

Dallas
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sports

Battalion/Page 12
 November 4, 1982

Interesting playoffs in store

High school races confusing

United Press International
 Proponents of this season's change in the high school football playoff structure argue it will keep the races interesting. The new system for the first time allows two teams from each district to participate in post-season games. Buzzy Kieth, past president of the Texas High School Coaches Association and the person who urged the University Interscholastic League to put the expanded playoff system to a vote, said he is pleased with the confusion he has created. Throughout the state, districts are coming to the final week with four and five teams

still in the race for playoff berths. "I think it's great," said Kieth, head football coach at El Campo. El Campo is involved in a three-way tie for first place with Bay City and West Columbia in District 10-4A. The three teams are knotted at 5-2, but with its losses to Bay City and West Columbia, El Campo must hope for one of those two teams to lose or tie this week for it to advance. "Just a few weeks ago, there were five teams still with a shot at the playoffs (in his district)," Kieth said. "That kind of thing keeps the players and fans interested to the final game of the

season. I've had calls from several coaches who at first weren't sure about the system but now think it's great." The best aspect of the new playoff structure, Kieth said, is that it allows stronger teams that don't win championships into post-season play. But what has the Kieth-inspired system wrought besides added fan support and stronger playoff representatives? In some districts, it has meant a statistician's nightmare. Consider the races in two Class 5A districts on opposite sides of the state. In District 13-5A, Nacogdoches has come out the sur-

prise champion over favored Tyler John Tyler and Texas High in Texarkana. But the race for second will not be decided until Friday. Doug Cox's Longview team meets Longview Pinetree. A win would mean his team would finish co-champion but, by virtue of its loss to Nacogdoches, be the second-place playoff team. But, if Longview loses and Marshall beats Texarkana, then Marshall goes to the playoffs. But, if Longview loses and Marshall loses, Longview Pinetree goes to the playoffs. Cox can't look too far into the playoffs—if he makes it. Match-

ed with the winner of District 31-5A, it gets more confusing. Alice plays Corpus Christi Carroll tonight. The winner of that game is out of the playoffs entirely. Saturday, Corpus Christi Ray plays Corpus Christi Miller. If Ray wins, it will go to the playoffs. If it loses, Gregory-Portland beats Corpus Christi King, G-P goes to the playoffs. If both Ray and Miller lose, King may have a shot at the playoffs.

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Mavericks overcome errors to dump Houston, 102-101

United Press International
 DALLAS — The Dallas Mavericks were expected to make further progress in their third NBA season. But things seem to be getting out of hand. In their first four games the Mavericks have come away with three victories and they did not reach that milestone last year until a week into December.

Dallas turned the ball over 21 times Wednesday night and saw the ball take some odd bounces right into the hands of the opponents, but somehow the Mavericks nipped the Houston Rockets for the second night in a row, 102-101. "This one is nice," said Mavericks' coach Dick Motta,

who before the season insisted that his team should not be considered a candidate for the playoffs. "All our wins have been close, which is good for our young ballclub. It's good for them to face that situation. We made a lot of mistakes tonight that would have cost us the ballgame if our defense hadn't been playing so well."

The Mavericks handed Houston its fourth loss in as many games this year and they had to come from nine points down in the second quarter to do it. The lead changed hands six times in the fourth quarter, but a left handed layup by Allan Bristow with 39 seconds left put Dallas in front by two. Then, when the Rockets' Joe Bryant missed a

jump shot with 18 seconds to go, 6-2 Dallas guard Kelvin Ransey outjumped 6-7 Wally Walker and 7-0 Caldwell Jones for the rebound and after he was fouled Ransey made two free throws. A three-point shot by Houston's Allen Leavell cut the Rockets' deficit to one, and with seven seconds remaining the Mavericks' Rolando Blackman was fouled.

Blackman missed both of his free throws, but Houston had no time outs remaining and could not get the ball downcourt in time to have a good shot at winning the game. Houston was without time outs partially because coach Del Harris called two of them early in the game when his team fell

behind. "I called those time outs because the team wasn't listening," said Harris. "It hurt us in the end. But I feel we made progress tonight. This was the ball game we've played this season. Mark Aguirre led Dallas to 20 points, but he was not on the floor in the final critical minutes. Pat Cummings, who did most of the part in the stretch drive, scored 14 while rookie Bill Gates added 13 and Blackman and Vincent each had 12. Bryant paced Houston with 20 and Calvin Murphy scored 19. Ransey scored just six points in 23 minutes, but he was instrumental in keeping Dallas in the game through the fourth quarter.

A&M hockey team tops Tulane

The Texas A&M hockey team used two-goal performances by Gordon Anderson and Myles Coleman to skate to its first victory ever with a decision Saturday

over the Tulane Green Wave. The Ice-Ags split two matches with Tulane in New Orleans over the weekend, winning

Saturday 7-3 and losing to the Green Wave 9-6 Sunday. In the first match, Texas A&M scored four goals in the second period to break a 2-2 tie on the way to a four-goal victory. The Aggies' other goals in the match came from Greg Skibins, Steve Mathiason and Tom Dobrez. Texas A&M outshot the Green Wave 42-28 in the match.

In the second match, Darren Shequen scored two goals for the Ice-Ags, but Tulane outscored Texas A&M 4-1 in the fourth period to wind up the 9-6 victory. The two teams had been tied 5-5 after two periods of play. The Aggies' other goals were scored by Mark Vickery, Ken Smith, Anderson and Tom Steinweg, the team's player-coach. Smith led Texas A&M with one goal and five assists during the two matches. The two matches were Texas A&M's first ever as a competitive organization. The Aggies now have a 1-1 record and Tulane 1-3 overall.

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