

## SWC votes to keep Arkansas as '91 member

DALLAS (AP) — The Southwest Conference Council voted Thursday to keep Arkansas in the league for the 1991 football season with all rights and privileges, including competing for the championship.

Arkansas will be treated in 1991 just like it's a normal season," said Dr. James Vick of the University of Texas and president of the conference council.

Vick said the vote was unanimous to keep the Razorbacks in the league. Arkansas had originally planned to play football as an independent next year before joining the Southeastern Conference in 1992.

The Razorbacks, charter members of the 76-year-old SWC, voted Aug. 1 to bolt to the SEC by 1992 in all sports except football.

Arkansas Athletic Director Frank Broyles said on Wednesday: "We're happy to do whatever (the SWC) wants to do in the 1991 season."

Arkansas had a change of heart for 1991 when it discovered the difficulty of trying to schedule games for the eight SWC slots they were losing.

SWC Commissioner Fred Jacoby said, "It is the professional and the right thing to do on the part of the conference."

Jacoby said he felt the SWC presidents would approve the move when they meet here Oct. 7. That vote is considered a formality.

The action also provides relief for the Cotton Bowl, which is involved in discussions with CBS over its contract. The Cotton Bowl, which has the SWC champion as its host team, will now get another year of grace because the Hogs will be available to play in bowl game should they win the SWC title in 1991.

The SWC also announced other sweeping changes in Thursday's meeting of faculty representatives and athletic directors.

Those included:

- Changing home gate receipts from a 50-50 split so that the home team would retain all gate receipts in football and basketball beginning in 1992. Schools would be allowed, however, to work out minimum guarantee packages with one another.
- Changing fees for teams participating in bowls. Teams will now get to keep \$500,000 off the top before the SWC splits the remainder. The current figure is \$300,000. The move will take effect after this year's bowl games.
- Allowing SWC teams to keep 80 percent of their television receipts for non-conference national TV games with the remainder going to the conference. The current formula is a 50-50 split.
- Changing the split on regionally and nationally televised games between conference teams from 40 percent to 50 percent. The other half will go to the conference.
- Rewarding a team with a second home televised game under the SWC Raycom package with an additional \$25,000.
- Rewarding schools who move games from Saturday to be on television with an extra \$50,000 worth of television revenues.

Jacoby said, "There was a spirit of cordiality at these meetings which allowed us to get a lot done."

Vick said, "It was a very positive atmosphere. I feel a lot of satisfaction with what went on. It's good to have some issues clarified. But there's still other questions not resolved."

The SWC took no immediate action on alliances with other conferences or the movement of Southern Methodist home games from Ownby Stadium to a larger stadium.

## Ag softball team heads for tourney

From Staff and Wire Reports

Texas A&M's Lady Aggie softball team heads into the World Series of the fall season this weekend in the Third Annual Coors Light National Invitational Championship.

The tournament, held on the campus of Western Illinois University, starts today and runs through Sunday evening. Each team plays at least three games in pool play.

A&M opens the tourney against Creighton this morning and will play Illinois State this evening at 5:30. The Aggies complete pool play Saturday morning with Iowa State.

Of the 16 teams involved, half were ranked in the NCAA Division I polls last season. Five of the teams, including A&M, competed in the NCAA playoffs.

"We're looking forward to this tournament," Lady Aggie head coach Bob Brock said. "It should be a great test for us."

"This should give us a good indication of what we might go with in the spring."

A&M will be without the services of Sharla Cannon, who broke a toe in last weekend's tournament at Central Park. Shannon Munger will be unable to play defense because of a sore elbow, but may be used in hitting situations.

Defending champion Oklahoma State, A&M, Arizona State and Kent State are the top seeds in the tourney.

The rest of the tournament field includes Western Illinois, Akron, Colorado State, Eastern Michigan, Indiana State, Missouri, Southern Illinois, University of Texas-Arlington and Wisconsin-Green Bay.

# NCAA chomps Gators with bowl ban

GAINESVILLE, Fla. (AP) — The University of Florida was placed on NCAA probation for the second time in six years on Thursday, and school officials were upset that the punishment included a postseason ban for this year's football team.

The NCAA chose to impose less than the minimum prescribed penalties in a case of major violations.

The bowl ban for this season was the only punishment of the football program, and there was no ban on television appearances for either sport.

The basketball program's scholarships will be restricted, and it must repay at least \$287,000 in revenue from the 1988 NCAA tournament because guard Vernon Maxwell played while he was ineligible.

The Gators will be permitted 13 scholarships in 1991-92, two fewer than the maximum, and 14 scholarships in 1992-93.

First-year football coach Steve Spurrier said the bowl ban was a more severe penalty than Florida deserved.

