate ever to coach the Owls, who are a near unanimous pick to finish last in the league this season.

"You know I never had so many people offer me condolences," said Alborn. "You would have thought getting this job was a bad disease. I thought about getting a physical."

"I'm not looking ahead. I'm interested in 1978. We must do something on the field for people to bang their hats on. I know what makes this school tick. I love Rice University."

At the other end of the spectrum, Texas A&M has won some support as a logical challenger to Arkansas this year with quarterback Mike Mosley, running back Curtis Dickey, kicker Tony Franklin and a typically nasty defense.

But despite year-in and year-out quality personnel, the Aggies have not put a team in the Cotton Bowl game in ten years.

## Aggies hold scrimmage to prepare for season

By SEAN PETTY  
Battalion Staff

Last Wednesday the Southwest Conference press tour passed through College Station to ask Emory Ballard a few questions and evaluate the 1978 Aggie football team.

At the end of their tour, the reporters summed up their evaluations and decided that the Aggies finished fourth in the conference.

The all-wise sportswriters did not go to the Aggie scrimmage Saturday afternoon, however. If they would have, they might have sung a little different tune.

The Aggies had a tough three-hour scrimmage in the afternoon.

The heat did not affect the performance of the first team offense or defense. The offense executed well and scored a total of 65 points. The defense was quick and swarming, stopping only a few first downs the entire afternoon.

Although Curtis Dickey went out only due to the heat, he had a good day, making some long runs out of the 1-form and scoring on a 57-yard touchdown run.

Both quarterbacks, Mike Mosley and David Beal, looked great. Mosley continuously turned losses into gains and passes with efficiency to Doug Teague and Russell

Mikeska. Beal had an 80-yard touchdown run and hit Teague with a 12-yard touchdown pass.

David Brothers and Adger Armstrong ran well, both battling for extra inches every time they got the ball. Both Armstrong and Brothers scored twice.

The Aggies were divided into two separate teams. The first and second string offense and defense made up the white team and the remaining players made up the blue team.

While the first and second team offenses were running roughshod through the blue team's defense, the first and second team defenses were keeping the blue team in the minus yardage column all afternoon.

Defensive tackle Eugene Sanders and defensive end Jacob Green spent almost as much time in the blues' backfield as the blues' running backs.

Someone forgot to tell free safety Carl Grulich that it was just a scrimmage as he tackled anything that moved in the defensive secondary. Kenneth Taylor, strong safety, also got a big piece of the hitting. Sophomore cornerback Leandrew Brown showed what he had by intercepting two passes.

The linebacker corps of Doug Carr, Floyd Bandle, Dick Frazier, Cal Pevoto and Mike Little and Randy Harvey were all over the

field and in on most of the tackles.

The blue team did score once on a 40-yard field goal by freshman David Hardy.

In all it was a very impressive scrimmage. There were the usual early-season penalties, fumbles and missed assignments but those can be worked out. The offense ticked along smoothly, the defense was tough and the kicking game was solid. In short, the Aggies seem ready for the 1978 campaign.

## Aggies anticipate openers

Several women's sports are underway this week at Texas A&M in preparation for the 1978-79 season.

The women's golf team, which finished in the top 20 at nationals in June, will open the season in the All-College Classic in Oklahoma City, Sept. 11-13. Qualifying continues this week as Kim Bauer, Rita Aguilar, Shirley Furlong, Carol Berry, Andrea Welch and Monica Welsh compete for five positions.

The women's softball team will meet Sam Houston State in its first game of the season in Huntsville Sept. 12 at 6 p.m. This will be the debut of new coach Bill Galloway who has been assistant softball coach at Indiana University for the past three years.

Cross country, tennis, volleyball and gymnastics are also underway with tryouts and practice sessions this week.

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