

# Record-Setting Aggies Host Rice Owls Tonight

By GARY SHERER  
The record-breaking Texas Ag-

gie basketball team takes the G. Rollie White Coliseum floor again tonight to meet Rice in a South-

west Conference match. Saturday night, in the same location, the Aggies and the Texas Longhorns pushed 222 points into

forty minutes of basketball in a 117-105 SWC win for the Aggies. After the weekend's conference action, the surprising Baptists from Waco are still atop the SWC heap with a 7-1 mark. Texas Christian moved into a tie for second place (5-3) with Arkansas on a 77-75 win over the Hogs at Fort Worth.

The Aggies pulled the same trick with their win over Texas. The Maroon and White is now at 4-4 in a third place tie with the Austin cagers. Rice is all alone in fourth at 3-5, with Texas Tech and Southern Methodist bringing up the rear at 2-6.

**THE OWLS OF** Coach Don Knodel won't think they are going to face the same team tonight that they lost to last week in Houston. In that 75-66 win for the Aggies, the Maroon and White hardwooders threw the ball away 20 times but maintained a respectable relationship with the basket to pull away with a victory.

Saturday night, the Aggies knocked the turnovers total down to three as they put on an impressive run-and-shoot performance before 7,900.

The Aggies tonight, will be hoping to make it two straight over Rice as they did over Texas. **COACH SHELBY** Metcalf will start the same lineup tonight, that has got the call the last two games. Sonny Benefield, Ronnie Peret, Mike Heitmann, John Underwood and Billy Bob Barnett (high for the Aggies Saturday night with 32) will lineup for the opening tipoff.

Rice, led by Larry Miller and Greg Williams, will try and counter with the same offense that nearly toppled Baylor. Knodel has been disappointed with the Owls' performance in recent weeks and hopes his team may be on the way back. The Owls are now at 5-13 for the season.

The Aggies are 10-8 on the year after the Texas triumph. **AFTER TONIGHT'S** match the Aggies will have five games left on their 1967-68 schedule. It goes without saying, that the Aggies must win them all if they are to figure at all in the SWC title scramble. If Metcalf's crew can continue

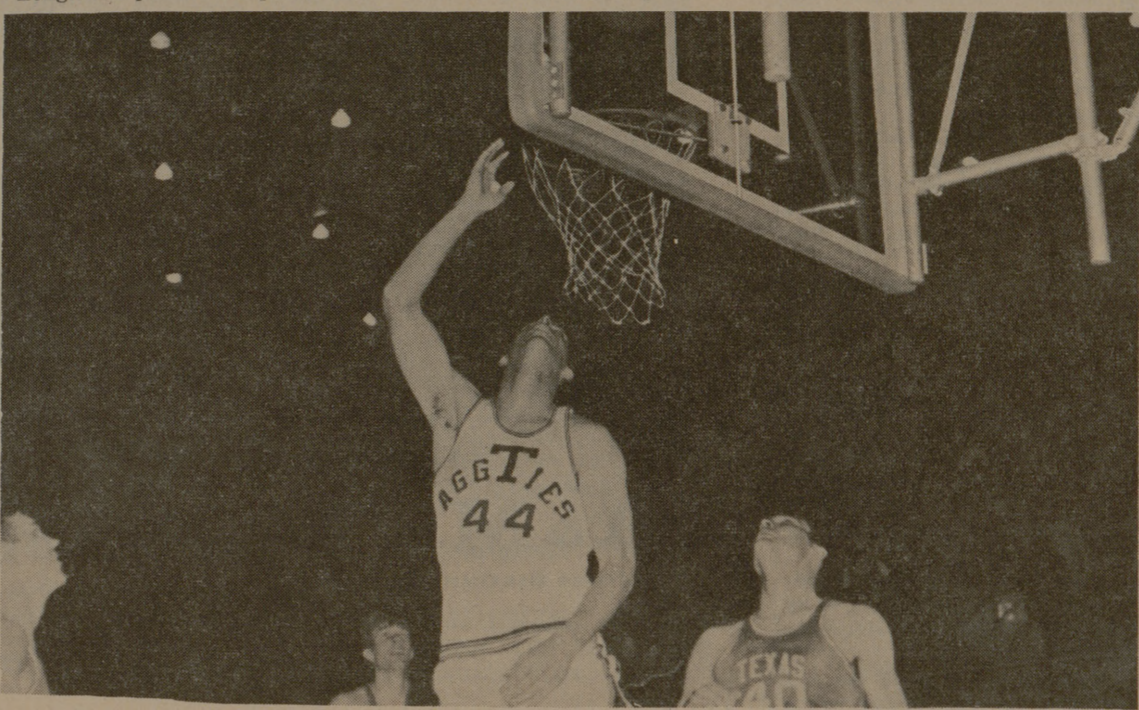
the aggressive play they have displayed in their last two games, that task will not be as great as it seems. However, Saturday night's game was also one of those occurrences that makes sports activity so intriguing. It was a night where everything worked, except defense. Metcalf said after the game that he was glad that there was a good turnout to see one of those college basketball rarities where, offensively, everything did work.

