



WOOD WARS TOURNAMENT

NOVEMBER 1-3, 2013
MCKINNEY, TEXAS

HOOKED!

WILD WOOD WARS TOURNAMENT ENDS WITH A WALKOFF FINISH

CRAIG RANCH – This year’s version of the Gulf Coast’s premier Fall event took on a new setting. The tournament moved from Richardson, TX to a new home just down the road in McKinney, TX at the Ballfields at Craig Ranch. The complex features 4 back-to-back fields along with softball fields as well as Gabe Nesbitt Stadium which is the home of the NCBA Gulf Coast Div I Regional Tournament for each of the past 3 seasons. In addition to the change of scenery, the field expanded to its highest total ever to include 14 teams! The new setting and expanded teams meant that throughout the tournament, 8 teams would be on the field at any given time within a small setting!

Teams were divided into three separate pools. Pool A/B included 6 teams, while pools B & C included 4 teams each. The top two teams from Pool A/B, the top team from Pool B,



and the top team from Pool C were slated to advance to the tournament semifinals beginning on Sunday. Tie breakers for the tournament were (in order): Head-to-head, run differential, runs allowed, then coin flip.

Also part of this year's action was a new event called Swing It! This brand new, one-of-a-kind event allows hitters of any stature or experience the chance to swing the bat and accumulate points for their team for a chance to a win cash prize! Each of the 14 teams at the tournament participated with a 4 man team for the opportunity to win the event.

Pool A/B

Early Friday games were highlighted by a terrific 2-0 Baylor victory over Texas State that lasted just under an hour and a half of game time to get the action started in Pool A/B. Other Friday action included SMU surprising North Texas by a final of 5-2. Late Friday, Texas was able to hold off UTSA by a score of 3-2 to solidify their start at the top of the pool standings heading into the weekend.

The Longhorns were able to sustain their Friday momentum early on Saturday morning by cruising to a 10-3 win over conference rival Texas State. UTSA recovered from their tough Friday loss to Texas by rounding into form against SMU with a huge 15-4 win over SMU, which also helped boost their run differential and keep them in the running for a semifinal spot. As Saturday continued, North Texas threw a wrench into Baylor's plans by stunning the veteran Bears in a raucous affair that both teams battled for right up to the end with a final score of 5-4.

Heading into the final round games on Saturday, the situation stood as follows with the top two in this pool advancing:

After 2 games each:

Team	Record	Run Differential
Texas	2-0	+8
UTSA	1-1	+10
Baylor	1-1	+1
UNT	1-1	-2
SMU	1-1	-8
TXST	0-2	-9



This meant that Texas with a win over Baylor would advance and UTSA with a win over UNT would be in good position with a high run differential. If UNT or Baylor were to win their night games, we could wind up with as many as four separate 2-1 teams in which case the run differential and possibly the runs allowed tie-breakers could come into effect.

The last round of games started at 4:30 PM with Texas State taking their matchup with SMU by a 6-1 final to eliminate SMU from Sunday contention. Thus, heading into the final games all 4 teams left to play were still alive for the two semifinal spots from this pool. Baylor jumped out to a 4-0 lead on

Texas before the Longhorns rallied to tie it at 4-4, but the Bears wouldn't be denied as they reclaimed the lead 5-4 and held on for the win. At the same time on a separate field, UTSA defeated UNT soundly by a final score of 4-0. This created a three way tie for 2 spots which forced the run differential tie breaker. UTSA earned the top spot in the pool with a +14 differential and Texas advanced with a differential of +7, while Baylor finished at +2 and was eliminated.

Pool C

Friday games in Pool C kicked off with Texas A&M defeating the University of Houston by a final of 5-1 to get their campaign started to capture a 5th straight Wood Wars title. Also on Friday, Texas Tech defeated Alabama 9-4 to start off the tournament 1-0.

