

beats nes

Five schools to form new conference

AUSTIN (AP) — Five Central Texas colleges announced Wednesday that they have formed a new athletic conference, with competition set to begin next fall.

The new Heart of Texas Athletic Conference will sponsor four sports for men and four for women, said Patricia Hayes, president of St. Edward's University in Austin.

"I think I have spoken with almost all the independent colleges in Texas as a part of this process. Our hope is to move, probably in three to four years, to a six-, seven- or eight-school conference," she said.

Members of the new conference so far are St. Edward's, Incarnate Word College in San Antonio, St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas Lutheran College in Seguin and the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor in Belton.

Four of the schools — all but Incarnate Word — have been members of the Big State conference. Two Big State schools won't be joining the new league, East Texas Baptist in Marshall and Huston-Tillotson in Austin, Hayes said.

A three-sport conference for men and a three-sport conference for women simply wasn't serving the needs of that (larger) student body," she said.

Hayes said the men's sports initially offered will be basketball, tennis, soccer and baseball. The women's sports will be basketball, tennis, volleyball and softball.

Each school will be allowed to offer 44 athletic scholarships — 24 for men and 20 for women, Hayes said.

In the men's sports, the scholarship ranges are 10 to 13 in basketball, five to eight in baseball, one to three in soccer and up to two in tennis. The women's ranges are six to nine in basketball, four to seven in volleyball, two to four in softball and up to two in tennis.

"We think that the notion of ranges is something that gives each school some flexibility and yet ensures that the competition will be a satisfying and equitable one," Hayes said.

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New NCAA drug-test plan will be implemented soon

WASHINGTON (AP) — The National Collegiate Athletic Association announced details Wednesday of a sweeping drug-testing program and said it will screen athletes who participate in this season's college football bowl games and the 64-team college basketball tournament.

NCAA Executive Director Walter Byers called the plan "the most comprehensive and reliable program of any organization in the United States," saying he hopes it eventually will deter drug abuse on college and high school campuses across the country.

The program will cost about \$950,000 to implement in its first year, and the NCAA will contribute \$2 million to laboratories that will expand its testing efforts, Byers said.

At the same time, the NCAA will spend \$430,000 on a drug-education program that will send videotapes and other materials to schools and youth groups.

The drug testing will screen athletes for dozens of substances, including illegal drugs such as cocaine and marijuana, along with steroids, extensive amounts of caffeine and other stimulants, Byers said at a press conference.

Byers said urine samples might be taken both before and after games, and if an athlete tests positive for any of the substances, most of which are not controlled under criminal laws, he or she would be declared ineligible. If the test comes after a championship game, a winning team with an athlete testing positive would forfeit the game, he said.

The NCAA will not publicly disclose the names of athletes found to test positive.

The testing will include virtually all NCAA-sanctioned intercollegiate sports, including football, basketball, baseball, golf, track, gymnastics, skiing, tennis, rifle competition and others, Byers said.

The NCAA will not test athletes during the regular season, but only during championship competition. The program will begin in November, perhaps with the cross country championships.

"It's a leadership program, but I think its impact will be felt throughout the NCAA member institutions," Byers said.

Ruth Berkey, an assistant NCAA executive director, said that about 90 universities and colleges had their own drug testing programs, a number that likely has increased since the cocaine intoxication death of University of Maryland basketball star Len Bias in June.

Byers said the tests will be supervised by laboratories at the UCLA Medical Center and the National Institute for Scientific Research at the University of Quebec in Montreal, which both have worked with the International Olympic Committee.

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Astros' magic number at 1 as Ryan, Kerfeld halt Giants

HOUSTON (AP) — Nolan Ryan pitched no-hit ball for 6½ innings Wednesday night and the Houston Astros clinched a tie for the National League West championship by beating the San Francisco Giants 6-0.

Ryan, who gave up a clean single to Mike Aldrete in the seventh, allowed one hit through eight innings. He struck out nine and walked three. Reliever Charlie Kerfeld gave one hit in the ninth.

Ryan, 11-8, holds the major-league record with five no-hitters. He also has pitched nine one-hitters. Ryan has been on the disabled list twice this season with a sore elbow, and the Astros have been limiting the number of pitches he throws in each start since his latest return from the injury.

One more Houston victory or one loss by runnerup Cincinnati will clinch the title for the Astros.

Billy Hatcher and Kevin Bass each drove in two runs and Glenn Davis hit his 30th home run in the seventh. Mike LaCoss, 10-13, took the loss.

Hatcher's two-run single highlighted Houston's three-run fourth inning and made it 4-0.

Jose Cruz singled and Alan Ashby walked with one out in the fourth and third baseman Bob Brenly's fielding error on Ryan's grounder allowed Cruz to score the first run. Hatcher then sent a single to right field, scoring Ashby and Ryan, but Hatcher was thrown out trying to take second base.

Kevin Bass hit an RBI single in the first inning.

Doran singled in the fifth and scored on Bass' double to the left-field corner. LaCoss then walked Doran and then sent him from first to third on a wild pitch.

Major League Baseball

AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division					NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division				
W	L	Pct.	GB		W	L	Pct.	GB	
Boston	91	60	.603	—	x-New York	99	53	.651	—
New York	83	69	.546	8½	Philadelphia	80	72	.526	19
Toronto	83	69	.546	8½	St. Louis	76	76	.500	23
Detroit	80	72	.526	11½	Montreal	75	76	.500	23½
Cleveland	77	75	.507	14½	Chicago	65	87	.428	34
Baltimore	71	81	.467	20½	Pittsburgh	62	90	.408	37
Milwaukee	70	81	.464	21					

West Division					West Division				
W	L	Pct.	GB		W	L	Pct.	GB	
California	88	63	.583	—	Houston	88	64	.579	—
Texas	80	71	.530	8	Cincinnati	78	74	.513	10
Oakland	72	81	.471	17	San Francisco	77	75	.507	11
Kansas City	70	82	.461	19	Atlanta	70	81	.464	17½
Chicago	66	86	.434	22½	Los Angeles	70	81	.464	17½
Seattle	66	86	.434	22½	San Diego	70	81	.464	17½
Minnesota	65	86	.430	23½					

Wednesday's Games

Toronto 8, Detroit 2
New York 4, Baltimore 1
Kansas City 2, Minnesota 1
Boston at Milwaukee, ppd, rain
Cleveland at California, ppd, rain
Texas at Seattle, (n)

Wednesday's Games

Houston 6, San Francisco 0
Chicago 8, New York 2
San Diego at Los Angeles, ppd, rain
Pittsburgh 2, Montreal 1
Cincinnati 4, Atlanta 1
St. Louis 7, Philadelphia 1

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