

# SPORTS SHORTS

By RONNIE GREATHOUSE  
Battalion Sports Editor

If you're wondering what kind of basketball coach clever Ken Loeffler is, this story from his new book, "Ken Loeffler On Basketball", should be interesting.

Once during his six-year stay at Philadelphia, his LaSalle team was in the midst of a 21 game win streak over a two-year period. Then one night LaSalle lost one to Utah in New York's Madison Square Garden. Loeffler strolled sadly back to the dressing room with Brother David, the LaSalle sports publicity director.

"I'm sick and tired of losing," growled Loeffler. "Why Ken, this is the first game we've lost in more than a year," answered an amazed Brother David.

"That's what I mean," retorted Loeffler, "I'm sick and tired of losing."

LOEFFLER, in his first year at A&M, has been hampered by lack of a "big man." The tallest player on the starting five is George Mehaffey, 6-4 junior from Houston.

A&M, despite its seemingly unimpressive record, has been the most improved team in the conference to date. In their SWC opener against Baylor, the Aggies set an all-time A&M scoring mark of 90 points.

People often ask Loeffler what happened to the "little man" in basketball. His answer is simple: "He's refereeing."

COACH LOEFFLER has long been known for saying what he thinks, and during his fabulous coaching career in the East he was constantly in the headlines. After a close, hard-fought loss to North Carolina State some years ago, Loeffler felt his team had been victimized by the officials. And he said so.

"This," voiced Loeffler after the game, "is the biggest steal since the Louisiana Purchase."

Newspapers carried a running account of the word battle between Loeffler, the officials and North Carolina State Coach Everett Case. The story died, but not with Loeffler.

The following summer he and Case were flying over the Atlantic to teach a coaching school in Germany. Unable to land at their proposed destination, the passengers were informed that they would proceed to Scotland.

Loeffler turned to Case, who was sleeping, and shook him roughly. "Everett, we can't land at Keflavik. We're going on to Scotland and may not make it. Quick, before we go down, admit those officials at Raleigh were terrible."

An interesting side-note to the long rivalry between A&M and Texas basketball teams is the fact that the Longhorns hold the record for the most number of points scored—and the least number scored—in the series.

In 1921 A&M held Texas to a low of 5 points in winning 23-5, and in 1945 the Steers thumped the Cadets 87-59 for the high.

