

Fish Scorers Led By Cooksey, Smith

By JOHN PLATZER
 Chuck Smith and Bill Cooksey, the Aggie Fish basketball team's own version of Mr. Inside and Mr. Outside, continue to be the outstanding players in their team's drive to a 3-1 record.

Cooksey, a 6-2 guard from Houston, has been the outside sharpshooter for Coach Jim Culpepper's cagers and leads the squad in scoring with a 22.8 average. He has hit on 41 of his 94 long range shots for a 43.6 mark.

In each of the Fish games Cooksey has either led or been tied for the lead in his team's scoring. He led with 24 points against Henderson, 23 against Lon Morris and 28 against Temple and tied Smith and Roddy McAlpine with 16 against Texas Christian University.

SMITH, PERHAPS the best all-around player on the team, is the Fish inside threat. He is second on the squad in both scoring and rebounding. Smith is averaging 20.3 points and 12.8 rebounds.

The 6-4 forward from Odessa has hit on a fantastic 27 of 39 shots from the floor for a 69.2 mark. His best single game was against Henderson when he scored 21 points and pulled down 15 rebounds.

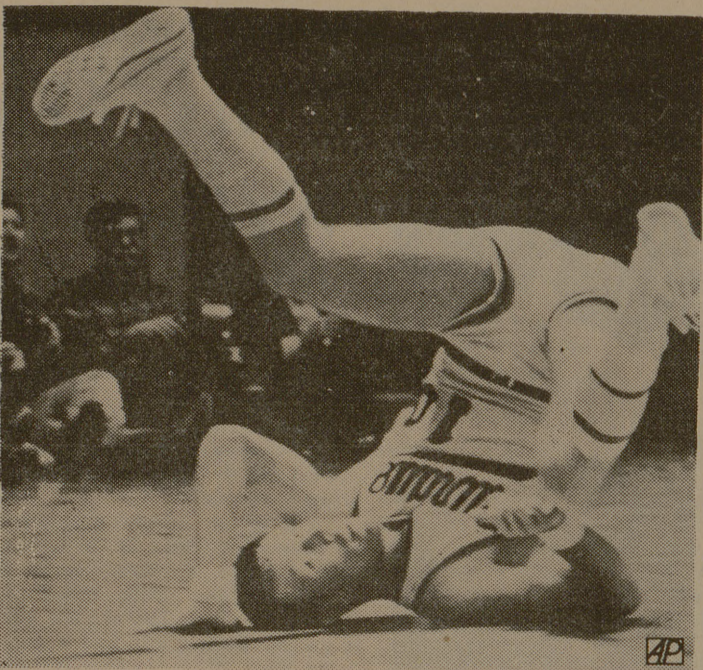
The leading rebounder and third top scorer on the team is 6-10 Steve Niles. He has hit at a 13.3 scoring mark and has averaged 15 rebounds. He has made 20 of 44 shots for a 45.5 mark with his best scoring game coming against Lon Morris with 18 and his best rebounding game against TCU with 19.

While in high school, Niles led San Antonio Lee to the 4A state championship along with McAlpine and Andy Harris.

McALPINE, a 5-9 guard, is the fourth member of the squad with a double figure scoring average. He has an 11.5 average and leads the team in free throw shooting, making 26 of 30 for an 86.7 mark.

Danny Berry is averaging 4.8 points while Tommy Bain is at 4.3 along with Billy Hodge. Harris is carrying a 2.8 average.

The Fish next game is Monday night when they put their 1-0 conference record on the line against the Texas Yearlings in San Antonio.



TURN OVER
 Purdue University forward Rick Mount (10) lands upside down after completing a shot during game with University of Wisconsin at Lafayette, Ind. Purdue Boilermakers won, 99-79. (AP Wirephoto)

Indiana's Pont Is Named College Coach Of Year

NEW YORK (AP)—John Pont, who pulled off a 100-1 feat in leading Indiana University through a 9-1 season and into the Rose Bowl, was named college football's Coach of the Year Thursday by his fellow coaches.

The 39-year-old Miami of Ohio graduate was voted the annual Kodak Award in a poll of 2,000 members of the American Football Coaches Association.

The same group elected Cecil "Scrappy" Moore, who is retiring after 42 years at the University of Chattanooga, the Kodak Award for having done the best coaching job in small college ranks.

Moore's 42nd Chattanooga team had a 7-3 record and gave

the slim, gray-haired grandfather a career mark of 171 victories, 146 defeats and 13 ties.

Pont took a Hoosier team that had won only one of 10 games in 1966 and turned it into a winner that placed fourth in The Associated Press national rankings.