"This has been a clean-run program in the last four or five years," Spurrier said. "There's been no cash payments, no buying tickets of players, no falsifying of transcripts."

As part of the ruling, the NCAA cited former basketball coach Norm Sloan and former football coach Galen Hall, both fired last October, for unethical conduct.

If either takes a new coaching job in the next five years, his hiring must be approved by the NCAA Committee on Infractions.

Hall is now an unpaid graduate assistant at Penn State, while Sloan is coaching a professional team in Greece.

Chuck Smrt, director of enforcement for the NCAA, said the case was unique because the school took significant corrective steps after the investigation was disclosed.

For that reason, Smrt said, the five-member Committee on Infractions did not impose the minimum proscribed penalties.

The minimum penalties could have also included restrictions on postseason basketball, recruiting in both sports and television appearances.

Florida even faced the remote possibility of having its football and basketball programs shut down by the death penalty.

But even though the school escaped se-

vere sanctions, university president John Lombardi took exception to the postseason ban on this year's football team, which is 2-0 and ranked No. 19.

"We are not entirely comfortable with a set of penalties that appear to us to ... penalize the innocent for the sins of a prior generation," Lombardi said.

"This is particularly difficult when you recognize that these players and these coaches are now in the middle of their season, and these penalties at this time in their season appear to us to be a particularly difficult blow to accept."

The school has 15 days to appeal the sanctions or ask that the ban against the football team be delayed.