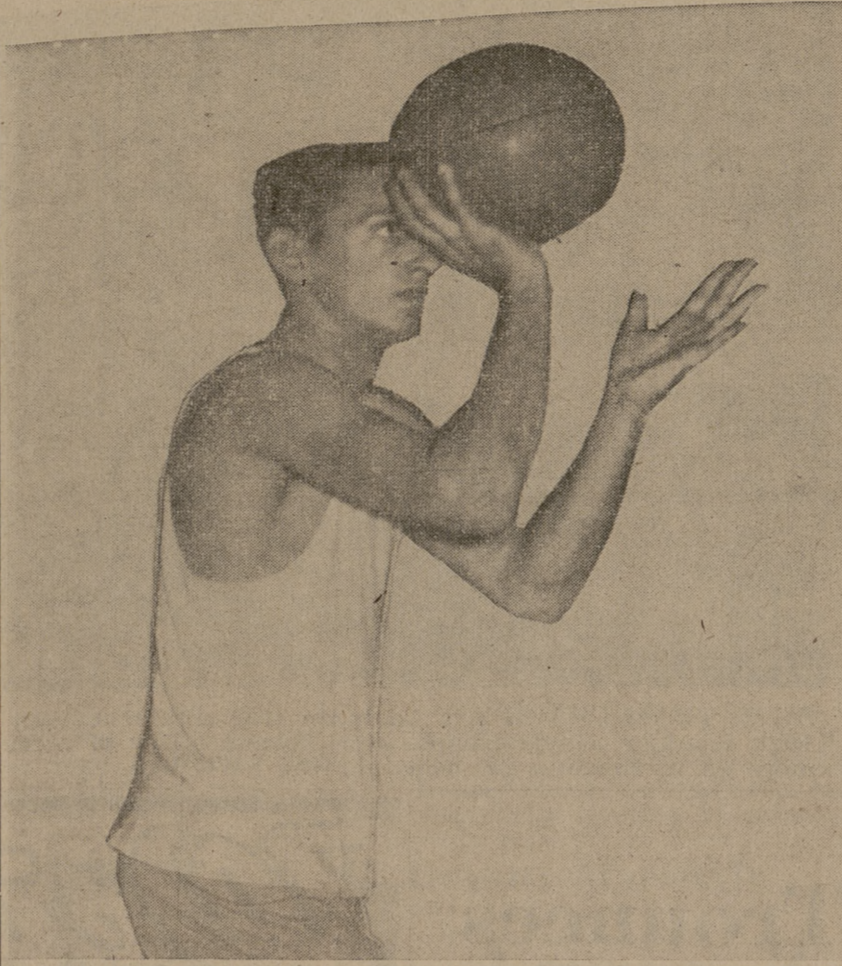
## A Champion High Jumper

By BARRY HART  
Assistant Sports Editor

Fritzie Connally, A&M's sharpshooting sophomore guard, came to Aggieland simply because the Aggies were the only four-year college to offer him a scholarship.

"I had offers from some junior colleges," says Fritzie, "but Coach John Floyd (ex-A&M basketball coach) talked to me after a game and offered me a four-year scholarship, so here I am."

Connally graduated from Thomas Jefferson High School in San Antonio in Jan., 1954, enrolled at



FRITZIE CONNALLY, hustling Aggie basketballer from San Antonio. 6-2½ Connally is second in scoring on the Cadet team with 127 points and is tied for second in rebounds with 75.

A&M in February, and immediately joined the Fish team for the remainder of the season.

Fritzie didn't play much in 1954, but made the starting Fish team last year, scoring 118 points in the seven games he played. He became ineligible at midterm, and left the first-year squad with a 16.9 scoring average. He was second behind Ken Hutto in the point-making department.

Currently leading the Aggies in shooting percentage with 47 field goals in 99 attempts for a fine 47.5 percentage, Connally's greatest asset is his tremendous defensive ability.

Though only 6-2½ in height, Fritzie gets the ball off the boards as well as men six inches taller and stands second in rebounding behind George Mehaffey, with 75 grabs. 40 of 57 foul line attempts gives him a .700 percentage and he is third in scoring with 134 points, an 11.2 per-game average.

Fritzie's finest game in his young collegiate career came just last week against the Baylor Bears. His 20 points, on seven field goals and six free throws, helped the Aggies put a new scoring record into the book as they mauled the hapless Bruins, 90-70.

Fast-moving Connally, who's best

shot is a driving layup, plays a hard, aggressive game, and you'll often see this burrhead take a bruising tumble in the swift action on the hardwood.

He shares a fast-growing admiration and respect for new head Coach Ken Loeffler with his teammates.

"Coach Loeffler really knows basketball," says Fritzie, "and its encouraging to have him tell you you're doing a good job and he's proud of you, even when you're losing."

Connally was a three-year letterman at Thomas Jefferson in basketball, but wasn't picked for any all-district or all-state honors. A track and baseball man, he made the San Antonio American Legion All-Star team as a pitcher in 1953.

Last year's Southwest Conference high jump co-champion, Fritzie was "discovered" by track coach Frank Anderson in somewhat of a freak accident.

Connally bet Jeff Penfield, another basketball player, that Jeff couldn't high jump five feet. Penfield did and Connally lost the wager, but Coach Anderson saw Fritzie jumping well over five feet in his fatigues and asked him to come out for the team. Fritzie did, and he's been a valuable asset to the Aggies.



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# Aggies, Steers Renew Heated Rivalry Friday

## Mustangs Pace SWC Teams,

Southern Methodist's stampeding Mustangs remain atop Southwest Conference standings in both full season and loop action this week. The Ponies have marched to three straight SWC wins and hold a fine 13-2 season record.

The Mustangs are rated seventh in the United Press poll of sports-writers. Surprising Arkansas jumped from its last place berth to fourth over the season on the strength of three straight wins, two of them in league play.

