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## Hogs' leaving won't scuttle SWC battleship

**H**oly Cow, they're gone!  
The University of Arkansas bid farewell to the Southwest Conference in favor of joining the Southeastern Conference this week — and I don't understand why everyone is upset.

The Razorbacks jumped at the chance to play in a "superconference" and the lure of an extra \$1.5 million annually. I don't see anything wrong with that.

If a respected and established university like Notre Dame can back out of a television contract involving the bulk of the NCAA's Division I, then why are the Hogs being blamed for breaking up such a "hallowed" institution as the SWC?

I don't blame the Razorbacks for jumping from a sinking ship. The conference lost much of its prestige during the 80s when it was rocked by NCAA sanctions that hit every team except Rice and Arkansas.

Look no further than the coveted Cotton Bowl Classic and the effects of the conference's errant ways can be seen. Television ratings for the game over the last few years have consistently been the lowest of any other game on New Year's Day.

Arkansas received \$760,000 last year in television, bowl and post-season revenues. The average SEC school received more than twice that amount.

I give the new SWC four more years at the most and then we'll see A&M and the Longhorns abandon ship, possibly to join the Hogs in the western sector of the SEC.

Basically, it boils down to two things — economics and recruiting.

There's more money to be made in beating up on Mississippi and Vanderbilt than there is in doing the same to TCU and SMU.

Texas is already losing many of its top high school recruits to out-of-state schools and now, with Arkansas gone to a conference that made 107 appearances on College Football Association telecasts last year compared to the SWC's 63, the number of recruits leaving the state could escalate.

Arkansas took a bold step toward taking its university, not just the athletic program, to a new level of excellence.

I know traditions die hard at A&M, but hopefully within the next three or four years the Aggie War Hymn will be heard all across the SEC.

# Questions left bobbing in Razorbacks' wake

## FSU, Miami await future

**CORAL GABLES, Fla. (AP)**—Officials at Florida State and Miami say Arkansas' move Wednesday into the Southeastern Conference will not influence their decision on whether to join the league.

"It has no impact on us at all," said Bob Goin, athletic director at Florida State. "All that's going to do is add another university to a great conference. We're still going to go through the process of evaluating a myriad of things."

Neither Florida State nor Miami is in a rush. Miami only recently returned the SEC's institutional survey, and Goin said the Seminoles' only deadline for a decision is the Oct. 15 date set by its basketball conference, the Metro.

Neither school has received an official offer from the SEC.

Larry Wahl, Miami associate director for communications, said Arkansas' decision doesn't affect the Hurricanes but is significant.

"There's been a lot of talk about expanding conferences, but they actually moved," Wahl said. "It may be the thing that really starts something."

Arkansas' switch ended its 76-year alliance with the Southwest Conference. The Razorbacks will leave the SWC on June 30, 1991 and become the SEC's 11th school the following day.

Goin and Wahl said the SEC hasn't indicated how many teams it will accept.

"I think the SEC is thinking about 12, 14, maybe 16 teams," Wahl said. "It could be the SEC will expand in stages — maybe take two now and two down the road."



Battalion file photo

Arkansas leaves the Southwest Conference for a hopefully bright future within the powerful Southeastern Conference.

## A&M archery team right on target for continued success

By **DOUGLAS PILS**  
Of The Battalion Staff

Texas A&M's archery team doesn't possess the largest budget on campus nor do they get great fan support but that hasn't kept the team from becoming one of the best in the nation.

Last May at the Collegiate Outdoor Nationals the men's team placed second and the women finished third.

Assistant coach Kathy Craig said four of the 12 members on the South team at last month's Olympic Festival were Aggies or former Aggies. The most prominent member was Eric Brumlow, who won the bronze medal at the festival.

Brumlow paced the team last year by winning the Collegiate Indoor Nationals and by finishing second in the Collegiate Outdoor Nationals. His performance earned him first place overall in the All-American standings for the 1989-90 season.

Joining Brumlow with All-American honors were two members from the women's team. Liz Beck and Sherrill Jarrell became the first women from A&M to make All-American in quite some time, Craig said.

Craig said the recent success enjoyed by the team can be directly attributed to head coach Frank Thomas,

who is in Japan this summer setting up the physical education program at the A&M campus in Koriyama.

"We're fortunate to have Frank for a coach," Craig said. "He puts a lot of time into it and puts a lot of effort into keeping up with the latest techniques and newest equipment."

Thomas' coaching and great shooters like Brumlow and former team member Rick Stonebreaker, who was also on the Festival team, made significant contributions to the team outside of their own success, Craig said.