On Saturday morning, Texas Tech was able to sneak by Houston in a close, low scoring game by a final of 2-1. In the 2 PM matchup, Texas A&M stayed hot and posted a double digit win over Alabama by a final of 12-2. This set up a Saturday night show down to determine the pool between longtime rivals Texas A&M and Texas Tech. In the afternoon matinee, Houston and Alabama battled it out in what most considered the wildest game of the tournament. Alabama jumped out to a 6-0 advantage, only to see that vanish into a 8-6 Houston lead. But Bama responded with four runs to make it 10-8 Crimson Tide. Houston tied it in the top of the 6th at 10-10. But Alabama wouldn't be denied as they scored two in the bottom of the 6th and held the Cougars in the top of the 7th for a wild 12-10 win to end their tournament.



So the 7 PM matchup between two powerhouse clubs Texas A&M and Texas Tech, who together have represented the Gulf Coast at the Div I World Series over the past four seasons, would be to win the pool. On the line was Texas A&M's streak of 4 consecutive Wood Wars titles. The game lived up to the hype and the billing of a top level matchup. Starting pitching and defense delivered for both squads by posting zeros on the scoreboard through 5 full innings. In the bottom of the 6th, the home team Texas Tech broke through on a two out RBI single to make it 1-0

and put the Texas A&M Aggies on the brink of elimination for the first time ever at Wood Wars. With Texas Tech needing only 3 outs in the Top of the 7th to advance, Texas A&M opened the frame with a leadoff single. They then pinch ran to add some speed for the tying run. The first pitch to the following batter bounced to the plate and the runner took off. Texas Tech's catcher corralled the ball and fired a strike down to second to collect the stealing runner for the first out of the inning, a move that deflated the Aggie dugout and almost certainly spelled the end. The Aggies refused to relinquish their title in this manner though and with one out in the final frame the Ags singled to keep hope alive and replenish the runner at first. The next batter hit a tapper back to the mound and a spinning throw from the mound to second sailed wide allowing the runner from first to advance to third, officially opening the door. With 1st and 3rd and one away, the Aggies spotted this opening and immediately kicked the door down with 3 consecutive hits. When the dust settled, the Aggie comeback was complete and so was this terrific game between two top level teams. With a 3-1 final, Texas A&M rode high spirits into the semifinals searching for a 5-pete.

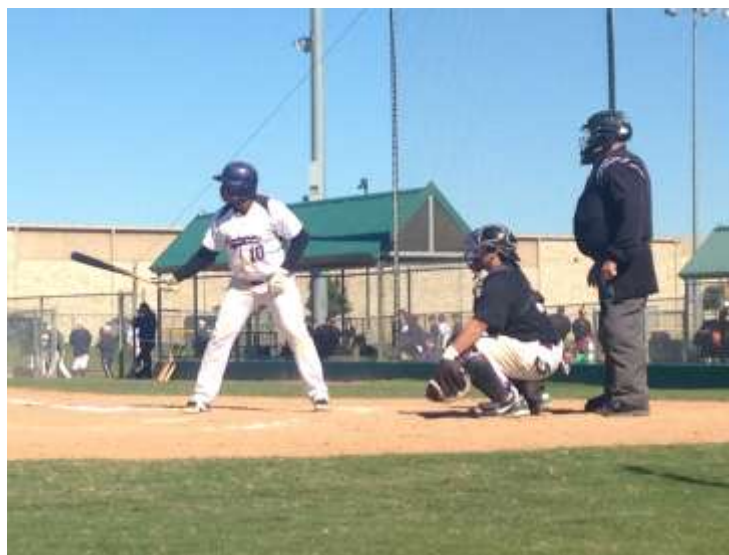
Pool D

Friday action in Pool D opened with TCU announcing their presence with a dominating 11-1 win over Div II rival Rice. The day's action was capped by a complete effort by Stephen F Austin to defeat Lone Star College 4-0.

