

Full Aggie Basketball Team Returns For Court Positions

The best news Coach Bobby Rogers could receive on his arrival at A&M was he would have a full team of Aggie cagers returning to A&M this fall. This will include five lettermen and two freshman standouts.

Last year found the Aggies dwelling in the direct vicinity of the conference cellar, and sporting a 3-9 record. The year 1957 could be the one where A&M will take a step toward the other end of the ladder.

The situation remains somewhat of a question mark, though, for a team cannot become a champion in one season—usually. The Aggies will be very much improved and have rebounding and scoring strength in Dave Corson, soph from New Orleans and Wayne Lawrence, last year's freshman scoring sensation.

Neil Swisher, sharpshooting ace from Victoria and one of the conference's leading scorers will lead the host of lettermen. He scored the net with 310 points last season and is expected to do even better in this, his junior year. Although Neil is only a six-footer, his ability to score makes him valuable material.

Neil is the Aggies' outside man and dealt misery to many teams last year with his ability to hustle and score.

Coach Rogers has always piloted high-scoring teams, and his East Texas Lions are given as evidence with their average 80 points per game. Moving up to the varsity is the frosh scoring champ, Wayne Lawrence, a 6-9 lad from Pawcatuck, Conn., who is already labeled as All-American material.

Wayne broke Aggie freshman scoring records by hitting 308 points in 11 games for a 29 point-per-game average. In his final game of the season, he dumped in 40 points against the highly-respected Rice Owlets. He led the scoring in every game and faced opposition with utter disregard, knowing that a basket was still valued at two points and enough baskets would mean another victory for the Frosh.

When Wayne happened to miss contact with the basket, he could count on 6-6 Dave Corson to bring down the rebounds, for the Louisiana boy is able to do just that.

Dave knows no limit when it comes to jumping for rebounds and his strength allows him to keep possession of the ball after he clears it off the boards.

Jim McNichol, 6-5 center from Philadelphia, offers high scoring potential. Jim was truly the team's "sleeper" last year, for he didn't abound in producing tallies until the last few games of the season.

He personally wrecked the University of Texas. His love for slumber is widely-known, but it seems to have been replaced with a love for scoring Aggie points. If he continues in this trend, he could greatly aid the Aggie cause. The Aggie varsity has another

senior scoring ace in six-footer Kenneth Hutto. In his sophomore year, Hutto was one of the conference leaders, but as a junior was never able to regain his accuracy. He is a jump shot specialist.

Ernie Turner, a 6-4 junior from Beaumont can help fill some of the gap left by the departure of All-Conference forward, George McHaffey. Jack Schwake, 6-4 junior from LaGrange led the nation for a short time last year in field goal shooting, but faded at season's end.

Sammy Myers, 6-4 sophomore from Beaumont is the possessor of a fine jump shot and was effective in spring drills with a long set shot.

