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The Battalion -- College Station (Brazos County), Texas

Tuesday, February 26, 1955

PAGE 3

**Aggies Break 34-Year Jinx
With 61-55 Win Over UT**

By Jim Carrell
Assistant Sports Editor

Pennies flew, whistles blew and the undaunted Texas Aggie basketballers broke still another Texas University tradition.

Whipping the Longhorns 61 to 55 in Gregory Gym in Austin for the first time since 1951, Texas A&M set a precedent of being the first Aggie basketball team to twice defeat Texas in the same season since 1923.

Jim McNichol, the 6-6 sophomore sensation from Philadelphia, playing magnificently, again provided needed impetus to the Aggie attack, leading scoring with 24 points on fine goaling from the field and a near perfect eye at the free throw line.

Pennies from irate Longhorn fans came only at a time when defeat stared their team in the face, serving only to send home richer the Aggie players who scooped coins from the floor.

Accuracy at the free throw line proved the difference with the Ags cashing in on 27 of 34 gratis tosses. Texas led in field goals, 21-17.

This game, an all-out effort by the Aggies, saw Ted Harrod, Ken Hutto, Neil Swisher, Ernie Turner, and McNichol play the entire 40 minutes without relief.

George Mehaffey, leading Aggie scorer, sat out the game on the bench in street clothes, still hampered by an ankle injury suffered in Arkansas.

McNichol, starting only his second game this year, consistently hit from the outside with a long, flat-trajectory shot, sinking eight of 17 field goal attempts and bucketing eight of nine free throws.

Ken Hutto scored 16 points, mostly on a long, left handed jump shot from the left side to tie for runnerup honors in scoring with Ray Downs of Texas.

Downs, the offensive ace for the

Longhorns, was ably defended with a sagging zone, backed by McNichol, limiting his effectiveness at the basket. Downs, doing most of the defensive work on McNichol in the Texas zone, found the Aggie ace hot to handle, fouling out with 1:17 left in the game.

It was also McNichol's tremendous effort under the backboards, that paid off with 11 of A&M's 32 rebounds and froze out Downs, UT's leading rebounder, with only one for the night's work, his lowest rebounding total of the year.

Overcoming an A&M half-time lead of 30-28, the Steers bolted to a seven point lead of 45-38 with six and a half minutes gone.

The stunned Aggies, shocked out of their lethargy, began to catch up on point-making by Swisher and Hutto, pulling to 44-45. Then a jump-shot from the corner by McNichol followed by Hutto's lay-up pushed the battling Aggie cagers into the lead which they never relinquished.

Aggie stalling tactics with seven minutes left brought Texas out of its zone and with 41 seconds remaining A&M led 59-51.

McNichol, fouled by Ken Cleveland as the game ending buzzer sounded, and with a wild throng of Aggie fans and players gathered at the circle, calmly sailed the ball through a hail of coins twice, providing A&M with its second jinx-breaking athletic victory in Austin this year.

**Ag Swimmers
Take UT Twice**

With Tetsuo Okamoto and Orlando Cossani each winning two events, the Aggie swimmers blasted the University of Texas twice Saturday afternoon in Austin.

The varsity dunked the Longhorns splashers, 50-36, and the Fish took the measure of the Shorthorns, 46-31.

Okamoto, pushed by Texas' Eddie Johnson, won the 220 and 400-yard freestyle races while Cossani set a new pool record of 59.7 in the 100-yard butterfly and also captured the 150-yard individual medley. The old record 1:00.9, was set in 1951 by Stanford's Bob Frojen in the NCAA finals.

Aggie tankers Norman Ufer, Dick Hunkler and Rippy Woodard took firsts in the 200 backstroke, 100 freestyle and 200 butterfly, respectively, then combined with Bob Barlow to race to a first in the 400-yard medley relay.

The Fish swam away with both relays while their varsity cousins were taking six of the 10 events.

Although the Steers' Don Chumney captured the three-meter diving, with 233.1 points, A&M's Bruce Martin and Dubby Godfrey took second and third, with 190.8 and 171.8 points, respectively.

YARSDITY SUMMARIES
400-yd. Medley relay—1. Texas A&M (Norman Ufer, Bob Barlow, Ripley Woodard, Dick Hunkler); 2. Texas. Time: 4:07.1.
220-yd. freestyle—1. Tetsuo Okamoto, Texas A&M; 2. Tommy Smith, Texas; 3. Eddie Johnson, Texas. Time: 2:16.2.
50-yd. freestyle—1. Joe Lee Neal, Texas; 2. Dick Hunkler, Texas A&M; 3. Jimmy Dyer, Texas A&M. Time: 0:23.6.
200-yd. butterfly—1. Rippy Woodard, Texas A&M; 2. Jerry Mount, Texas A&M; 3. Tracy Word, Texas. Time: 2:31.2.
3-Meter Diving—1. Don Chumney, Texas, 233.10 points; 2. Bruce Martin, Texas A&M, 190.80; 3. Dubby Godfrey, Texas A&M, 171.80.
100-yd. freestyle—1. Dick Hunkler, Texas A&M; 2. Joe Lee Neal, Texas; 3. Jim Barden, Texas. Time 0:51.6.
200-yd. backstroke—1. Norman Ufer, Texas A&M; 2. Ray Cook, Texas A&M; 3. Joe Gilbert, Texas. Time: 2:25.7.
400-yd. freestyle—1. Tetsuo Okamoto, Texas A&M; 2. Eddie Johnson, Texas; 3. Tommy Smith, Texas. Time: 4:55.0.
200-yd. breaststroke—1. Tracy Word, Texas; 2. Bob Barlow, Texas A&M; 3. Henry Goff, Texas A&M. Time—2:35.7.
400-yd. freestyle relay—1. Texas (Jim Barden, Jervell Holder, Tommy Smith, Joe Lee Neal), 2. Texas A&M. Time 3:39.7.
Final score: Texas A&M 50; Texas 36.

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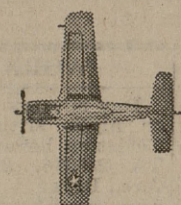
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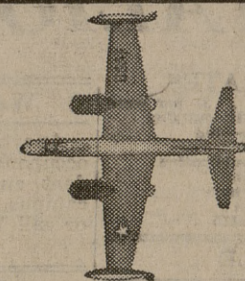
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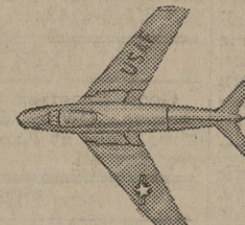
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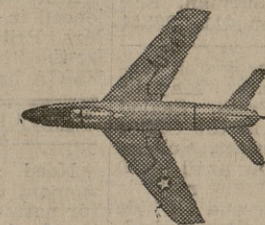
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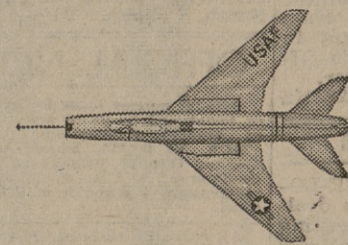
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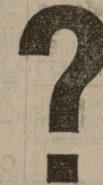
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