This set up a Saturday morning showdown of Friday winners TCU and SFA, which TCU won by frustrating the Lumberjacks in a 6-1 win to take a commanding lead in Pool D heading into their final game. With TCU at 2-0, both Lone Star and SFA needed help if they were to advance. Lone Star in a must win situation, helped themselves with 3-1 victory over Rice in the 2 PM game. Thus, after 2 games, here's how the teams stood:

After 2 games each:

Team	Record	Run Differential
TCU	2-0	+15
SFA	1-1	-1
LSC	1-1	-2
Rice	0-2	-12



Thus, TCU found themselves in prime shape to advance. For the Horned Frogs, they simply need to win or keep their margin of loss close against Lone Star. For Lone Star and SFA, the road was noticeably harder. SFA needed Lone Star to defeat TCU then they would have to defeat Rice to force a 3-way tie and hope to have a better Run Differential than both other teams. For Lone Star, they needed to beat TCU and hope for a Rice victory over SFA. If they defeat TCU and SFA defeats Rice, they would need to win by 9 or more runs and hope for a margin of victory by SFA of 7 or less. Whew! Exhaustive scenarios abounded and all somewhat of a long shot for SFA and Lone Star with TCU in such command of the pool.

When the 4:30 contest between TCU and Lone Star kicked off, the Coyotes from a small school near Houston announced that they were there to overcome all of these odds from the get go. Lone Star posted a furious barrage of runs against the previously dominant TCU Horned Frogs. When the dust settled, the Lone Star team that faced slim odds looked up to find a 13-4 victory in their hands. A 9-run advantage. Exactly the minimum they needed if SFA were to win in the nightcap. This eliminated a TCU team that played two fantastic games up to this point and left it up to Lone Star and SFA.

In the night game, Stephen F Austin needed to defeat Rice by at least 7 to advance. With the pressure on, the Lumberjacks played well and ultimately earned the victory by a final score of 4-1. With that, Lone Star pulled off what seemed improbable on Saturday morning and they advanced to the Sunday semifinals by winning Pool D via the run differential tie breaker over TCU and SFA.

Semifinals

With all the representatives set, the teams were seeded according to the tournament tie breakers, which set the matchups for Sunday morning's semifinal showdowns: (1) Texas A&M vs (4) Lone Star College & (2) UTSA vs (3) Texas. This was anyone's tournament.



The top seed and 4-time defending champion Texas A&M Aggies certainly appeared to be a steep mountain to climb for Lone Star College but the Coyotes opened up the game clicking on all cylinders as they raced out to a 3-0 lead, which before too long ballooned to 6-0. That's when the Aggies started to feel the pressure. The defending Gulf Coast Regional champions responded with a 2-R homerun in the 5th to cut the deficit to 6-2. The Coyotes responded with a run of their own in the top of the 6th to make it 7-2 and that scrappy run that they managed would prove valuable as the game progressed. The no-quit, never-say-die Aggies made another furious push in the final frame and had the deficit down to 7-6 with runners in scoring position before the little-school-that-could ran under a harmless flyball to close down the rally and pull off the upset. The Aggie run ended at 4 consecutive Wood Wars titles, but their run to a 5th was exciting and certainly entertaining. So it was off to their first Wood Wars championship for Lone Star.

On the opposing field at the same time, UTSA and Texas spent the first three inning deadlocked at 0-0 thanks to brilliant starting pitching. But that all changed when the Longhorns rallied for a 2-out RBI single in the 4th to take a 1-0 advantage. The Horns used similar clutch hitting in the latter innings to add two more runs to push their lead to 3-0. With the Longhorn starting pitching and defense locked in, the Horns cruised to a 3-0 victory over a very worthy UTSA opponent. This setup an interesting matchup for the final: (3) Texas vs (4) Lone Star College.

Finals

All pool play games and the semifinal games were held at the well-manicured satellite fields. But this was the championship game of the largest club baseball tournament ever. Nothing would do except for the big stadium, so the championship game moved teams and fans over to Gabe Nesbitt Stadium which is home to the Gulf Coast Regional every May.

If some were surprised to find these two teams matched up in the final, then they may have been shocked at the unbelievable product that the two teams put on the field for the championship game. After already

playing 4 games in less than 48 hours, both teams sent aces to the hill for the right to claim that they were king of the hill over this 14-team monster tournament. The first two innings went by in a flash and both pitchers cruised to easy innings while posting zeros. In a scoreless game in the top of the 3rd, Lone Star's nine hole hitter surprised the Longhorn defense with a 2-out, nobody aboard drag bunt to earn his way to first base for the first hit of the day for the Coyotes. He then stole 2nd base and an error on the next play cost the Longhorns the first run of the ballgame. So there it stood, 1-0 Lone Star College. There's no way, this Cinderella story could possibly be pulling off the unthinkable is there? Well, the innings passed and zeros continued to post and outs grew thin for Texas and it started to seem possible.



