

# Hogs have easy road of ahead before tourney

By DENNE H. FREEMAN  
Of The Associated Press

The Arkansas Razorbacks, after being "Iba-ized" in two consecutive defeats that severely damaged their national ranking, have an easy road to the Southwest Conference regular season basketball championship.

The Razorbacks got back on track for a repeat title on Saturday with a 77-46 victory over Southern Methodist fashioned with a fullcourt press that panicked the Mustangs into a season-high 28 turnovers.

Arkansas coach Nolan Richardson tried a zone defense that didn't work on Wednesday night in an 81-79 loss to Moe Iba and the Texas Christian Horned Frogs. He decided to press the Mustangs and it paid off in a rout.

"After having all those barnburners, it's nice to come home for a game like this," Richardson said.

On Saturday a week ago the Hogs suffered their first league loss to coach Gene Iba and the Baylor Bears.

Arkansas has a 12-2 league ledger with only two conference games left, Texas A&M on Wednesday and Rice on March 3, both in friendly Barnhill Fieldhouse in Fayetteville.

Arkansas will be even more important in coming weeks.

Richardson has indicated suspended forward Ron Huery will be back against Texas A&M on Wednesday night. Huery missed the last two games after being suspended by Richardson for breaking unspecified team rules.

Both Texas and Houston still have outside chances to catch the Hogs.

Texas has only three SWC losses, and came up with a big road victory over Texas A&M, 79-73, Sunday.

The Cougars, 9-3, downed Baylor 83-77 on Saturday to capture their seventh consecutive victory, longest streak since 1983-84.

Baylor coach Iba said "their defense was the best I have ever seen at a University of Houston basketball team play. It's the quickness they have. We have not played against quicker inside people."

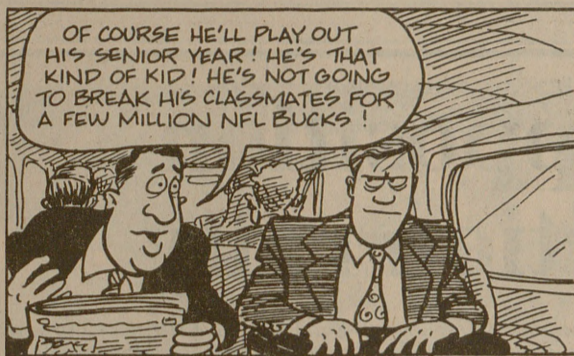
In the other league game, TCU moved into sole possession of fourth place with a 67-55 victory over the Rice Owls. Rice shot a season low 31 percent from the field.

Texas Tech went outside the conference but lost its 14th consecutive game by falling 65-56 to Arkansas State. The Red Raiders fell to 5-18 in their last season.

Besides the important Arkansas-Texas A&M game on Wednesday, Houston will play host to TCU, Rice is at SMU, and Texas Tech is at Baylor as coach Gerald Myers' crew seeks its first league victory of the year after 12 defeats.

## TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



# Montana named Player of Year

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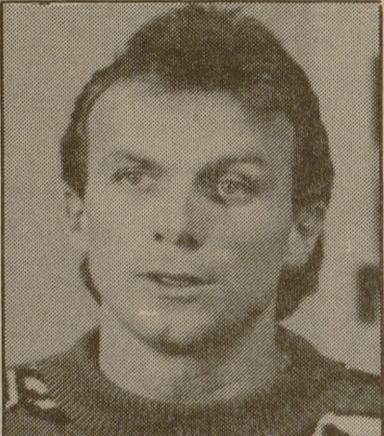
Joe Montana, who had the best season of any quarterback in NFL history in leading the San Francisco 49ers to their fourth Super Bowl victory, has been named The Associated Press' male athlete of the year for 1989.

Montana began the year by capping a 92-yard drive with a 10-yard touchdown pass to John Taylor with 34 seconds left to beat Cincinnati for the 49ers' third Super Bowl. Then, during the 1989 regular season, he threw 26 touchdown passes and had only eight interceptions in leading San Francisco to a 14-2 record.

And although it didn't count in the balloting because it occurred in 1990, he threw five TD passes in the 55-10 Super Bowl win over Denver that made the 49ers the first team in a decade to repeat as NFL champions and the second ever to win four Super Bowls.

Montana, 33, won the honors in a three-way race with Bo Jackson, who plays both baseball and football, and cyclist Greg LeMond. He is only the third NFL player to win the award in the 49 years it has been given. The others were George Blanda in 1970 and O.J. Simpson in 1973.

He had 36 first-place votes in the national balloting by sports writers and editors and 253 points. Jackson received 33 first-place votes and 228 points. Jackson hit .256 with 32 home runs, 105 RBI and 26 stolen bases for baseball's Kansas City Roy-



Joe Montana

als, then gained 950 yards in 173 carries, a 5.5 average, in 11 games with football's Los Angeles Raiders.