**THE GAME DID** not start out like it was going to be a record-breaking contest. The Aggies missed their first shot and Texas didn't score for two minutes. But when the two teams started to find the range, the baskets were easy prey for the two teams.

When the two teams retired for the halftime break, the Aggies enjoyed a eight-point bulge at 34-48. With both teams shooting around the 60 percent mark, it was expected that the second half would see some of the hot-shooting cool off in the second twenty minutes of play.

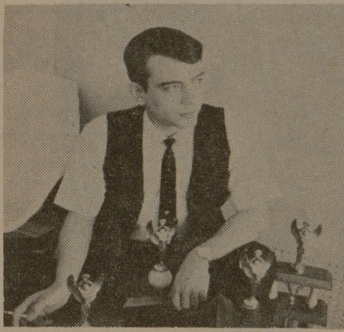
Texas did even better in the second half, but because of some sloppy play and fine defense the Longhorns couldn't keep pace. The Aggies couldn't keep pace. **THE AGGIES** set two team records and tied one conference mark in the victory. The 117 points set a new record for points at A&M, while the 48 field goals was a new high. They tied the conference high point mark and narrowly missed setting a new pinnacle as a final shot was nullified by the final buzzer.

It is interesting to note that Texas Tech had also scored 117 points last season against guest who?—TEXAS. The total points established a new conference top per while the 78 total rebounds tied a SWC record that had been set last season by the Aggies and TCU.



**PERET FLIPS IN TWO**  
Ronnie Peret (44) leaves Texas' Gary Overbeck (40) behind as he puts in a layup after a baseline drive in first half action of Saturday night's 117-105 victory. (Photo by Mike Wright)