In the bottom of the 6th inning with 2 outs and no one aboard, Texas managed a baserunner to extend the inning. The Longhorns stole second and a clutch RBI single plated the tying run to take off some of the pressure. Both teams posted goose eggs in the 7th, and low and behold, we had our first ever extra inning final in the 5 year history of Wood Wars!

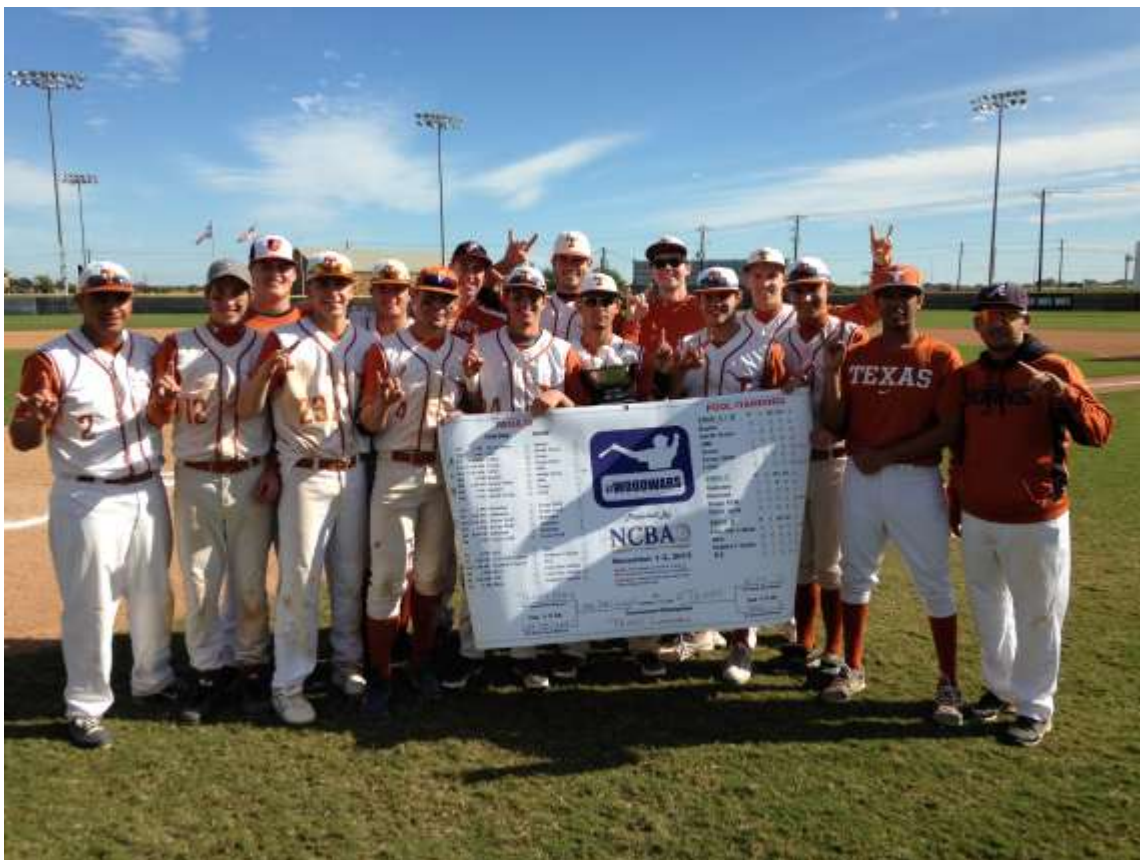
Starting pitchers for both squads continued to cruise in the 8th and we headed to the 9th still knotted in a 1-1 deadlock. The top of the 9th went according to plan for the Texas defense and their starting pitcher continued his dominance by posting another scoreless frame. All appeared to be going similarly for the Lone Star starting pitcher, until he hit a Longhorn lefty with a 2-out, 0-2 pitch to give a free pass. It was one of those moments where everyone in the stadium



just instantly thinks “uh-oh”. And “uh-oh” was exactly what happened next. The next pitched sailed to the back stop and down to second went the tournament winning run with 2 outs in the bottom of the 9th inning. But could the Longhorns cash in?

