

SWC slate opens this weekend

Here are notes on Saturday's Southwest Conference football games:

—LOUISIANA TECH (2-0) at TEXAS A&M (1-1), 6 p.m.—Tech scored 28 points in first quarter last week en route to 49-12 victory over Central Michigan, handing latter its 21st straight loss. Ronnie Williams sparked Tech's 28-7 opening victory over West Texas State by scoring on pass, run and 74-yard punt return. Aggies had biggest offensive show in last 291 games Saturday with 61-22 victory over Texas-Arlington. You have to go back to 1928 to find another Aggie team scoring more than 61 points—69-0 over Sewanee, 457 games ago. Johnny Hector, SWC's leading receiver (11 for 111 yards) and eighth-leading rusher (72 yards a game), may miss next two starts with shoulder injury.

—MISSISSIPPI (2-1) vs. ARKANSAS (2-0) at LITTLE ROCK, 7 p.m.—Razorbacks seek fifth 3-0 start in Lou Holtz's six years as head coach. Rebels off to first 2-0 start under former Texas Tech coach Steve Sloan, but couldn't sustain 7-7 first-quarter tie and fell to Alabama, 42-14. Second straight tie against strong passing attack for Razorbacks, who yielded 19 completions, 274 yards and two touchdowns in 29-17 victory over Navy last week. Mississippi's Kent Austin, in first year as starter, hit 15 for 153 yards vs. Alabama. Arkansas quarterback duo of Tom Jones and Brad Taylor remain effective, Taylor pacing SWC in passing efficiency at 188.6 points and Jones hitting 56.7 percent. Once a leading rivalry, teams renewed series last year for first time since 1961 with Arkansas overcoming 13-3 deficit for 27-13 victory to tie series at 14-14.

—TCU (1-1, 0-0 in SWC) at SMU (2-0, 0-0 in SWC), 7 p.m.—One of the series that solidified SWC football,

this is 65th meeting with SMU holding 29-28-7 edge after winning last 10 meetings—longest victory string for either team and SMU's longest-ever against any SWC opponent. Last Frog victory was 35-22 in Cotton Bowl in 1972. Two of nation's top offenses, SMU leads SWC in total offense (489 yards per game) and rushing offense (414.5), TCU is third in total offense (392.5), second in passing (186), fourth in rushing (206.5). SMU's Eric Dickerson is first in SWC rushing (174) and tandem (181.5), second in scoring (12.0 points per game), Craig James is first in punting (46.4), third in tandem (117.5), fourth in rushing (106.5).

—LAMAR (2-1) at HOUSTON (0-2), 7 p.m.—Houston taking a break from top twenty opponents after two straight losses. Lamar going for third consecutive win, beating Stephen F. Austin and Sam Houston after taking a 30-0 season-opening loss to Southwest Texas. Cardinals return 14 starters (5 offensive, 9 defensive) from their 4-6-1 1981 team that counted an 18-17 victory over defending SWC champion Baylor among its victories. Last and only Houston-Lamar meeting was 20-0 Houston win in 1975 season opener in the Astrodome. Cougar veer offense off to a slow start, currently ninth in the conference total offense standings. Houston working on turnover problem (six against ASU) that led directly to 17 of the Sun Devils' 24 points in that 24-10 loss.

—MISSOURI (2-0) at TEXAS (1-0), 7 p.m.—Texas aiming at sixth straight 2-0 start after opening with 21-12 win over Utah. Tigers aiming to avenge 21-0 loss in Columbia three years ago. Missouri prepares for biggest test yet after solid wins over Colorado State and Army. Horns gained 313 yards on the ground vs. Utes with Darryl Clark gaining 162 on 20 carries, joining Terry Orr to spark 75-yard clinching touchdown drive

in last six minutes. Texas defense bent to allow Utah 223 yards rushing but only 82 by air, ranking them ninth and first, respectively, in SWC stats. Horns and Tigers have met 11 times with Texas owning 7-4 edge, including last four in 1931, '45, '46 and '79.