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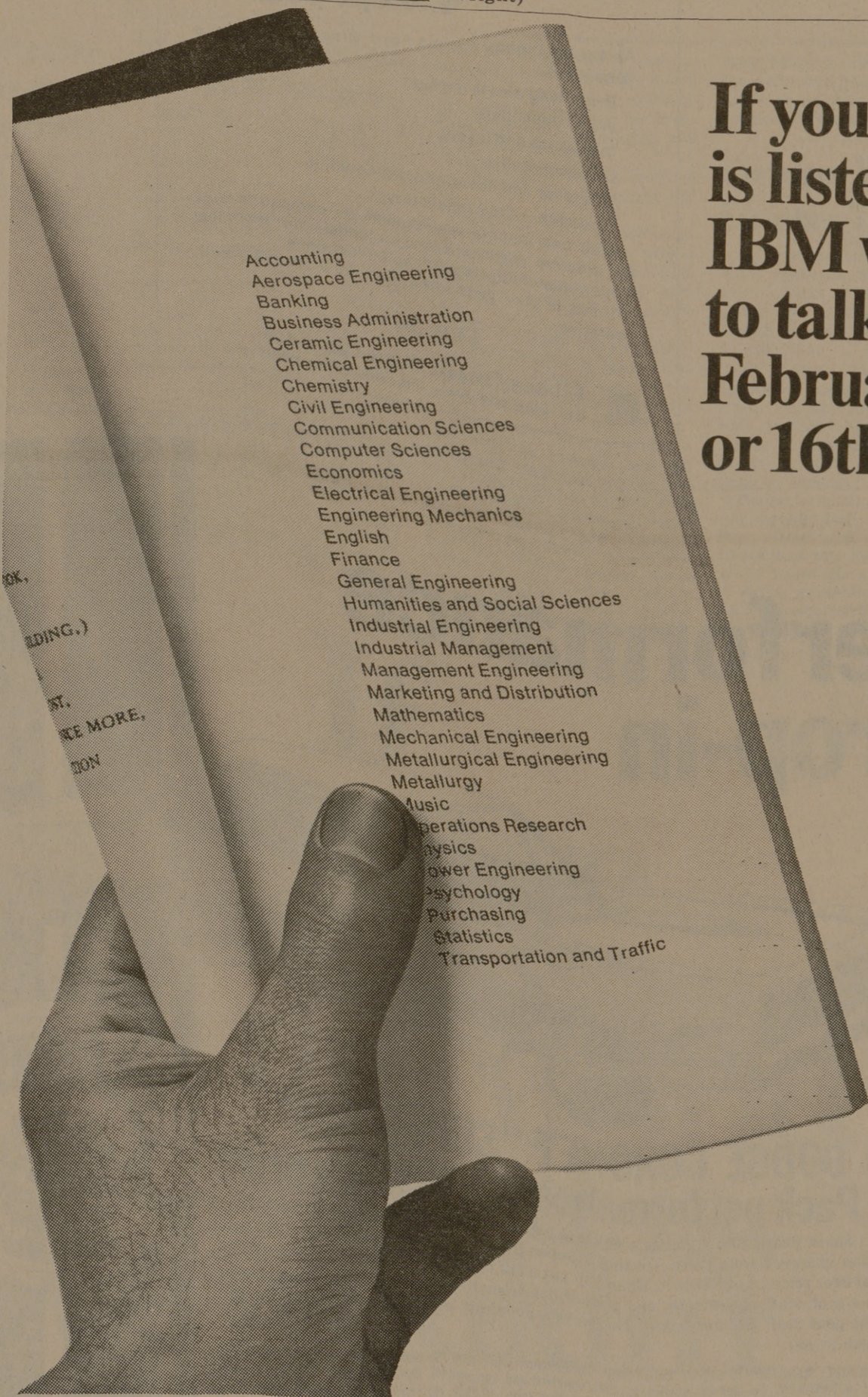
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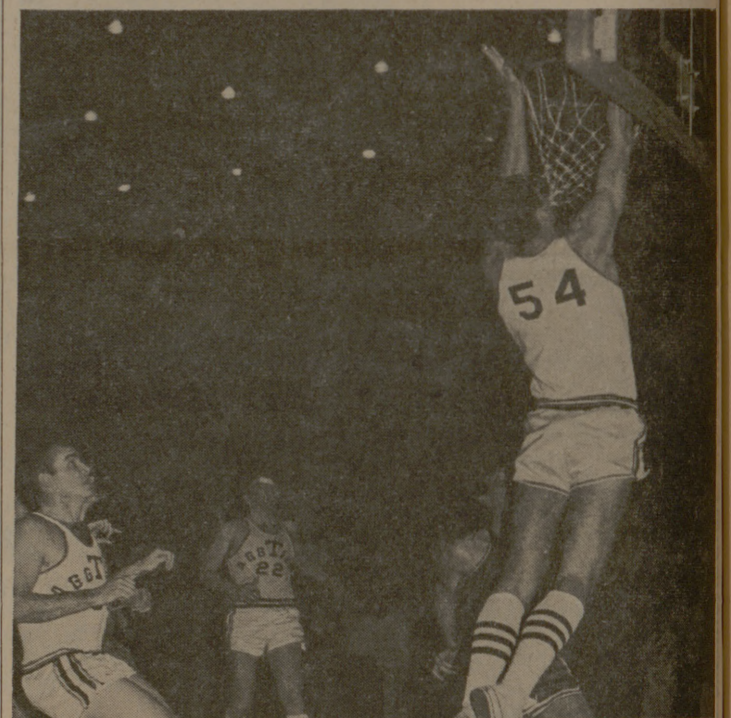
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**A RECORD-TYING BASKET**  
Byron Chandler (54) scores the Aggies' last two points of the game Saturday night that tied a SWC record for most team points. Other Aggies shown are Terry Trippet and Mike Heitmann (22). (Photo by Mike Wright)

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