

Aggies Visit Lubbock Seeking Needed Win

By GARY SHERER
 Friendships come and go fast for the Aggies in the Southwest Conference basketball race. Saturday's friends will become Tuesday night's enemies tonight as the hectic SWC and the Maroon and White get set for their next-to-last night of action in the 1967-68 season.

Texas Christian, which was Saturday afternoon's Aggie enemies by beating Shelby Metcalf's quintet 85-78, tonight becomes the Maroon and White's friend. The Frogs will host league-leading Texas at Fort Worth and the Aggies will be hoping for a TCU victory.

THE AGGIES are at Lubbock tonight to meet Texas Tech's Red Raider five. Saturday night, Tech was an Aggie accomplice as they knocked off the sagging Baylor Bears 65-63 at Lubbock.

What all this boils down to is that Texas (8-4) took over the SWC lead as they were the only leading team to score a victory over the weekend. The Longhorns cooled off the hot Southern Methodist Mustangs 83-72 at Dallas.

While Texas won, the Aggies

and Baylor lost and what had been a three-way tie for first now has become a same number tie for second (7-5) with TCU taking Texas' place.

Saturday afternoon before a regional TV audience and some unruly Daniel Meyer Coliseum fans, the Aggies lost some valuable ground in the SWC scramble with the loss to TCU. The Aggies now stand 13-9 on the season while the Frogs are 12-10.

THE FATE of the Aggies Saturday can be seen by comparing the final six minutes of the first and second halves.

With six minutes left in the first half, Sonny Benefield (high point man for the Aggies with 20 points) made a steal and dribbled down the court to score, making it 38-28, TCU. The Aggies then swamped the Frogs 14-4 to make it a 42-42 tie at intermission.

However, in the final half-dozen minutes in the second half, Aggie fortunes took a turn for the worst. During the same length of time, the Aggies could manage just one field goal and seven foul shots while the Frogs and

their intimidating fans were whooping it up.

The fans became downright fierce in the second half as the Aggies pulled into a temporary lead. They showered the floor with cups with ice, ice without cups, cups without ice and coins not used to buy the cups that originally had soft drinks in them.

THIS DISRESPECT for order shook up the Aggies (14 turnovers), shook up the officials (an

equal number of foul calls on the Aggies) and fired up the Frogs (a 51 percent shooting figure after bringing a 42 average into the game).

Tonight, the Aggies are at the place where they had their last experience with an unruly crowd, Lubbock Coliseum. Last season, the Aggies were showered with some of the same projectiles of the Saturday afternoon variety, in a 41-36 loss to Texas Tech.

Friendships do indeed come and go in the SWC but it seems at least two places store up a little more unfriendliness for the Aggies.

Fish Win, 88-84

WITH 6-11 Steve Niles enjoying his best game of the year, the Aggie Fish closed out their season with an 88-84 come-from-behind victory over the TCU Wogs.

The win gave this year's Fish the best record of any Aggie freshman team under Coach Jim Culpepper. They ended the campaign with a 9-3 mark while TCU is now 1-9.

Niles topped both teams in scoring with 27 points while Bill Cooksey added 22, Chuck Smith 16 and Danny Berry 13 for the Fish.

Smith helped A&M to a 47-35 rebound edge in the contest with 16 while Niles pulled down 10.

THE FISH fell behind early in the game and trailed at the half-time break 48-41. They came out strong in the second half, however, to outscore the Wogs 47-36 and sack away the win.

A&M hit on 30 of 69 shots from the field in the game for 43.5 per cent while TCU finished with 35 of 63 for a fine 55.6 mark.

Niles also led the Fish in accuracy, hitting on 10 of his 11 attempts.

ALL JUNIORS and ALL SOPHOMORES Pictures for 1968 AggieLand

A - D Feb. 19-24
 E - J Feb. 26 - Mar. 2
 K - N Mar. 4-9
 O - S Mar. 11-16
 T - Z Mar. 18-23

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Ag Nine Wins Two In Weekend Set

The Texas Aggie baseball team made its 1968 debut over the weekend, taking two games of a three-game set with Pan-American at Edinburg.

Friday afternoon, Coach Tom Chandler's three most-experienced pitchers, Rocky Thompson, Walter Varvel and Bob Sanders combined to stop Pan-American, 6-5. Sanders got credit for the win. Saturday, the two teams met again in a doubleheader. Pan-American took the first game 3-0 while the Aggies bounced back to take the nightcap, 4-3 in 10 innings.

In the first game, the Aggies could do nothing against the winning pitcher Tommy Sandival, while three unearned runs were being scored by the Pan-Am nine.

All the runs came in the second inning after an error, sacrifice and a single.

The Aggies won the nightcap on a tenth inning single by infielder Butch Ghutzman. The winning tally was scored by left-fielder Pete Maida who had reached base when struck by a wild pitch. The winning pitcher for the Aggies was Fish hurler Doug Rau.

