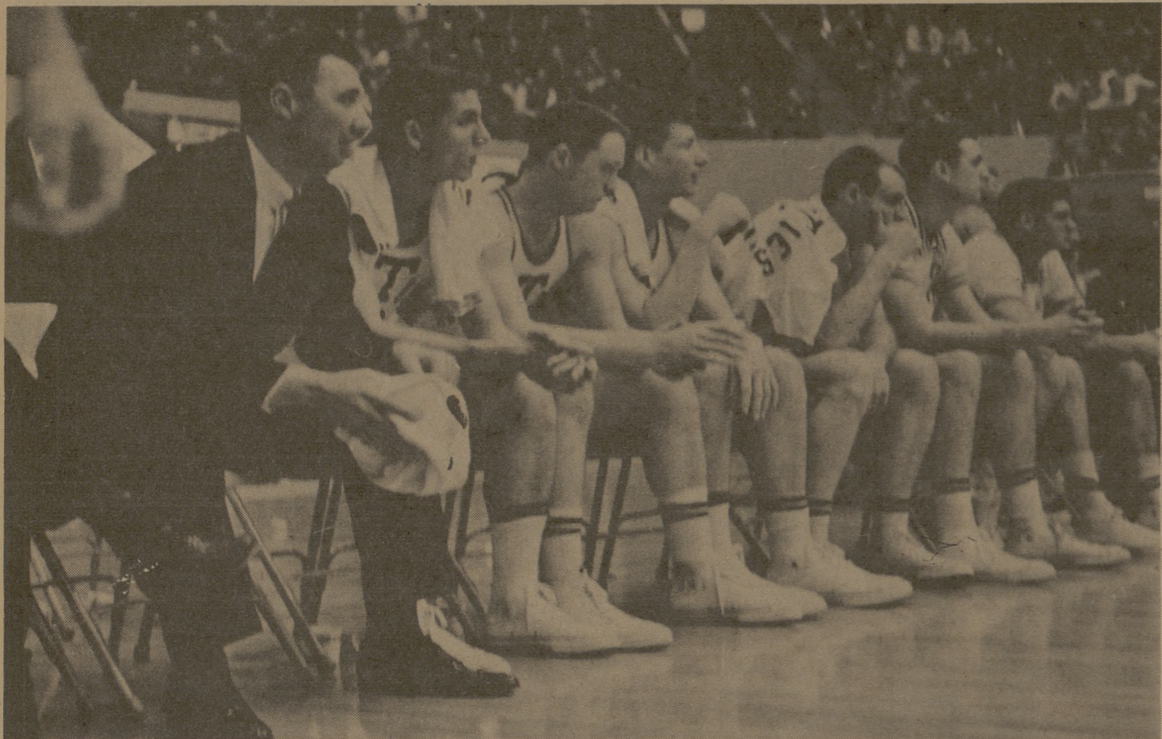


Veteran Aggie Basketballers To Rely On Beasley, Speed



AGGIE BENCH DURING CAGE CONTEST

One of the genuine highlights of the A&M school year is the basketball season. G. R. White Coliseum with a seating capacity of 8,500, is the scene of the colorful con-

Coach Shelby Metcalf's next cage edition at Aggieland will be a speedy, running outfit paced by All-American candidate John Beasley.

Beasley was one of the few bright spots last year as the Aggies fell to fifth place from the championship rung they mounted in 1963-64.

The 6-9 jump shot artist from Kildare rewrote the Aggie and conference record books, last year, winding up with a 25.8 season average and a 28.2 mark in league play. He cracked six school records, tied another, and broke three SWC marks in the course of the year.

Beasley will be joined by seven other veterans plus two redshirts and three or four sophomores, depending on how many Metcalf decides to redshirt.

It's difficult to predict A&M's chances, although potentially this is a sound ball club. If they jell early enough they could contend for the title but the league looks as tough or tougher than it was last year.

The Aggies will likely come out running to gain the maximum from their material. The team should be the swiftest at A&M in recent years and should also play some topnotch defense.