Indeed they did. With 2-outs in the bottom of the 9th inning of the championship game of the largest club baseball tournament ever played, the Texas Longhorns finally broke through with a single to left. The winning run rounded 3rd and headed to the plate as the throw came in from left field. The Longhorn runner slid safely into Championship Land as the throw sailed high and the dog pile ensued on the infield of Gabe Nesbitt Stadium. A fitting end to the best Wood Wars to date. A wild Wood Wars ends in a walk-off. Congratulations to the Texas Longhorns, winners of Wood Wars 2013. Texas Longhorn starting pitcher for the Championship game, Brandon Alex, was named most valuable player for his efforts. Brandon finished with a 9 inning complete game while allowing 1 unearned run and only 1 hit (a drag bunt all the way back in the 3rd inning).

Note: A video from the press box of the final play is now posted to YouTube. Check www.clubbbaseball.org for the posting to the link.



Swing It! Hitters Challenge

During the planning of this year's tournament, Wood Wars founder and tournament director Ryan Norris sought to add an event that would draw each of the tournament's teams and their fans into one environment to have fun and compete. The most obvious thing to do was a Homerun Derby; however, when evaluating this idea, it just didn't fit the criteria that was sought for this type of event. Thus, to satisfy this need, the idea of Swing It! was born.

Swing It! is an event that invites each tournament team to supply a 4-man team comprised of 3 hitters and 1 batting practice pitcher to compete against other squads to determine which team is the best hitting team. Competing teams have each of their hitters take 5 swings for a total of 15 swings per team. Teams accumulate points based on where the ball lands initially. Adding to the fun are bonuses for things such as having more than 8 other players from your team in attendance or hitting a "Hit It Here" sign. Areas of the field were marked off to show the distribution of point values. The outfield corners and deep center were marked off for 200 points. The gaps were both 100 points and any other area of the outfield was 50. Off the wall was 300 points, while a homerun was 400 points. Each round had a 2 minute and 30 second time limit and the tie-breaker for two equal teams would be the quickest completed round. The winning team was in line for a \$300 cash prize, while 2 different fans in attendance walked away with \$50 gift cards for winning promo contests.



The event was held Friday evening of the tournament and fans and team alike were abuzz about this new happening. The teams launched into action around 7:30 PM with upbeat music playing while each hitter tried his luck. After 1 round, the top 4 teams advanced to the finals. The round of the night belonged to the Texas A&M Aggies who launched homerun after homerun into the Texas night for a first round total of 2850 points. Next closest was 1150 points. Teams advancing to the finals were: Texas A&M, SMU, North Texas, and Texas Tech.

The finals proved just as exciting as the 1st round. Ultimately, SMU pulled off the surprise and took down the title in the 1st ever Swing It! Hitter Challenge, with Texas A&M finishing 2nd. Congratulations to Nick Sotta, Garrett Kinney, Sam Raffaelli, and Austin Taylor for their incredible performance!



Friday, November 1st
7:30 PM at Gabe Nesbitt Stadium

The Rules:

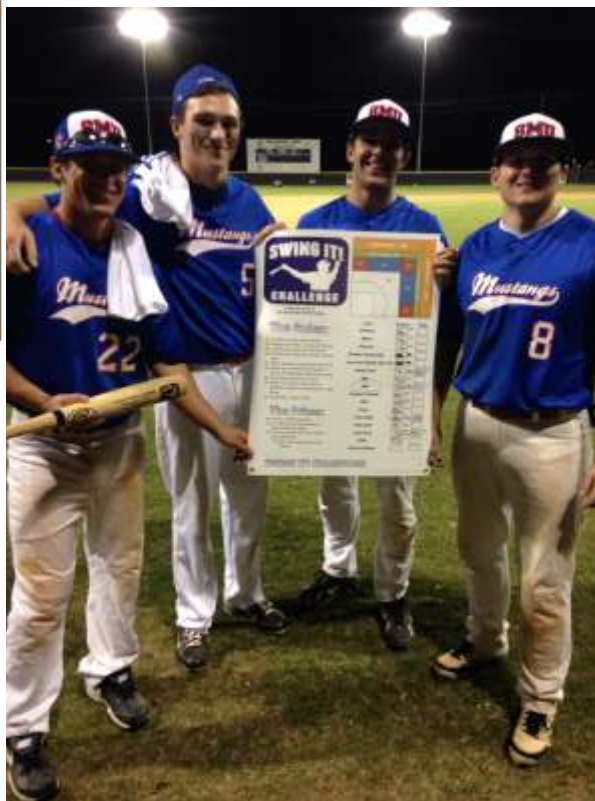
- 16 Teams (1 from each school)
- 4 Players Per Team: 3 Hitters/1 Pitcher
- 2:30 Minute Time Limit Per Round
- 5 Swings Per Hitter for a Total of 15 Per Team
- Hitters allowed to use wood or aluminum
- Teams Accumulate Points Based on Where the Ball Lands After Each Swing
- Top 4 Teams Advance to Finals
- Bonus: If 5 Players from Team in Uniform in Stands During Round = +200 Points
- Tie-Breaker: Fastest Time

The Prizes:

- 1st Place = \$300 Cash Prize
- Two \$50 Gift Card Giveaways for Crowd During the Event
- Chance to hit two Hit It Here targets worth \$250 each
 - Note: Prize only given on first instance



Team	Round 1	Finals
Alabama	400	
Baylor	900	
Houston	750	
Houston Community	DNP	
Lone Star College (DI)	650	
North Texas	1150	850
Rice	400	
SMU	1150	1150
Stephen F Austin	600	
TCU	1100	
Texas	850	
Texas A&M	2850	1000
Texas State	750	
Texas Tech	1100	900
UTSA	950	
Victoria College	DNP	



SWING IT! CHAMPIONS

SMU Mustangs

RESULTS

		VISITOR	HOME			
	Fri	2 PM	Texas State	0	Baylor	2
	Fri	2 PM	SMU	5	North Texas	2
A	Fri	4:30 PM	UTSA	2	Texas	3
	Sat	11:30 AM	Texas	10	Texas State	3
+	Sat	11:30 AM	UTSA	15	SMU	4
	Sat	2 PM	Baylor	4	North Texas	5
B	Sat	4:30 PM	Texas State	6	SMU	1
	Sat	7 PM	Baylor	5	Texas	4
	Sat	7 PM	North Texas	0	UTSA	4
<hr/>						
	Fri	2 PM	Houston	1	Texas A&M	5
	Fri	4:30 PM	Alabama	4	Texas Tech	9
C	Sat	11:30 AM	Texas Tech	2	Houston	1
	Sat	2 PM	Texas A&M	12	Alabama	2
	Sat	4:30 PM	Houston	10	Alabama	12
	Sat	7 PM	Texas A&M	4	Texas Tech	1
<hr/>						
	Fri	2 PM	TCU	11	Rice	1
	Fri	4:30 PM	Lone Star College	0	Stephen F Austin	4
D	Sat	11:30 AM	Stephen F Austin	1	TCU	6
	Sat	2 PM	Rice	1	Lone Star College	3
	Sat	4:30 PM	TCU	4	Lone Star College	13
	Sat	7 PM	Rice	1	Stephen F Austin	4

Texas A&M 6

#1 Seed Pool Winner

Sun @ 9 AM

Lone Star 7

#4 Seed Pool Winner

Lone Star 1

VS.

Sunday @ 11:30

Texas 2

Tournament Champions

University of Texas Longhorns

UTSA 0

#2 Seed Pool Winner

Sun @ 9 AM

Texas 3

#3 Seed Pool Winner



Presented By



November 1-3, 2013

Playoffs: Top 2 finishers in Pool A+B, winner of Pool C, and winner of Pool D advance to semifinals.