"Discipline and imagination were the trademarks of our team," Pont said. "The boys possessed tremendous spirit and drive. They didn't believe they could be beaten. They were a team that would make any coach look good."

Pont said that at Indiana this year he and his staff picked the best 22 players and decided to forget about replacements.

"We sought to instill responsibility in them from the beginning," he added. "I called no more than 10 per cent of the plays. The other 90 per cent of the plays were left to our quarterback, Harry Gosno."

"I believe in giving this responsibility to the players and we get more out of them. They learned to believe in themselves. They were a remarkable group."

The Hoosiers lost only one game—to Minnesota, 33-7—but

came back for a titanic 19-14 triumph over Purdue and the great Leroy Keyes. They lost to top-ranked Southern California in the Rose Bowl, 14-3.

Moore's Chattanooga teams played and beat larger football powers.

Scrappy got his nickname because of his desire to play bigger opponents.

A television man at the presentation Thursday referred to Moore as "Cecil."

"Cecil?" Moore exclaimed incredulously. "I haven't been called 'Cecil' since my ma got mad at me when I was six."

FIFTH TRIPLE TIE

CHICAGO (AP)—When Indiana, Purdue and Minnesota finished in a three-way tie for the Big Ten football title it marked the fifth triple tie in the history of the conference.

In 1931 Michigan, Northwestern and Purdue tied. Other triple ties were between Illinois, Michigan and Purdue in 1918; Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin in 1906 and Michigan, Minnesota and Northwestern in 1903.

Aggie Five At Dallas

By GARY SHERER
 The Texas Aggie basketballers take to the road this weekend with a Saturday night game at Southern Methodist.

Dallas' Moody Coliseum is the site of the 8 p.m. Southwest Conference encounter.

THE MUSTANGS are experiencing the same problems their football counterparts had this season. SMU took both the SWC football and basketball titles last season. This season, the football team had a bad year and the basketball team isn't doing much better.

SMU takes a dismal 1-11 record into tomorrow night's game and an 0-3 conference mark.

Long time assistant Bob Prewitt took over the head coaching job this season from E. O. (Doc) Hayes. Hayes directed the Mustangs to several conference titles in his many years at the Mustang helm but decided to retire after last season.

PREWITT FACES the problem that faced the Aggies' Shelby Metcalf last season. SMU is loaded down with sophomores and inexperience. Their attack is built around two fine players, 6-7 Lynn Phillips and 6-3 Bill Voight.

Phillips, a junior from Houston, was a starter on last year's championship squad and ended up with a 14.1 average in conference play. Voight, a junior from Dallas, was the top reserve for the Mustangs last year.

Voight has taken on the top-scoring role with some assistance from Phillips. But with the exception of senior forward John Higginbotham not much other seasoned help is in sight.

The Mustangs can't be counted out, however, and have been in contention in every game this season. Their one victory came against Indiana of the Big Ten in the All-Sports Classic over the Christmas holidays.

Houston's Webster Air Force Bound

HOUSTON (AP)—George Webster, the American Football League's rookie of the year, is entering the military service and will miss the AFL all-star game Jan. 21 at Jacksonville, Fla.

The Houston Oilers announced Thursday the rookie linebacker from Michigan State is to report for Air Force Reserve duty Friday at New Orleans and will be stationed at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio.

"We had hoped his reporting date could be delayed until after the all-star game in that he is the only rookie on either starting team for that game," an Oilers spokesman said.

"We hope he will be back with us in time for the start of fall training."

BAYLOR, Texas and Rice have topped the Ponies so far in the young conference race. In the Texas game they were nipped by four and a last second shot beat them in the Rice game. Surprising Baylor scored a double figures margin over the Mustangs.

SMU now finds themselves in the conference cellar and will be looking for a win Saturday night to raise them to at least a tie for the murky depths. Prewitt's crew would love to start off some victories with one over the Aggies.

The 7-5 Aggies (1-2 in the SWC) go into this game off an impressive 94-81 Monday night win over pre-season favorite Texas Tech. If the Aggie five lacks anything this season, it seems to be consistency.

However, when they have looked good, they have been impressive. Over the holidays, the Maroon and White faced some tough teams and came out on top in Seattle's American Legion Tournament.

THEN, WITH the change of the year, they lost two straight overtime games. The two losses (Arkansas and Texas Christian) were conference games so Metcalf's charges can't lose too many

more if they are to be contenders for the SWC crown.

Metcalf plans to go with leading leader Ronnie Peret, Bostic and newcomer Bryan Chandler up front and John Underwood and Mike Heitmann the guard positions.

The last game before the break will be Tuesday night in Texas.