Chances are good that Metcalf will continue to use the fast-breaking, firewagon offense and hully-gully full-court zone press which he installed at times last season.

Six players will be competing

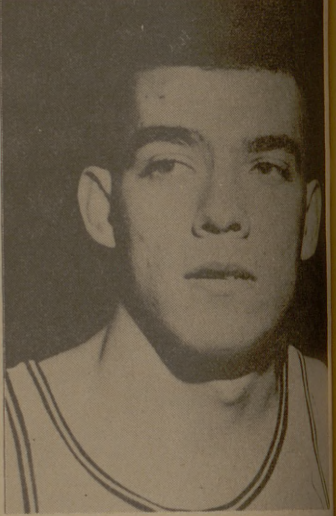
for the starting guard slots and it's too early to predict the battle's outcome. Four lettermen return to the position, including seniors Dickie Stringfellow (6-4), Eddie Dominguez (5-10) and Billy Atkinson (5-10) and junior Dick Rector (6-1).

Stringfellow has always shown great potential and he could be the key to A&M's chances. Rector displayed flashes of brilliance last year and is one of the most fiery performers in the league. Dominguez and Atkinson are both steady, consistent performers.

The other two guard candidates are Henderson County JC transfer Gary Payne (6-2) and Kent Andrews (6-0) a hell-for-leather type who only needs experience to round out his abundant talents.

At the forward slots there is also competition and the starters here are still indefinite. Seniors Tim Timmerman (6-7) and Sonny Fethkenher (6-6) and junior Reggie Gilbreath (6-7) will be joined by Kilgore JC transfer Wiley Jenkins (6-3) and sophomores Max Mainord (6-5), Terry Trippet (6-3) and possibly one or two others up from last year's Fish team.

Heading the incoming freshmen are Sonny Benefield (6-3) of Sweeney and Ronnie Peret (6-9) of Plainview, considered by many the top two schoolboy cagers in the state last year. Other recruits include Billy Barnett (6-3) of Brenham, who averaged 26 points a game and 6-9 Jack Langley from Galena Park.



JOHN BEASLEY

Cadet Diamondmen Favored To Take Conference Crown

The Aggie baseballers will be the hands-down favorite next spring to capture the SWC crown which they missed by a single game last season.

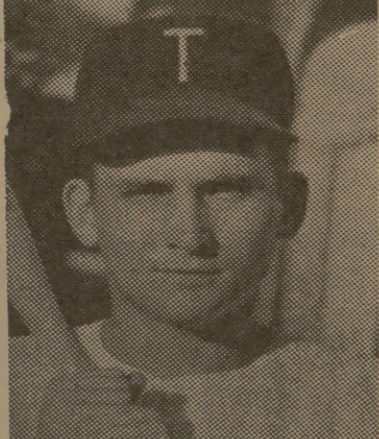
Coach Tom Chandler gets all but two men back from last year's squad and in addition can count on help from a freshman team that swept to an 11-1 record.

Only senior outfielder Fred Carlton and All-American third sacker Mike McClure, who turned professional, won't be returning. Spearheading the Maroon attack this season will be a trio of hard-throwing hurlers. Steve Hillhouse, a two-time all-SWC senior, returns for his last season. Last year's sophomore pitcher-of-the-year in the conference, Tommy Chiles, also returns and the pair will be joined on the mound corps by heralded sophomore Ken Perrin.

The Aggie infield also shows great promise. Hard-hitting sec-

ond baseman Lance Cobb, a two-time all-conference and second team All-American performer, is back for his senior season. Another returning all-conference infielder is Billy Crain, Cadet first baseman.

Junior Mike Arrington holds



BILLY CRAIN

forth at shortstop, where he batted .321 last season as a sophomore. The third base slot should go to sophomore Lou Camilli.

Another outstanding soph, Joe Staples, is likely to edge veterans Ed Garner and Ralph Beckner for the firststring catcher spot.