Tie-Breakers: (1)Head-to-Head (2)Run Differential (3)Runs Allowed (4)Coin Flip

POOL STANDINGS

POOL A + B

	W	L	RS	RA	Δ
Baylor	2	1	11	9	+2
North Texas	1	2	8	13	-5
SMU	1	2	10	23	-13
Texas	2	1	17	10	+7
Texas State	1	2	9	13	-4
UTSA	2	1	21	7	+14

POOL C

	W	L	RS	RA	Δ
Alabama	1	2	18	31	-13
Houston	0	3	12	19	-7
Texas A&M	3	0	21	4	+17
Texas Tech	2	1	12	9	+3

POOL D

	W	L	RS	RA	Δ
Lone Star College	2	1	16	9	+7
Rice	0	3	3	18	-15
Stephen F Austin	2	1	9	7	+2
TCU	2	1	21	15	+6

For information about registering for next Fall's event contact Ryan Norris at Ryan.Norris@CollClubSports.com.

ALL-TIME WOOD WARS HISTORY

ALL GAMES

TEAM	Gms	W	L	Win%	RS	RA	Δ
Alabama	3	1	2	0.333	18	31	(13)
Baylor	10	5	5	0.500	57	61	(4)
Houston	6	2	4	0.333	20	31	(11)
Lone Star College - Kingwood	11	4	7	0.364	44	46	(2)
Lone Star College - Montgomery	3	2	1	0.667	12	9	3
North Texas	13	6	7	0.462	43	66	(23)
Rice	11	5	6	0.455	41	45	(4)
Sam Houston State	9	2	7	0.222	21	53	(32)
SMU	3	1	2	0.333	10	23	(13)
Stephen F Austin	3	2	1	0.667	9	7	2
TCU	16	8	8	0.500	76	100	(24)
Texas	14	10	4	0.714	61	35	26
Texas A&M	21	18	3	0.857	141	43	98
Texas State	14	6	8	0.429	54	57	(3)
Texas Tech	10	5	5	0.500	37	39	(2)
Tulane	3	1	2	0.333	7	11	(4)
University of Houston - DT	2	0	2	0.000	9	19	(10)
UTSA	15	8	7	0.533	69	40	29
UTSA D2	3	0	3	0.000	9	20	(11)
Victoria College	3	0	3	0.000	7	12	(5)

SEMIFINALS

	Gms	W	L	Win%	RS	RA	Δ
Alabama	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
Baylor	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
Houston	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
Lone Star College - Kingwood	1	1	0	1.000	7	6	1
Lone Star College - Montgomery	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
North Texas	1	0	1	0.000	2	12	(10)
Rice	1	1	0	1.000	12	2	10
Sam Houston State	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
SMU	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
Stephen F Austin	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
TCU	1	0	1	0.000	0	9	(9)
Texas	3	2	1	0.667	6	5	1
Texas A&M	4	3	1	0.750	25	7	18
Texas State	2	0	2	0.000	2	10	(8)
Texas Tech	1	0	1	0.000	2	3	(1)
Tulane	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
University of Houston - DT	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
UTSA	2	1	1	0.500	3	5	(2)
UTSA D2	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
Victoria College	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0

FINALS

	Gms	W	L	Win%	RS	RA	Δ
Alabama	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
Baylor	1	0	1	0.000	0	10	(10)
Houston	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
Lone Star College - Kingwood	1	0	1	0.000	1	2	(1)
Lone Star College - Montgomery	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
North Texas	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
Rice	1	0	1	0.000	2	8	(6)
Sam Houston State	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
SMU	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
Stephen F Austin	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
TCU	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
Texas	2	1	1	0.500	2	10	(8)
Texas A&M	4	4	0	1.000	31	5	26
Texas State	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
Texas Tech	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
Tulane	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
University of Houston - DT	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
UTSA	1	0	1	0.000	3	4	(1)
UTSA D2	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0
Victoria College	0	0	0	0.000	0	0	0