

SEC coaches talk Missouri basketball as Tigers join new conference

Sports

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Posted on : 2012/6/28 8:30:00

The University of Missouri and Texas A&M University will join the Southeastern Conference, officially, when the calendar flips to July on Sunday morning. The addition of the two former Big 12 schools will increase the SEC to 14 teams.

In football, a conference schedule "format" has been announced, but things were a little more murky in basketball, before a format was announced earlier this month that will have each SEC school play a yearly "rival" in a home-and-away series EVERY year, four conference schools in a home-and-away series every year, and playing the remaining eight schools in one game (either home OR away) every year.

In Missouri's case, the Arkansas Razorbacks are the rival, meaning guaranteed games between the Tigers and Razorbacks in both Columbia and Fayetteville every year. Arkansas head coach Mike Anderson notes that there is a great deal of shared history between the two programs:

[Click here to listen to Mike Anderson](#)

Anderson, is the former head coach at Missouri, having left the Tigers for the state to the south in April 2011.

Missouri's current head coach Frank Haith was asked what he expected the toughest challenge to be for the Tigers in year one in the SEC:

[Click here to listen to Frank Haith](#)

The coach of the national champion Kentucky Wildcats, John Calipari, knows that the impending arrival of Mizzou and A&M makes his job more difficult:

[Click here to listen to John Calipari](#)

South Carolina's new head coach is Frank Martin, the former coach at Kansas State who had his Wildcats beat Missouri twice over the past season:

[Click here to listen to Frank Martin](#)

Those comments were taken from Monday's SEC Basketball Coaches Teleconference.