A playmaker may be coming up

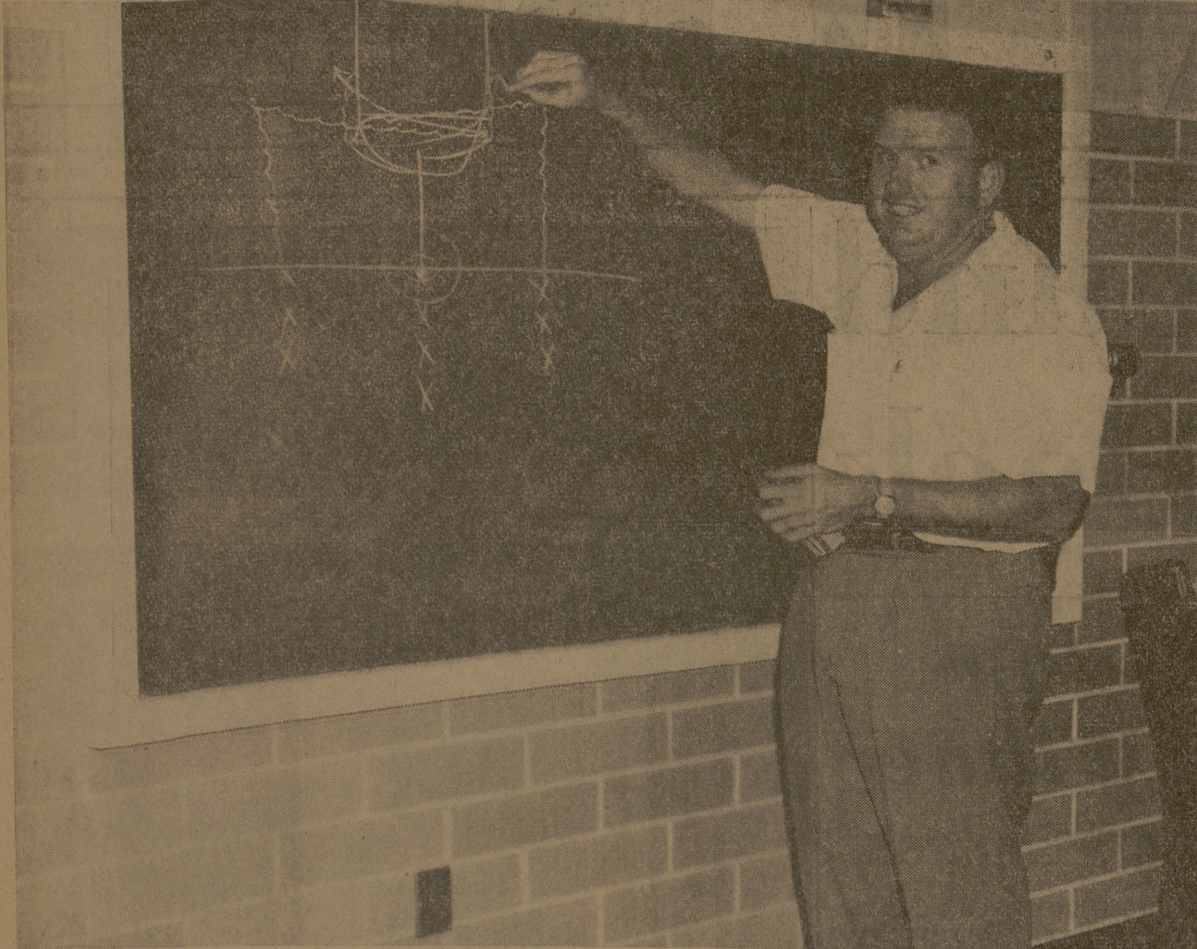
in either Bob Johnson, a fleet six-footer, or Joe Carl Leach, another six-footer from Brownwood. Johnson comes back to A&M after a tour in the service. He played basketball when he was here previously. Leach will be ineligible until the second half of the season, but of course will be available for the all-important conference race.

Tommie Kelle, a 6-4 lad from Inez might be of value to the squad. He was injured last year in the first Baylor game and was out for the remainder of the season.

The crop of freshmen talent is on par with previous years, as Coach Rogers has attracted three all-starters and five other valuable prep cagers. The all-starters who

have signed are Bobby Smith, 6-3 forward from North Dallas, Joe Brooks Thompson, 6-2 guard from Bryan, and Malcolm Lawler, 6-5 forward from East Delta near Cooper. Dale Etheridge is another good find, a 6-5 performer from Ropesville, a class B school near Lubbock. Also signed are Elliott Craig, a 6-1 guard from Beaumont French; Jimmy Duffer, a 6-3 forward from New Boston; Jimmy Schroeder, 6-8 center from Sealy and Donald Bailey, 6-6 center from Frost near Corsicana.

For the last three years, the "win" column has been increasing for the Aggies, and should everything go all right, 1957 will see a betterment of the 7-17 record of last year.



Bobby Rogers

Proves Success With 140 Wins

Succeeding Coach Ken Loeffler as head basketball mentor is Coach Bobby Rogers, recently of East Texas State College. Coach Rogers is an Oklahoman and a graduate of the "Iba School of Ball Control."

He brings with him proof of his success as it is noted that his East Texas Lions won 140 games while losing only 31. Rogers' teams won three championships, shared one, and finished second once.

While carrying on their campaigns, Rogers' teams averaged a blistering 78.6 points per game. In addition, his 1955 team won the NAIA championship.

The new Aggie coach is a native of Stillwater, Okla., and a graduate of Oklahoma A&M, now called Oklahoma State University.