LeMond, who won his second Tour de France after recovering from gunshot wounds sustained in a hunting accident, was third with 26 first-place votes and 218 points.

Completing the top 10, in order, were baseball's Nolan Ryan, hockey's Wayne Gretzky, pro basketball's Magic Johnson, college basketball's Chris Jackson, and three Bay Area baseball players, Kevin Mitchell, Rickey Henderson and Will Clark.

But Montana, whose Super Bowl MVP award was his third in four appearances, had an outstanding season.

# Hogs win track championship in easy fashion

FORT WORTH (AP) — The ease with which the Arkansas Razorbacks won their 10th consecutive Southwest Conference men's Indoor Track and Field championship surprised even their toughest critic, head coach John McDonnell, who admitted "it was a lot easier than I thought it would be."

"I figured Baylor would be a lot closer than they were but the guys

just didn't give them a chance to get close," McDonnell said of Saturday's victory.

Arkansas rolled up 60 points with 1-2-3-4-5 finishes in the mile and 3000 meter run behind uncatchable Reuben Reina.

The Texas Lady Longhorns won their sixth consecutive women's title even without high-scoring Carlette Guidry, who withdrew because of a

knee injury.

The Lady Longhorns didn't need her 30-point potential with Tina Hall's victories in both the mile and 3000 meters, Kellie Roberts' victory in the 800 meters, and Sandie Richards' gold medal in the 400 meters.

Texas scored 127 points to 93 for Rice, 66 for Houston, and 60 for Baylor.

# Game

(Continued from page 9)

ahead, 74-71, with 1:48 left.

The Longhorns didn't look back.

Ricks fouled out with one minute left as he went up to block Blanks' shot attempt from the right side. It was an apparent block, but officials said Ricks had too much body contact with Blanks.

"I got all ball," Ricks said. "I know I got all ball. If you look at the instant replay, you'd see I got all ball. In fact, if anything, he pushed off on me."

Ricks was charged with guarding Blanks down the stretch. But after he fouled out, no one was left to defend the hot-shooting senior.

Milton scored A&M's last points of the game on a whirling, twist-around shot in the middle of the key. The Aggies had a faint hope with 22 seconds left and down, 76-73. But Thompson was called for a reaching in foul on Blanks, and Mil-

ton missed a three-pointer.

"We played up and down the whole game," Rhea said. "There were times when we couldn't get the baskets we should have. We couldn't capitalize on their mistakes and in the end, we just let it get away."

Thornton was impressed with the way the Aggies stayed with the Longhorns during the game. With four games left in the regular season, A&M may be starting the kind of streak of inspired play it needs to prepare for the SWC Tournament in March.

"There were obvious times today for the guys could've folded on us," Thornton said. "These guys don't know how to quit, and they believe they can do anything. I'm anxious for tournament time to come."

"I'll go home tonight and think of things I could've done differently. We just didn't make the shots. A lot of basketball is played on adrenaline and emotion. When these guys get juiced up, they're a good team."

# Douglas, Holyfield to fight in September

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — Evander Holyfield will meet heavyweight champion James "Buster" Douglas in the fall, forcing Mike Tyson to wait a year for a rematch with the man who took his title, Douglas' manager said Sunday.

Holyfield, the top-ranked challenger, and Douglas will fight in September under an agreement manager John Johnson said he reached Saturday with Holyfield's manager, Dan Duva.

"Right now, we're planning for Holyfield in September," Johnson said. "It looks like (a rematch with) Tyson will be next February."

Johnson said financial terms for the Holyfield fight have not been finalized, but said Douglas would earn "many times the \$1.3 million" he was paid for his 10th-round knockout

over Tyson at Tokyo on Feb. 10.

In an interview on NBC-TV Sunday, Johnson said one factor in the decision to fight Holyfield was the lack of respect Tyson and promoter Don King showed toward Douglas after their fight.

"Don King had tried, and for a very short time, successfully kept James Douglas from being the heavyweight champion of the world," Johnson said. "James Douglas didn't get the true glory and all the things he should have gotten after that fight because of Don King's actions."

"We're going to go with James Douglas' wishes not to have anything to do with Don King, and I agree with that, but we're going to be more than fair with Don King."

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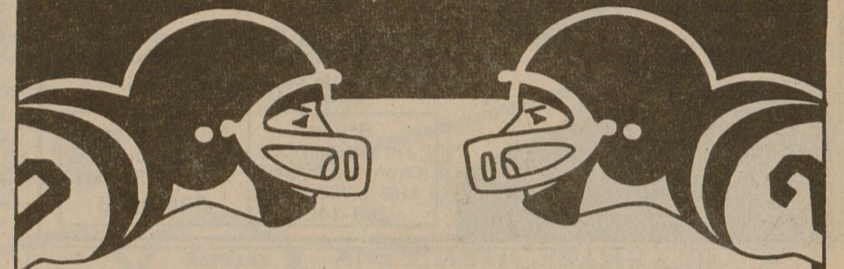
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