UCLA Faces Tough Trips

LOS ANGELES (AP)—College basketball's greatest attraction many a year, the Bruins UCLA, begin this week's series of out of town trips to Houston's Astrodome and New York's Madison Square Garden. Unbeaten in 44 consecutive games and only 16 shy of national collegiate record set by the University of San Francisco in the era of Bill Russell, Bruins open the tour at Berkeley Friday night.

It is a Pacific-8 Conference game against a much stronger Golden Bear team than the Bruins handled in the chase last year.

UCLA will be at Stanford Saturday night, then returns to own Pauley Pavilion Thursday night against Portland for only remaining home game January.

It will be the No. 1 Bruins against No. 2 Houston and an out crowd of 55,000 in the Astrodome Jan. 20, followed by Madison Square against Holy Cross and Berkeley College Jan. 26-27, respectively. Coach John Wooden of UCLA believes in first things first which means California and Stanford.

"Cal is extremely strong year," Wooden says.

The contest figures to be an interesting struggle between UCLA's Lew Alcindor and Bears' Bob Presley. Lew is the nation's most highly publicized star. Presley, 6-10 1/2, is en route to breaking all scoring records.

Alcindor's supporting cast which probably could win consistently without the big man includes Edgar Lacey, 6-11 1/2, Mike Wenzel, 6-11, and Lynn Shackelford, 6-11.

Presley readily admits that Alcindor poses his greatest challenge.

Evansville Leads AP Small College

By The Associated Press

Evansville's 71-64 victory over Kentucky Wesleyan last week enabled the Aces to wrest first place from the Panthers in The Associated Press' small-college basketball poll. The Owensboro, Ky. team, though, will get its chance to get even.

The Aces' triumph was recorded on their home court. When the two teams meet again on Feb. 10 it'll be on the Panthers' floor.

In the latest poll of 14 sports writers and broadcasters on a national panel based on games through last Saturday, Evansville received seven votes for first place and 129 points, the latter on a basis of 10 points for a first-place vote, 9 for second, etc.

Kentucky Wesleyan slipped one notch to second, accumulating 95 points. Long Island University remained a strong third with 92 points. The unbeaten Blackbirds recorded their 11th victory last week by downing Seton Hall, 53-47.

The top Ten, with first-place votes in parentheses and total points on a 10-9 etc. basis:

1. Evansville (7) 129
2. Kentucky Wesleyan 95
3. Long Island U. (3) 92
4. Indiana State 75
5. Southwest Missouri St. (1) 62
6. Trinity, Tex. 57
7. San Diego State 41
8. Southwestern Louis. (1) 40
9. Guilford (1) 34
10. Winston-Salem 18

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By Charles M. Schulz

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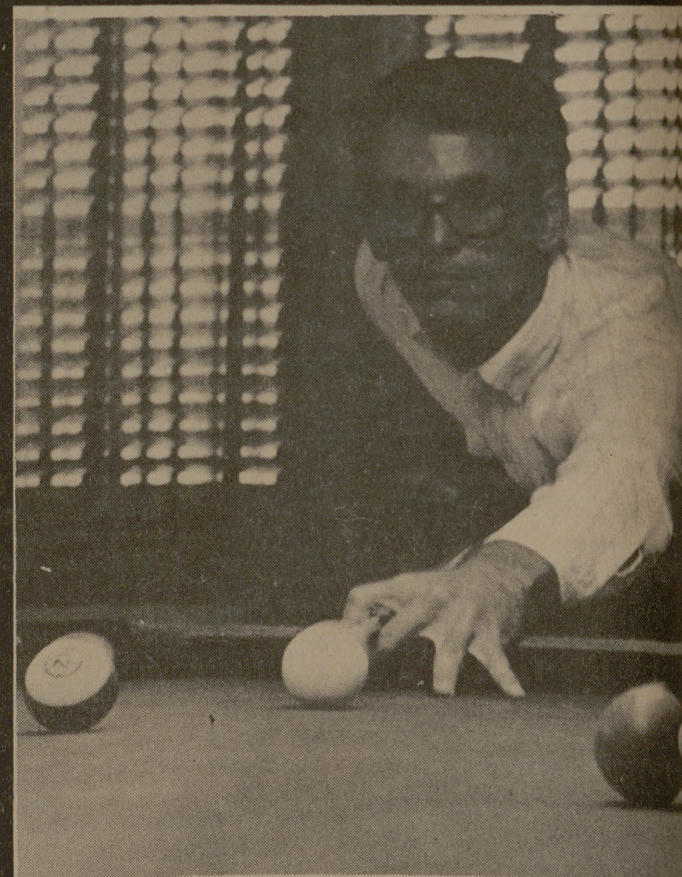
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