While he was an Aggie, he played basketball under Coach Hank Iba. However, he did not completely adhere to Iba's tutelage of ball control and leans to the fast break and the "easy basket." His teams have used the fast break offense and man-for-man on zone defenses to run up their scores.

Prior to his stay at East Texas, he coached successfully at other schools. He was freshman coach at Oklahoma A&M for one year after his graduation. He then became coach at the Trego Community High School, near Hays, Kan., and promptly ushered his team to the conference crown.

His championship team was the first since "some of the players' dads had played."

After Trego came a job at Connors A&M Junior College in Con-

nors, Okla. His junior collegian cagers won two championships in two seasons.

That brings him up to East Texas and now to A&M; a school that, up until now, has had nothing but the "desire to win." As for comment on how the Aggies will fare against SWC competition, Coach Rogers was a little unsure, but stated "We'll use everything we think can help us win, if it's legal."

Coach Rogers has named former A&M star athlete John DeWitt as his freshman coach. DeWitt had previously served as freshman coach in 1954-55 under John Floyd and 1955-56 under Ken Loeffler. He will take charge of a host of fine players, to include three all-state cagers and other all-district boys.

Officially, cage drills will open on Oct. 15, and the first glimpse the home court will get of the new Aggie team will be on Jan. 7 against the University of Texas.

A&M will play some very stiff competition in the East on their tour during the holidays and return to A&M with sights set on bettering their 1956-57 mark of 7 wins and 17 defeats.

Coach Rogers is young, only 33, and is married to a Huntsville girl named Marilyn. They have two future Aggie sons, Mike, 7, and Blake, 3.

Highest scoring contest during the last 20 years of World Series play occurred in the second game in 1956 when Brooklyn beat the Yankees, 13-8.



BIG MEN ON THE AGGIE TEAM this year are (1 to r) Wayne Lawrence, 6'9" Pawcatuck, Conn. soph and Dave Corson, 6'6" New Orleans soph.

Ags Receive Friendly Help At Shaffer's

By JAMES L. UPHAM '57

Ask any student where the friendliest store at North Gate is, and chances are most would reply, "Why, Shaffer's, of course."

Shaffer's Book Store, owned and operated by Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Shaffer, 841 N. Rosemary, offers students many opportunities not ordinarily found in campus book stores.

Operating on a policy of creating a home away from home, the Shaffers and their staff of sales personnel greet every student as a personal friend and do their utmost to help them.

Many students find time to drop in only to listen to their favorite recording star from the tremendous selection of popular, calypso, classical, jazz or any other type of record they might want.

Model enthusiasts can relax looking over a model of their choice. Many selections of airplanes, cars, and boats plus a large stock of balsa wood in all sizes are ready to be taken home for pleasure.

A large number of accessory items such as motors, fuel and tape are available too. The model department is busy all year long, but according to Shaffer, the peak usually comes during final exam week. It seems that the students need some diversion from their hard studying.

Architecture students also have a home at Shaffer's. They may find almost any scale size balsa wood for construction models, or almost any type of scale tree or shrub. Many time-saving poster devices are in stock, such as ready cut letters, templates, and many more. All types of presentation boards and colors are available.

Of course, there are books too, practically any kind. There is a book to improve your Russian, German, or any other language you might speak. There are textbooks for every course taught during the current semester.

An interesting sidenote is the fact that Shaffer's sells an average of 14,000 books during the fall semester, but less than half that amount in the Spring semester. The reasons for this are due to some courses which are continuous and use the same book both semesters, and due to the students who trade books among themselves. Shaffer commented, "Our worst competition is the students themselves."

Also, Shaffer's carries a large selection of best-sellers, other novels, cookbooks, and a selection of beautiful Bibles.

Aggie jewelry is another popular item found at Shaffer's. Usually a new stuffed toy is on display in the front window. And, for the "fish" especially, is Herb's Campusology Book.

Shaffer's present store location is at 409 Sulphur Springs Road. When the Shaffers moved from Dallas to College Station in August, 1948, they established their store two doors down from its present location, where a doughnut shop is now located.

Anyone entering the doorway to Shaffer's will receive a friendly smile and a hearty "Hello", and pleasant assistance in making a purchase or even just to browse around.

Shaffer's Book Store is truly the friendliest store at North Gate.

(Adv.)

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