## Eagles soaring sky-high A&M readies for UNT by keeping concentration

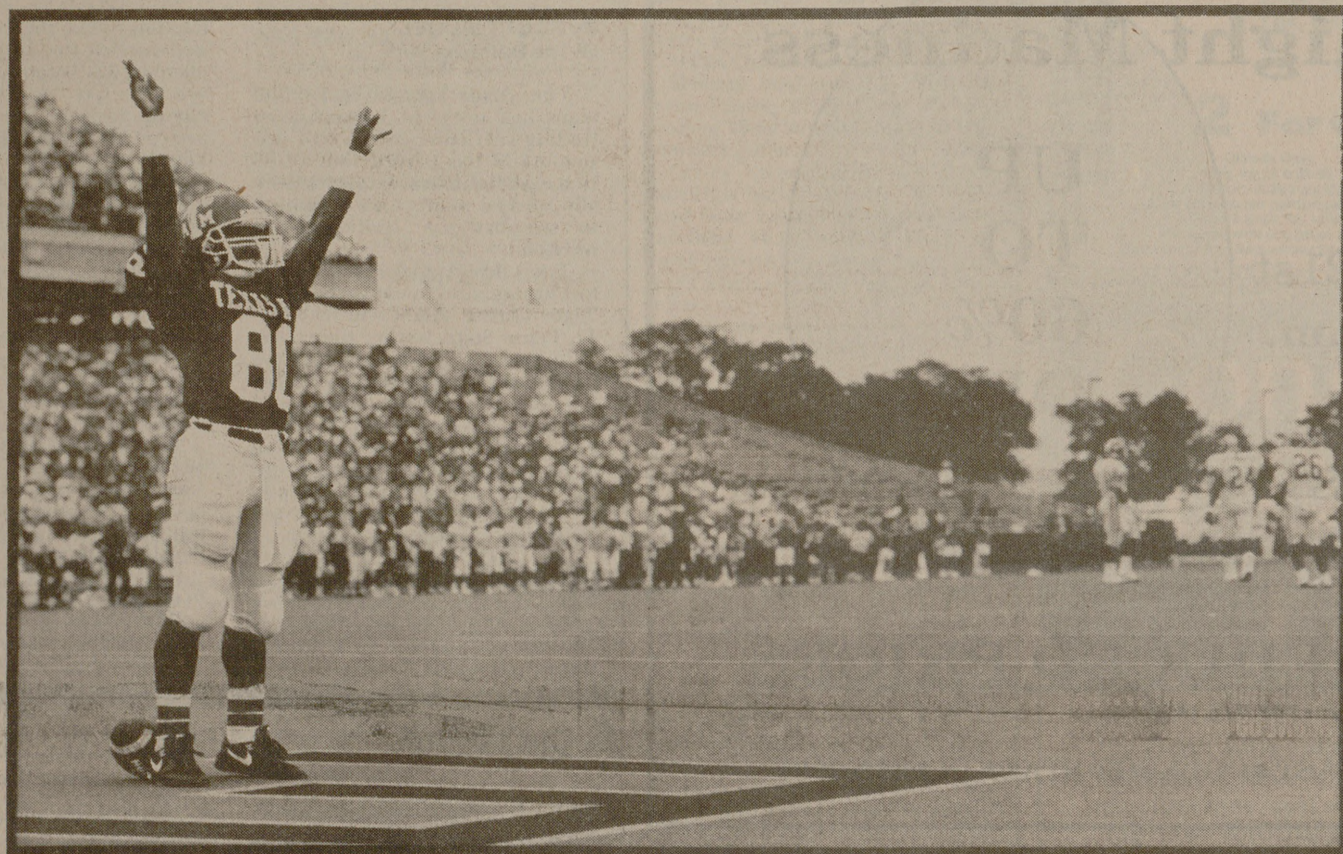


Photo by Phelan M. Ebenhack

Texas A&M wide receiver Shane Garrett celebrates after catching a 68-yard touchdown pass from Lance Pavlas in the 63-14 win over USL last week. The Aggies, ranked No. 12 nationally, host North Texas Saturday.

## No. 12 Aggies set for Saturday

By CLAY RASMUSSEN  
Of The Battalion Staff

North Texas head football coach Corky Nelson wants his team to fly like eagles. R.C. Slocum would rather his team just produce another dead duck on Kyle Field.

The No. 12 Aggies attempt to go 3-0 for the first time since 1984 when they host the Eagles this Saturday. Kickoff is scheduled for 6 p.m.

After massaging Southwestern Louisiana 63-14 last Saturday, Slocum's Aggies still are preaching patience. Call it The Slocum Doctrine: One Game at a Time.

"You never know from week to week how it's going to turn out," Slocum said. "I expected USL to come in here and play a great game and it turned out like it did. I expect North Texas to come in and play a great game, so all I can do is try and get us prepared to play them."

"What you'd like to do as a coach is educate your team to the realities of football as you go and the fact that week-to-week you can't go into a game thinking this team is good and this team is bad."

Slocum has developed a strong respect for Nelson and his UNT program. The Eagles are 2-0 and ranked No. 7 nationally in Division I-AA.

"I've got a lot of respect for Coach Nelson and the job he's done over there all these years," Slocum said.

See Aggies/Page 10

# NEVER GIVE IN

## Simmons waits as backup now, but looks to tomorrow

By RICHARD TIJERINA  
Of The Battalion Staff

There were times as a freshman when Randy Simmons thought about giving up.

The Texas A&M backup running back, plagued with the burden of injuries and fallen dreams, seriously considered transferring to another Southwest Conference school in 1987.

Former head football coach Jackie Sherrill convinced him not to go. Now Simmons is glad he didn't.

"Coach Sherrill talked me out of it," Simmons said. "He told me that my best chances were here, that if I transferred I'd lose a year and it would be another setback. I stuck it out here, and I'm glad I did. I don't regret it one bit."

Three years ago, Simmons of McKinney, Darren Lewis of Dallas Carter were at the top of most national recruiting wish lists.

But a funny thing happened to the two high school phenoms. Lewis is now the main man for A&M and a Heisman Trophy candidate. Simmons sits on the bench, and had to wait 38 games before

See Simmons/Page 11



Battalion file photo by F. Joe

A&M running back Randy Simmons runs for some of his 74 yards against SMU last year. Listed at No. 3 on the depth chart, Simmons now is hoping his chance to start will come after he has battled adversity on and off the field.

## Permian ruled ineligible to defend 5A crown

AUSTIN (AP) — Odessa Permian, the defending Class 5A football champion, was ruled ineligible for the 1990 playoffs Thursday for violating off-season practice rules.

A rival coach brought the violations to the attention of the University Interscholastic League, which governs high school sports in Texas. The coach said he witnessed controlled summer practices of Permian players with coaches present.

The Panthers, also known as "Mojo," are among the most storied high school teams in the country. They finished the 1989 season with a 28-14 victory over Houston Aldine in the state championship game and the top high school ranking in the country. They won three state championships in the '80s and were runners-up twice in Texas' highest classification.

The University Interscholastic League's eight-member state executive committee on Thursday upheld an earlier district committee ruling that Odessa Permian had violated rules governing off-season training. The vote was unanimous.

The UIL said the school broke practice rules twice in five months. Permian coach Tam Hollingshead was slapped with a private reprimand in April for exceeding practice time limits.

Hollingshead, in his first year as coach of the Panthers after seven years as an assistant, was suspended from coaching for the next two games, and nine assistants were placed on one-year probation.

"We are surprised," Hollingshead said. "At this point, we do not know what avenue we will take. The team will be very upset when they hear the news. They'll have to handle it. They're going to have to put up a fight."

"We are aboveboard and first-class," Hollingshead added. "We still believe that we haven't done anything wrong. We contend in the present and in the past we were not in violation of any UIL rules."

The decision also rendered Odessa Permian's players ineligible for All-District football honors.