

Aggies Host Unbeaten TCU

Aggies Hope To Bounce Back From Saturday Loss To SMU

By GARY SHERER

Basketball returns to G. Rollie White Coliseum at 8 p.m. tonight as the Aggies take on TCU, unbeaten in league play this year.

The Horned Frogs have taken two conference opponents thus far with a 71-65 victory over Texas Tech and a 96-82 victory over Texas this past Saturday. Both of these wins have been at home, so this will be their first road test.

TCU presents a balanced offense led by 5-11 Wayne Kreis from Pampa who is hitting at a 13.4 pace. Not far behind Kreis is Mickey McCarty, 6-5 junior from Pasadena who is scoring at a 13.2 clip. Jess Evans at 12.8 and James Cash at 11.2 complete the four-pronged scoring attack for the Frogs.

TCU Coach Byron (Buster) Brannon is in his 19th year as head man and he has put together an experienced aggregation to oppose the Aggies. They bring a 4-8 record into this game, but have not had success on the road as they are 0-7 for road games. This fact, along with the steady improvement of the young Aggie team, will make this game pretty close to a tossup.

Aggie Coach Shelby Metcalf had his team practicing both Sunday and Monday in preparation for the game. He says they are working on some new things and that they will be ready for TCU by gametime. His probable lineup will be John Underwood and Sonny Benefield out front, Dick Rector and Billy Bob Barnett on the side and Ronnie Peret in the middle.

The Aggies are now 1-1 in conference play as a result of their 80-67 loss to SMU over the weekend.

In Saturday night's game a balanced Southern Methodist scoring attack plus Aggie jitters led to an 80-67 SMU victory at Dallas.

Playing before a Moody Coliseum crowd of 9,000, the Aggies had 19 turnovers and SMU took advantage of most of them and followed up with a basket to keep the lead the entire game.

The Aggies outshot the Mustangs from the floor but the referee's whistle was a frequent

sound (especially in the second half) and the foul was usually on the Aggies. The foul shot totals bear this out, as the Ponies took 39 trips to the charity stripe while the Aggies received 20 free tosses. The 13 point difference was made up here, with SMU converting 26 foul shots and the Maroon and White 13.

The Aggies fell behind at the start and their only real threat came with three minutes left in the first half as Underwood hit on a jump shot to make it 30-25, SMU. After that shot, SMU ran off 13 points, while the Ags could just manage six and the Mustangs took a 43-31 lead to the dressing room at halftime.

Working out of a zone defense, the Mustangs forced the Aggies to take outside shots and except for a hot first half streak by Underwood, he and Benefield could not find the basket enough to pull the Pony defenders out to them.

The Mustangs' Denny Holman and Charles Beasley paced the experienced SMU attack and forced many mistakes from the sophomore-laden Aggie five. As in past games, the inexperience of the young players was a big factor in the loss.

Aggie Coach Shelby Metcalf said after the game that if not for the turnovers and the excessive foul calls, the Aggies would have come much closer. He pointed out that Peret getting into foul trouble early changed his game plan because he had to pull the 6-9 sophomore from Plainview out of the game for a lot of the early play.

Peret fouled out eventually as he again had two or three fouls that were questionable but unfortunately for the Aggies they weren't to the referee. This has been the case in most of the games for Peret. He just can't seem to avoid that foul call and gets saddled with two or three before the game has progressed very far.

Buzzy Myatt turned in an outstanding game scoring 13 points and grabbing a team-high nine rebounds. Peret was high scorer with 14 points while Myatt along with Underwood added 13 apiece.



VISITING HORNED FROG Wayne Kreis, 5-11 senior guard from Pampa leads the TCU Frogs into G. Rollie White Coliseum for an 8 p.m. encounter with the Aggies tonight.

Fish, Wogs Battle Tonight At 5:45

By JERRY GRISHAM

The Texas Aggie Fish basketball team try to get back on the .500-plus side of the winning statistics as they welcome the TCU Polliwogs to the court of G. Rollie White Coliseum at 5:45 p.m. tonight preceding the varsity contest.

They split two games with the Kilgore College and lost to Tyler Junior College and Lon Morris. In conference play, the Wogs dropped a 88-86 decision to the University of Texas Shortliffe.

The only common opponent of the Wogs and Fish has been Lon Morris. While the Fish defeated the Bearcats, the Wogs were drubbed 96-75.

Top scorer for the Wogs is Rick Wittenbraker who has hit 36 field goals and 19 free throws and is the single game high point man with 32 points against Kilgore College.

Mike Heitmann is the leading scorer for the Fish. He has scored 37 field goals and 25 free throws, and his high game of the season came against Wharton when he scored 30 points.

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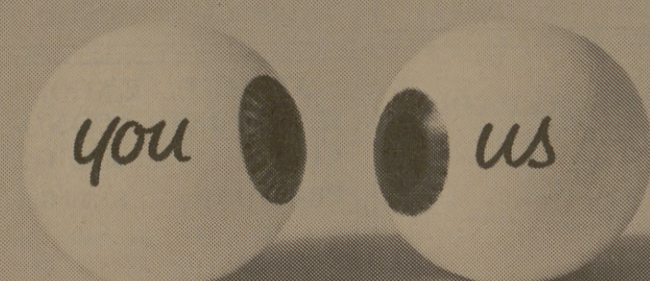
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