In the outfield, Alan Koonce is the brightest name. The slugging leftfielder from Fort Worth Paschal is another all-conference performer.

Fleet Chuck Malitz in center and Bryan's Neil Thompson round out the Aggie outfield.

The top incoming freshman is Robert Arnold, voted the outstanding schoolboy pitcher in the state by the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce selection board for his pitching performances at El Paso Austin.

Among the other freshmen prospects are Walter Varvel, A&M Consolidated pitcher; Pete Maida, Beaumont Kelly shortstop; infielders Bill Ulich of Lubbock Monterey and Jimmy Railey of Houston St. Thomas; and catchers Jim Conlee of Fort Worth Paschal, Tom Patrick of Midland and Johnny Walker of Texarkana.

Swim Team Looks Better

A&M swimming coach A. D. (Art) Adamson looks for an improved club this year but the Aggies appear to face an uphill fight in their attempt to break SMU's nine-year grip on the SWC.

Top individuals for the Cadets should be Jim Hooten and Jerry Keating in the freestyle events and breaststroker Mike Offner. George Staples and Dave Trifon will pace what could be a stand-out 400-meter relay team. Only six lettermen return and sophomores will be counted on heavily.

Robert Dommel of Houston Jones and Midland's Steve Ash appear to be the top freshmen.

Magnificent Randy Matson Paces Maroon Trackmen

The A&M track team, headed by incomparable Randy Matson, should be strong title contenders next year in a heated battle with Rice and Baylor.

Matson is the internationally famed weightman who broke the hallowed 70-foot barrier last year in the shot put with a 70-7 effort in the SWC meet on May 8.

He is unquestionably the world's finest shot putter and in time may be the finest discus thrower as well. He has a 201-5 1/2 throw to his credit, only 11 feet short of the world record.

The 6-6, 260-pound giant was stamped for greatness early. He smashed the state schoolboy mark while at Pampa and had thrown the 16-pound shot 60 feet before entering college. As a teenager he won an Olympics silver medal and last spring he stunned the track world with a dazzling series of puts which culminated in the 70-foot masterpiece.

His ten points in last year's SWC meet paced the Aggies of Coach Charley Thomas to second place and this year the Cadets have a chance to take all the marbles.

Leading the sprint corps now is Gilbert Smith, who has had a wind-aided 9.3, freshman Drew Hemphill (9.6), and Victoria JC transfer Larry McCartney (9.4).

In the quarter the top names are Larry McGough, Arie Britt, and sophomore Bob Vaughn. Soph

Willy Rodriguez is the leading halfmiler.

Juniors Danny Clifton, Geoffrey Earl and Don Smith are the top distancemen while sophs Steve O'Neal and Gary Abernathy and veteran Don Kooser head the hurdles corps.

Aggie strength is concentrated in the field events, where in addition to Matson, SWC champions Mike Schrider (high jump) and Dan Meadows (javelin) return.

Earl Edwards is the top Cadet pole vaulter, Bob Brown is an

excellent broad jumper, and soph David Resley could develop into the league's second best shot putter.

Next year's freshman prospects include: Distance runner Min Synard of Mobile, Ala.; halfmiler Richard Key and hurdler Richard Ball of Arlington; distance runner John Heffner of Beaumont South Park; sprinter Bill Lowery of Carlsbad, N. M.; high jumper Jim Brown of Bishop; and pole vaulter Kenny Walker of White House, Tex.



THE PRIDE OF AGGIELAND Fabulous Randy Matson, considered one of the all-time track greats at the young age of 20, displays his form in a meet held in Kyle Field. The world record holder in the shot put released his 70-7 effort in Kyle Field this past May.

Football Poll Favors Texas, Arkansas

In the 32nd annual TCU Sports News Poll of sportswriters, Texas is picked to win the SWC with Arkansas finishing second and Baylor third. Texas Tech is picked fourth followed in order

by Rice, TCU, SMU and Texas A&M. The Aggies received one first place vote in the poll. In the 32 years the poll has correctly predicted the champion only six times.

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