

BENCH SHARES ANXIOUS MOMENT

Aggie coaches and team member Terry Trippet, left, appear concerned over the action in the last home basketball game. Next to Trippet are head coach Shelby Metcalf, assistant Jim Culpepper, student assistant Bill McDonald and statistician Don Ayres.

Ags To Test Cougars

The Texas Aggies take time off from the Southwest Conference basketball wars to provide opposition for the dangerous Houston Cougars in Houston's Delmar Gym Saturday.

The contest will pit the SWC-leading Aggies against the Cougars of Guy Lewis for the third time this season. The Aggies took the opener Dec. 9, 93-88, in College Station, while UH won a week later in the finals of the Bluebonnet Classic in Houston, 90-85.

The Ags interrupt conference play sporting a 5-0 league mark, tops in the conference. Their last win came over archrival Texas Jan. 18 in Austin, 64-57.

Coach Shelby Metcalf will start his usual five of John Beasley, Randy Matson, Dick Stringfellow, Eddie Dominguez and Dick Rector against the high-scoring Cougars, eighth in the

nation in scoring with a 92.4 clip.

The Cougs are 11-4 for the season, including a win over the Baylor Bears in Houston Wednesday night. UH will entertain TCU's Horned Frogs tonight in Houston before hosting the Ags Saturday.

The Cougars' scoring average is unsurpassed by any SWC team in history, and the Aggies likely will go into Saturday's contest as the underdogs.

The game will pit two of the Southwest's leading cage performers in John Beasley, 6-9 Aggie star, and 6-7 Elvin Hayes, Houston's sophomore standout. Beasley is 11th in national

scoring statistics with a 26.4 average through 14 games. He also leads the SWC season totals with 369 points and sports a 29.0 mean through five league games.

Hayes is 17th in national scoring with a 25.1 average. He also ranks 16th in field goal percentage and 19th in rebounding with a 13.9 average through 14 games.

Beasley leads the SWC in free throw percentage, hitting 105 of 125 for an 84.0 mark. He also is third in rebounding with an 11.7 average.

The contest will mark the first action for the Aggies since the mid-term break for semester exams.

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Post Says Matson May Play Football

The Houston Post reported Wednesday that Aggie track and basketball star Randy Matson is considering reporting for football next season.

The story said Matson has not made a definite decision concerning the matter but is thinking about reporting for the football squad.

"I realize . . . that there isn't a great deal of money in shot putting, and there's quite a bit in football," Matson is quoted as saying.

The world shot put record holder reported for basketball this season and immediately made the team as a starter. He is sport-

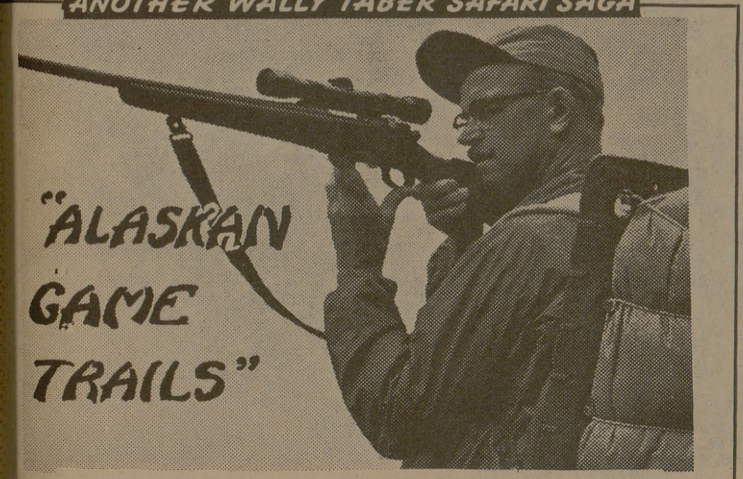
ing a 6.0 average and is second in rebounds to John Beasley with 138, a big factor in the Aggies' surge to the top of the Southwest Conference standings.

The 6-6, 235-pound Matson played tackle at Pampa his sophomore year in high school. He missed his next season because of injuries and switched to full-back his senior year.

He was drafted in the 17th round by the National Football League Baltimore Colts in December, but is ineligible for the draft until next year.

Matson has reportedly discussed the matter with Aggie track coach Charley Thomas, and Thomas said he thinks his star shot putter will play football next year.

If the Pampa star does play he might well be teamed at tackle with Maurice Moorman, a 240-pound transfer from Kentucky.



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Parachute Team To Host Nationals

The Texas A&M Parachute team will host the national championships of the Collegiate Parachuting League April 23-24.

From 75 to 100 contestant from 20 schools will be here for the national organization championships, to be held at the Hearne Municipal Airport drop zone.

Bob Richardson, spokesman for the A&M team, said the U. S. Army Parachute Team will judge the two-day event and may make a demonstration jump in Bryan-College Station.

Among teams expected to compete are the Air Force Academy, U. S. Military Academy and schools in Louisiana, Arkansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona and Texas.

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