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College Station, Texas Tuesday, February 6, 1968

Meet Rice Owls Tonight

By GARY SHERER Coach Shelby Metcalf and his Aggie basketballers invade Rice's Autry Gym tonight in the role of spoilers.

The Maroon and White took on this new face as a result of their 77-67 loss to Baylor Saturday night at G. Rollie White Coli-

THE LOSS makes the Aggies 2-4 in the Southwest Conference race while Baylor upped its league mark to 5-1. With four losses, the Aggies would have to win all of their remaining games, and in the crazy SWC, winning streaks are not very abundant.

Coach Don Knodel's Owls also lost Saturday. Rice dropped a 68-64 afternoon TV decision to Tex-

Owls now have a 3-3 conference 6-3 forward from San Antonio hands full for this 8 p.m. game, reading while the Longhorns are leads the Owl SWC scoring with as the Owls feature a varied atreading while the Longhorns are tied with Arkansas for second place at 4-2.

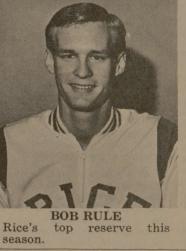
Rice is now in the same position that the Aggies were before Saturday night's games. They cannot afford to lose.

THUS FAR this season, Baylor has been the only team to show any consistency. The Bears' only loss has been to Texas Christian. Only last week, TCU had been considered the team to beat. The schedule-makers put an end to that, as the Frogs ran into the two toughest road trips in the conference. The result - two straight losses at the hands of Arkansas and Texas Tech. Rice's attack is led by Larry

as at Austin's Gregory Gym. The Miller and Greg Williams. Miller,

an 18.8 mark. Williams, a pintsized guard from Portland, Ind. is runner-up with an even 16 per

KNODEL LOST his first-string center when Jim Hubenak, a 6-7 junior from Wharton was a victim of the scholastic woes. Sophomore Steve Wendel has stepped into Hubenak's spot. Houston product Bob Rule, a 6-4 guard continues to be the number one reserve for the Owls. The Aggies will have their



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as the Owls feature a varied attack. The task of guarding Miller will go to sophomore Mike Heitmann who returned to his early season form in the Baylor Heitmann came off the loss. bench and paced the Aggie attack with 18 points.

THE BATTALION

The Houston Sam Houston grad had run into mid-season sluggishness and Metcalf hopes the 6-4 forward has regained his confidence. Joining Heitmann in the starting lineup will be Ronnie Peret, Billy Bob Barnett, John Underwood and Sonny Benefield. SATURDAY night's loss was

in keeping with the Aggies' recent misfortunes. Baylor was consistent and A&M wasn't. The final statistics prove this statement true. The Bears were 24 for 44 from the field for 54.5 while the Aggies managed 19 of 52 for

The Aggies definitely need consistency in their attack. The loss to Baylor proved this but there is a lot of talent on this Aggie aggregation and they can still make some noise in the SWC race. One improvement was notice-

able by the noise it made Saturday night. The biggest crowd of the season entered G. Rollie White as 7,300 observed the game.

3 MIKE HEITMANN Returned to form Saturday night.

Texas Outfielder Hurt In Practice

AUSTIN, Tex. (P)-Pat Brown, intra-squad game as Texas span." all-conference outfielder with the started its second week of prac-University of Texas, was beaned in practice Monday and will be out of action for three weeks.

tice. Brown's left cheek bone was fractured and he will have

The accident occurred in an to undergo surgery

Aggies - Bama Split \$500,000

DALLAS - Victorious Texas A&M and the University of Ala bama will receive record Cotton Bowl Classic payments in exces of \$243,000.00 for their 1968 par ticipation, the Cotton Bowl Ath letic Association revealed recent ly.

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"An increase in our televisio receipts combined with a seven straight sellout enabled us to be ter the previous record," sa James H. Stewart, president the Association. The 1966 pa ments to Arkansas and LSU wer \$230,107.26.

Mr. Stewart also announce that the Cotton Bowl Athletic As sociation has completed negoti tions for a new three-game co tract with the Columbia Broa casting System at a substantia increase in rights receipts. Base on the increase in television reenue, the Cotton Bowl Classic pects to pay in excess of \$30 000.00 to each of the 1969 partie pants.

"Our last 10 Cotton Bo games have contributed in exce of \$4,000,000.00 to the participat ing teams and to the Southw Conference," Mr. Stewart adde "Three teams emerged from the performances here as recognize national champions during the

CBS has had the televisi rights for the Cotton Bowl Clas continuously since its telecast the January 1, 1958 game be tween Navy and Rice.

If your major is listed here, **IBM** would like to talk with you February 15th or 16th.

BARNETT FOR TWO

Billy Bob Barnett (24) scores on a layup in this first-half action of Saturday night's 77-67 loss to Baylor. Defending for Baylor is Randy Thompson (11) and Ed Thorpe (be-hind Barnett). Mike Hazel (30) sets for a possible rebound.

Fish Ripped 81-67 **By Baylor Cubs**

By JOHN PLATZER

poor shooting first half proved disastrous for the Aggie Fish Saturday as they dropped an 81-67 decision to the Baylor Cubs.

The loss was the Fish's second against four wins for the season while Baylor is now 4-3. It was the first SWC loss for the Fish. BAYLOR jumped off to a 4-0 lead in the contest and was never threatened. They had their biggest lead of the half at 36-18 with five minutes remaining.

The half ended with the Cubs on top 43-28.

Outside shooting, which had een one of the Fish top we

FOUR OF the Fish players continue to keep their averages in double figures for the season scoring. Cooksey leads with a 21 point average while Smith is at 19.9, Niles is at 15.4 and Roddy McAlpine is averaging 10.8.

Cooksey has hit on 56 of 124 from the field for a 45.1 mark which is exceptionally good considering the length of the shot it is his job to take.

Smith, who forms a strong duo under the boards with Niles, has made good on 40 of 63 attempts for 63.5 per cent while Niles has hit on 35 of 75 for a 46.2 mark.

THE TEAM'S rebounding has been one of its main strengths

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in the season, all but deserted them in the half as they hit on only 11 of 28 from the field for 39.3 per cent while the Cubs hit at a 53.3 mark on 16 of 30.

The first portion of the second half produced more of the same as the Cubs pulled away to a 62-38 margin with 12:20 remaining.

THE FISH then began to reverse the trend and started chipping away at the lead but it was too late as Baylor protected their win

A&M hit on 22 of 49 from the floor for the game for a 44.9 mark while Baylor hit on 30 of 58 for 51.7

Steve Niles led the Fish in scoring with 18 points and in rebounding with 9 while Chuck Smith added 16 points and Bill Cooksey had 15. Tom Friedman and Bob Griffiths led the Cub's attack with 21 and 20 points respectively.

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and Niles and Smith are two of the reasons. Niles has grabbed 83 rebounds for a 13.8 average while Smith has 68 for an 11.3 mark.

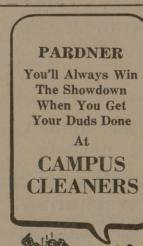
The Fish play the Rice Owlets in Houston tonight before returning home this Saturday to take on the Texas Shorthorns in a preliminary to the varsity game.

> FINAL **MAKE - UP** Pictures For 1968 Aggieland

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