CONFERENCE STANDINGS				
Team	W	L	Pct.	Pts.
So. Methodist	3	0	1.000	245
Arkansas	2	0	1.000	151
Rice	2	1	.667	225
Texas Christian	1	1	.500	133
Texas A&M	1	2	.333	135
Baylor	0	2	.000	134
Texas	0	3	.000	197

SEASON STANDINGS				
Team	W	L	Pct.	Pts.
So. Methodist	13	2	.867	1142
Rice	12	2	.857	1210
Texas	7	7	.500	940
Arkansas	6	8	.429	713
Texas A&M	3	9	.250	809
Baylor	3	10	.231	776
Texas Christian	3	11	.214	846

LEADING SCORERS (SWC)				
Player	Team	Pts.	Reb.	Ass.
Temple Tucker	Rice	69	62	62
Larry Showalter	SMU	62	60	60
Raymond Downs	Texas	58	58	58
George Mehaffey	A&M	58	58	58
Joe Durrenberger	Rice	52	52	52
Ken Hutto	A&M	48	48	48
Dick O'Neal	TCU	46	46	46
Joe Groh	SMU	41	41	41
Norman Hooten	Texas	38	38	38
Louis Estes	Baylor	36	36	36

LEADING SCORERS (SEASON)				
Player	Team	Pts.	Reb.	Ass.
Temple Tucker	Rice	343	343	343
Dick O'Neal	TCU	330	330	330
Raymond Downs	Texas	317	317	317
Jim Krebs	SMU	258	258	258
Larry Showalter	SMU	213	213	213
Joe Durrenberger	Rice	195	195	195
Manuel Whitley	Ark.	190	190	190
Louis Estes	Baylor	188	188	188
Joel Kroge	SMU	178	178	178
Bobby Mills	SMU	175	175	175

THIS WEEK'S SCORES  
Arkansas 70, Texas 67; Southern Methodist 97, A&M 68; Rice 80, Texas Christian 69.

FUTURE GAMES  
FRIDAY—Texas vs. Texas A&M at College Station; Rice vs. Arkansas at Fayetteville.  
SATURDAY—Baylor vs. Texas Christian at Ft. Worth.  
MONDAY—Texas A&M vs. Arkansas at Fayetteville; Texas vs. Rice at Houston.

## Basketballers Meet for 100th Time; Longhorns Hold Big Lead In Series

Two of the Southwest Conference's most ardent rivals, A&M and the University of Texas, renew their long-standing quarrel tomorrow night—Friday the 13th—in White Coliseum.

This will be the 100th meeting between the two schools on the hardwood court, having first tangled in 1917. In 39 years the Aggies have compiled a losing record of 33 wins and 66 losses against the Longhorns.

A&M currently shows the best record in conference play, while the Horns sport the best season slate. Coach Ken Loeffler's fivesome enters tomorrow night's battle with a 1-2 mark in SWC games and a 3-9 over-all record. Texas is 0-3 in league action and has a 6-7 season ledger.

FRIDAY THE 13TH should hold no fears of bad luck to the Longhorns, who have dropped their last three games by an average of only four point per game. A vastly improved Arkansas team bested Texas by a 70-67 margin last Monday night, and Southern Methodist edged the Steers 66-63 last week.

The Cadets are fifth in both conference and full season standings among SWC teams. Texas holds down the third spot in season rankings and occupies the cellar in loop play.

George Mehaffey leads the Aggies in several departments through 12 games, including scoring, rebounds, average points per game and individual high score for one game. He has dunked 156 points over the season and is fourth in SWC scoring with 58.

FRITZIE CONNALLY is next in line in Aggie point making with 127. Ken Hutto is third with 126 and an average of 14 points per game, second only to Mehaffey's 14.1.

Texas fans are banking on Raymond Downs, a 6-5 junior scoring artist, to put the Longhorns back on the winning trail again. Downs is third in both season and conference scoring at present. He has

bucketed 317 points in 13 games for a lofty 24.4 average per game, and has 60 markers in SWC contests.

As has been the case in every game so far, the Aggies will be at a height disadvantage. The Longhorns can boast the likes of 6-10 Ellis Omstead, 6-3 Bill Groogan, 6-2 Norman Hooten and 6-5 Downs.

The Aggie Fish host the Short-horns in Friday night's opener at 6:30. A&M's first-year cagers have a record of one win against three losses so far this season, their last game being a 76-92 loss to Rice's Slimes at Houston.

Texas' Shortorns are undefeated this season in five straight games. They turned back Scheiner Institute, 89-59, last Monday night.

Neil Swisher, 6-0 Victoria sharp- (See BASKETBALL, Page 6)

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