

Aggies Squeeze By Bobcats 76-66

"We'll be lucky to win this one," Head Basketball Coach Shelby Metcalf said at halftime Monday night during the Southwest Texas State basketball game.

At that time, the score was 35-41 against the Aggies and less than four minutes before the Cadets had trailed by 13 points. A&M went on to win 76-66, but the final margin was only achieved when the Ags broke a tie with 3:33 left in the game, poured on the steam and hit six for eight free throws.

Eddie Dominguez made three straight baskets in the last 35 seconds to pad the lead.

The Bobcats led for most of

the first half, breaking a 4-4 tie in the first minute-and-a-half and steadily pulling away. Hitting a solid 56.7% of their shots, Southwest Texas built up their 13 point lead, only to see it dwindle to six in a late Aggie spurt led by Tim Timmerman, Terry Trippet and Sonny Fethkenher.

The Cats kept control during the first half, in spite of the fact that they were outrebounded 25-22 and the Ags shot seven more times than they did. Their control hurried the Farmers' shots and gave them the time to make a great percentage.

If the first half belonged to the Bobcats, the second half was

a toss-up that the Aggies finally claimed for their own.

After shooting a cold 40.5% in the first half, the Aggies hit 44.4 per cent in the second and saw the Bobcats' shooting plum-

met to 35.5 per cent.

When the Ags came out for the second half, they immediately began putting pressure on their opponents, cutting their lead to two points after four minutes of

play. The Ags tied it at 48-48, exchanged baskets with the Cats for four minutes and took the lead for the last time at 54-52 with 12:34 left in the game. This didn't signal the end of

a close game, however. After building up an eight-point lead with 7:49 left, John Beasley was brought to the bench as a safety measure because he had four fouls.

Before he was put in again with 5:33 left, the Southwest Texas quintet had tied the score at 66-66. Beasley was then fouled and added two to break the tie, and Randy Matson hit one from the foul line to give the Cadets another point of margin.

After a time out with 1:50 left, Beasley hit two from the

free throw line and Dominguez hit his three in a row to end the game at 76-66.

The Ags only had two men in double figures, Beasley led scoring with 32 points and Dominguez was second with 12. The rest of the scoring was pretty evenly distributed. Timmerman had eight, Terry Trippet had six, Matson and Stringfellow had four each while Fethkenher and Rector had three each.

Leading Bobcat scoring was Henry Garcia with 14 points and Morris Ogden with 13.



BEASLEY SINKS FREE THROW

John Beasley sinks a crucial free throw in the closing minutes of the Southwest Texas and broke a 66-66 tie. The Ags won it, 76-66. State game Monday night in G. Rollie White.

Stallings Commends Students On Good Conduct At Games

Head Football Coach Gene Stallings took a moment out Monday to praise the conduct of the 12th Man during the 1965 football season.

In an interview with The Battalion, Stallings said, "I wish to commend the students on their respect for opposing teams when they had the ball, and for the spirit they displayed for our team."

"I think they displayed the Aggie Spirit and represented A&M the way all Aggies would like to be.

He said he appreciated the way the students cut off their yelling when the opponents had the ball and for their overall conduct at the games.

"I especially appreciated the way they respected our team."

Last year the Aggies were criticized for their habit of yelling when opposing players tried to run offensive plays. Stallings said this year opposing quarterbacks didn't once raise their hands to quiet the crowd.

He made a plea to the student body during All-University night

for good sportsmanship, and President Earl Rudder challenged the assembled students to win the SWC Sportsmanship Trophy. So far the school has received numerous letters of appreciation

for their fine conduct at the games.

"I want to commend the students simply because they DID act so well this year," the Aggie mentor concluded.

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FROM THE

Sidelines

By Larry R. Jerden

Could history repeat itself? Could the Aggies be placed on probation just as they begin to see the dawn of a new football era? These are the questions A&M grid fans may be asking themselves in the wake of a SWC investigation of this university's policies toward scholarship athletes.

Coach Gene Stallings is a pretty sensible man, with the best interests of his players and this school at heart. His argument is a simple one: there's no sense in giving something for nothing to anyone, including athletes who quit.

There are a number of back-up arguments that he and others have devised should the issue come to a head in the SWC meeting.

One is that when students on academic scholarships let their grades fall below a certain level, they are dropped from the rolls of the university and lose their scholarship. Why, then, should those on athletic scholarships be allowed to take money, not only when they fail, but when they quit the task for which they were given the scholarship.

Another point is that this may be a case of the pot calling the kettle black. Someone in the SWC instigated the investigation, but what was their record?

The school 90 miles to the west offers some 60 plus scholarships a year, yet they carry only about 57 on their varsity out of some 180 that started. Where are the 123? No one investigates TU! Surely A&M is not the only school that has athletes quit.

As Stallings asked, why should the school and the fans, support quitters?

Since the athletes themselves didn't force the issue, and since Stallings has said none of them asked to be kept on scholarship

and since Stallings has also said no one was after they quit, asked to leave, we should be able to assume that someone from the outside instigated the investigation.

Why? We really don't know. It may have been merely a chance to discredit the school, or to raise a controversy for what looked like a dull SWC meeting. Whatever the reason, if justice is to be done, there should be no disciplinary action taken against the Aggies simply because a large number of gridders weren't willing to pay the price of wearing the Maroon and White.

Those that quit haven't come and asked for handouts, why then does the SWC feel responsible to look out for their "welfare?"

While talking to the coach, he took time to commend the 12th Man for its fine conduct during football season. He mentioned the respect shown other teams, and the spirit displayed for our own team. We didn't always come out on top of the score, but when the season was over, everyone was proud to say they were our team... our Aggies.

But what about conduct at basketball games? Back to football for a look at the future. The Ags have received a letter from Jack Woodard, the fabulous 197-pound running back from Crockett, that he may be considering attending A&M. He's set about every record around his school, and has been almost 100 per cent of the Crockett attack this year.

The basketball team has won two in a row. A good start on the books, but they are looking a little ragged. The big test comes Thursday against Houston. THAT will be a game.

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