"Just having high caliber performers on the team pushes the other team members to better their own performance," she said.

The success of the archery team comes mainly from individual effort and expense. Arizona State and James Madison University are the only schools to offer scholarships to archers while A&M archers must compete with their own bows.

Craig said they try everything possible to help the team members compete and go to school.

"We look at every financial aid possibility we can," she said. "Pell grants, loans and the National Archery Association gives out eight scholarships a year."

The NAA is the governing body for collegiate archery and Aggies received four of the eight \$500 scholarships the association gave out this year.

## Arkansas' AD excited about heading for coast

**FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. (AP)** — Frank Broyles was pumped.

He popped into the University of Arkansas sports information office late Wednesday afternoon, only an hour or so after the UA Board of Trustees had rubber-stamped acceptance of an invitation for the Razorbacks to join the Southeastern Conference. Broyles and Chancellor Dan Ferritor had sold the move in a matter of weeks, and displayed their enthusiasm for board members.

In the sports information office, Broyles spotted a television sports-caster and made him promise to deliver a tape of the presentation to the board. Broyles said he wanted to make several copies, "including one for posterity."

Before leaving the office on his way to answer call-in questions for television, someone pointed out a fax from the sports information office at the University of Kentucky.

It said simply, WELCOME!  
Below was the SEC log with the 10 schools and a handwritten note to the side: "New logo sheets are on their way."

At the bottom was another message: "We're happy — Now the best conference is even better!"

Broyles got a copy to use on TV. Shortly after he left, Sports Information Director Rick Schaeffer got off the phone with a colleague. People at Birmingham Arena, site of the 1992 SEC basketball tournament, had received more than a dozen calls from Arkansas fans wanting to know about tickets.

The UA board meeting was held in the Leflar Law Building. Up front, The board members sat behind name tags at a table. They

faced a row of people that included Ferritor, SEC Commissioner Roy Kramer, Broyles and UA women's athletic director Bev Rouse. Behind that first row sat several coaches, including football coach Jack Crowe. Some legislators were across the aisle, on the second row, in a reserved section. A couple of rows were chock full of media members. At the back of the room was a bank of TV cameras. Interested observers lined the walls; metal folding chairs were supplied for some.

Board Chairman Jim Blair of Fayetteville began by saying he had called the meeting for the "76-year annual review of the athletic department" at the University of Arkansas.

Broyles, carrying a couple of blue SEC caps and a box of golf balls, slipped in during the opening remarks. After Broyles and Ferritor finished, Kramer began his spiel about the SEC and the Razorback tradition.

Before Kramer finished, the dancing Razorback was visible through a small window in a door behind the board.

At 1:46 p.m., Kramer finished reading the official invitation and shook hands with Ferritor. Thirty-one minutes later, it was official.

Blair gave each member of the board an opportunity to speak.

Dr. M.A. Jackson of Little Rock said he had the impression that Broyles thought the football program would have to improve to compete with the SEC teams.

Broyles said he couldn't remember any time during the past 33 years when the Razorbacks weren't competitive with the SEC.

## NBA teams shun Perkins

**DALLAS (AP)** — Dallas Mavericks forward Sam Perkins may have to stay home to collect the pot of gold he hopes to find at the end of the rainbow called "free agency."

So far, the line of NBA teams expected to dangle multimillion-dollar contracts designed to lure Perkins away from the Mavericks just isn't forming.

And the Houston Rockets, who had earlier said they would pursue Perkins, won't be among the suitors, a source close to the situation told the Dallas Times Herald in Wednesday's editions.

"There's no way (the Rockets are) going to get Sam Perkins," the source told the newspaper. "That was just a ploy" on Rockets coach Don Chaney's part.

On Tuesday, Denver Nuggets General Manager Bernie Bickerstaff said the team would not make an offer to Perkins. And Los Angeles' Jerry West said the Lakers would not have room to fit Perkins under the salary cap.

## Letters

SPORTS EDITOR:

The time has come for the Southwest Conference to react to the actions being taken by the University of Arkansas.

The Razorbacks have decided to leave the conference for more money. They seem to believe the competition and the big bucks are better in the Southeastern Conference.

I find this disturbing — bucking tradition for big bucks.

It's important to realize that going to the SEC for better competition is not a bad idea. However, leaving the SWC for greener pastures really stinks. Not only are the Pigs jumping ship — they're stabbing their family in the back.

For this reason, I believe the SWC should give the Hogs a hearty goodbye.

I believe that A&M is, and should be, a proud member of the SWC. At the same time, we should force the SWC to make a move that would create positive growth for the future.

John R. Martin, '90

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