—BAYLOR (1-1) at TEXAS TECH (1-1), 7:30 p.m.—41st meeting between Raiders and Bears will be setting for Tech homecoming with Baylor trying for fourth straight win over Tech and to improve on 23-16-1 series lead dating to 1929. Tech owns 13-10-1 edge in Lubbock and 12-10 lead in conference play. Baylor was off last week after dropping 21-14 decision at Ohio State. Tech came back from 14-0 loss to New Mexico to post 31-30 win over Air Force in home opener Saturday, after being behind four times. Alfred Anderson rushed 73 yards vs. OSU after 105 in opener vs. North Texas, ranked fifth in SWC. Bears' Gerald McNeil third in SWC receiving with 4.5 catches per game. Baylor quarterback Mike Brannan producing 147.5 yards per game total passing and running. Tech's Gabe Rivera credited with 22 tackles in two games. Tech coach Jerry Moore is '61 graduate of Baylor. Baylor's Grant Teaff coached at Tech for three years.

—RICE (0-2) at LSU (1-0), 7:30 p.m.—Owls seek to escape second straight 0-3 start with repeat of 17-7 victory over LSU in '80. Tigers won a close one last year, 24-14, to take 33-13-4 all-time series lead. LSU is most successful SWC foe through the years with 87-41-10 reading (Oklahoma distant second with 42-40-3 reading). Tigers have won 13 and tied one in last 15 meetings with Owls. Despite losing first two games, Owls rank second in SWC total defense (282 yards per game) and second in rushing defense (98.5). Rice offense averaging 339 yards per game with improved ground game averaging 193.

Cross country squad second in five-miler

Bacilio Garcia of the Baylor men's cross country team outdistanced members of a four-team field to win the Baylor Invitational in Waco Thursday.

The Texas A&M squad, led by Jimmy Sterling's fifth-place finish, placed second in the team standings behind the Bears. Baylor totaled 32 points, followed by the Aggies' 47, SMU's 63 and UT-Arlington's 74.

Garcia finished the five-mile course in 24:21, while Sterling ended the event with a time of 24:58. Other Aggie finishes include Jim Bolleter, sixth at 25:10; Aaron Rimeres, eighth at 25:33; Craig Weise, 12th at 26:13, and Jeff Kurtz, 16th at 26:34.

Vince Stark, one of the Aggies' top runners, could not compete in the meet because of sickness.

After placing second in the A&M Invitational last weekend, the women's cross country team

will compete in an eight-team meet hosted by Rice Saturday. Running the two-mile course for the Aggies will be Suzanne Sheffield, Lisa McCorstin, Esther Dedrick, Debbie Noel, Stacie Reich and Paula Odum.

In other weekend sports action, the women's volleyball team opened play today against Nebraska in the Husker Invitational in Lincoln, Neb. The Aggie Ladies, ranked No. 15 in the nation, are slated to play Southwest Missouri Saturday at 10 a.m., with the final round of the tourney scheduled for Saturday at 4 p.m.

Texas A&M, which has a 7-0 record, is tied with Texas for first in the Southwest Conference.

Pre-game activities at the Texas A&M-Louisiana Tech game in Kyle Field at 6 p.m. Saturday will recognize 1982 accomplishments of the Aggie women's softball and golf teams.

During the spring, Coach Bob Brock's softball team gave Texas A&M its first varsity national title since the 1939 football team's crown. The women's golf team, coached by Kitty Holley, claimed its first state championship and was led by All-America Shirley Furlong and runner-up Monica Welsh.

The Aggie softball team may soon have a new home on the Texas A&M campus. Plans have been initiated to convert the southwest quadrant of the Penberthy Intramural Complex into a softball park that will be used for both the varsity team and the intramural program.

A four-man committee including Brock, Associate Athletic Director for Finance Wally Groff and Intramural Director Dennis Corrington is now in the process of drawing blueprints for the park. The facility may be ready for use in the spring.

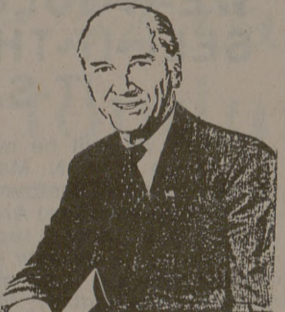
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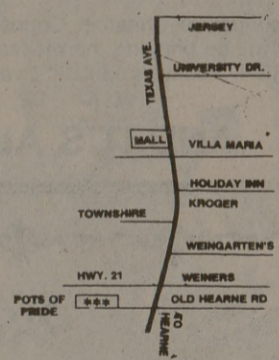
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