Coach Tom Chandler's charges have two home games this week. Thursday afternoon at 3 p.m., the Aggies will host St. Mary's of San Antonio at Bryan's Travis Park. Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m., the Maroon and White will open its Southwest Conference season against Texas, also at Travis Park.

Consol Eliminated By Conroe, 59-48

By JOHN PLATZER
 Don't try to tell Coach Jack Churchill and his A&M Consolidated cagers that lightning never strikes twice in the same place.

For the second time in as many years the Tigers were knocked out of the state schoolboy play-off picture by Conroe in a district playoff.

THE LATEST time came Friday night in Houston's Delmar Fieldhouse where Consolidated ended up on the short side of a 59-48 score.

Floor mistakes and rebounding told the story in the game as the College Station team had trouble with a Conroe press.

Seven times in the first half alone Conroe turned steals into two points.

Conroe took a quick 1-0 lead and a quick steal and two points built it up to 3-0. Conroe never trailed in the game as they built their first quarter lead to 13-4 before Consolidated started a comeback. The quarter ended with Conroe on top 17-14.

IN THE SECOND quarter Consolidated also started slow as Conroe tallied four field goals to one for Consolidated in the first four minutes of the period. Two three point plays by Ennis Watson in the quarter's last 40 seconds, narrowed the Conroe lead to 27-26 at the halftime break.

For the first half Churchill's cagers had 11 turnovers to only 4 by Conroe.

The second half began like a carbon copy of the first as Conroe immediately increased their margin. Consolidated was held to

three field goals in the third period as Conroe took a 41-34 lead going into the final eight minutes.

CONROE WENT to a stalling game with 1:14 remaining in the third quarter and stayed in it the rest of the contest.

Of Conroe's 18 points in final quarter, 14 of them came from the foul stripe with 11 free shots centered between two pointers.

Watson led Consolidated's offense with 15 points while Jan Dozier added 12 and David Terral had 10.

Spring Sports

Ag Swimmers Win, 63-51, Host Mustangs Saturday

By JOHN PLATZER
 The Aggie swimming team defeated John Brown University of Arkansas 63-51 yesterday in a match which went down to the final event in P. L. Downs Natatorium.

Coach Art Adamson's swimmers had a narrow lead of 55-51 going into the 400-yard free-style relay but his boys took first place in the duel to put away the win.

Southern Methodist University, the conference's swimming champions for the past 11 years, provides the next competition for the Aggies Saturday at 4 p.m. in Downs Natatorium.

With last week's scheduled

track meet against Baylor in Waco cancelled by the weather, the Aggie track squad of Coach Charley Thomas will begin its season Friday with a home triangular meet.

Field events in the meet, which will match the Aggies against Rice and Texas, will start at 3 p.m. with running events scheduled for a 3:30 start.

The tennis team of Coach Omar Smith will be trying to get in the winning ledger this weekend after dropping a 7-2 match to the University of Houston Saturday.

Lamar Tech will provide the Aggie tennis team's competition Friday in Beaumont and Louisiana State University will play the Aggies Saturday in Baton Rouge.

The Aggie golf team will be attempting to defend championships won last year in the freshman and varsity divisions of the Fort Worth Recreational tournament Friday and Saturday.

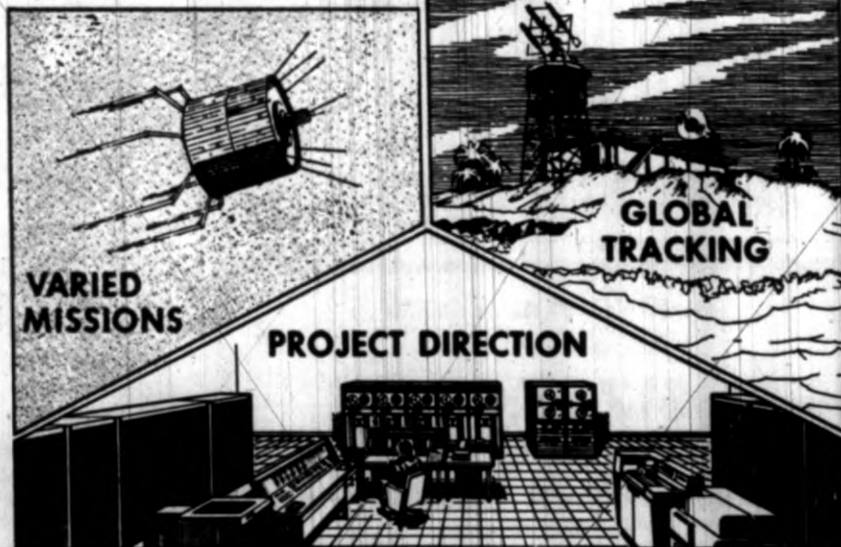
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