

Ag Cagers Off And Running With 95-82 Triumph

By JOHN PLATZER
 Billy Bob Barnett pointed the way last night in G. Rollie White Coliseum as the 1968-1969 Aggie basketball team made a successful debut with a 95-82 victory over a fine Southern Mississippi squad. The Southerners currently on a playing tour of Texas, opened the season Saturday with a slim loss at the hands of the University of Houston Cougars in Houston. Southern Mississippi trailed by only five points with five minutes left in that contest. Barnett, a senior from Brenham, was seemingly all over the court as he paced both teams in

scoring and rebounding. The 6-5, 210 pounder scored 27 points and pulled down 11 rebounds. Sonny Benefield provided the outside spark while Barnett took care of the inside duties in the first half as the Aggies drew away to a 50-42 lead at the intermission. Benefield, who scored 16 points in the first half, ended the game with 18 points on 9 of 16 attempts from the field. The Aggies scored first in the game on a pair of free throws by Mike Heitmann but the Southerners came right back on a free throw and corner jump shot by their top scorer and rebounder,

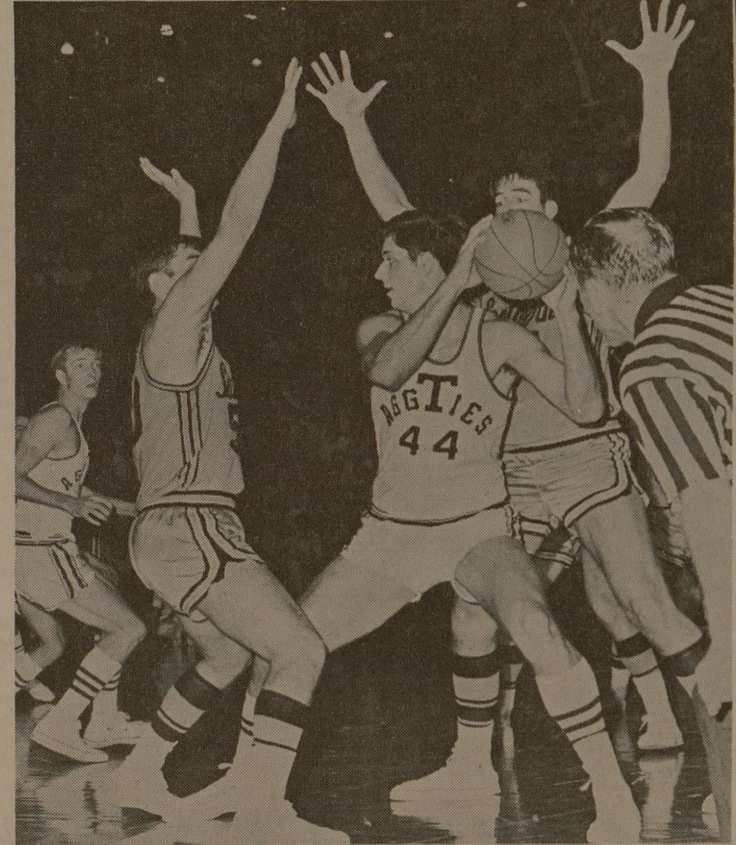
Wendell Ladner, to forge ahead 3-2. A driving layup by Barnett once again sent the Aggies out front before a free shot by 6-8 Bill Edkins of Mississippi knotted the count at 4-4. The teams traded points then as Benefield connected on a corner jumper for the Aggies and Richard Corsetto drove in for a layup. A short jumper by Barnett gave the Aggies an 8-6 lead which they kept until an Edkins layup sent the Southerners ahead 11-10. The score went back and forth then until with 14:08 left in the first half Barnett hit on a drive to send the Aggies ahead 16-14 and they were never caught after that. A 15-foot set shot by Barnett upped the Aggie lead to 24-16 with 12:28 left in the period but Southern Mississippi fought back to narrow the gap to 30-28. Three straight Aggie field goals by Barnett, Benefield and then Barnett once again gave A&M breathing room at 36-28.

Bill Cooksey, the leading scorer on the Fish team last season gave the Aggies their biggest lead of the half at 50-40 with 1:30 to go. Ladner hit a baseline jump for Southern Mississippi with 7 seconds left in the half to reduce the margin to 50-42. The Aggies started fast once again in the second half as a layup by Heitman gave Coach Shelby Metcalfe's team an 11 point lead at 56-45 with 17:05 remaining in the game. With Ronnie Peret and Harry Bostic helping the Aggies control the boards, the Aggies maintained a steady six to eight point lead through the next fifteen minutes. A Bostic tip sent the Aggie lead to 12 at 86-74 with 2:56 remaining and then a pair of free throws by the 6-6 senior from St. Paul, Indiana jumped A&M's margin to 14 at 90-76 with 1:56 left on the clock. Ross Brupbacher, a star defender on the Aggie football team, made the last field goal of the game for A&M with only 54 seconds remaining as they pulled away to a 94-78 bulge. Southern Mississippi battled back to cut the margin to 95-82 at the final buzzer.

Barnett connected on 8 of 12 from the field and 11 of 14 from the free throw line for his 27 points (20 of which came in the first half). Following Benefield's 18 points for the Aggies was Heitmann with 14 while Peret and Bostic rounded out A&M's double figure club with 12 apiece. Peret, the Aggies' 6-9 senior, was second to Barnett in rebounds with 10. Steve Niles, a 7-0 sophomore from San Antonio, was A&M's starting center and he ended the game with 4 points and six rebounds. Southern Mississippi placed four players in double figures in the game with Ladner, a big 6-5, 235 pounder, leading the way with 22 points and 9 rebounds. Edkins had 13 points and 7 rebounds for the Southerners while Corsetto contributed 15 points and John Vitrano tossed in 12 before fouling out with 4:17 left to play.

The Aggies had their shooting eye throughout the game as they singled the nets for over 50 per cent in each half. They ended the game with a 54.7 mark hitting on 35 of 64 from the floor. A&M hit on 20 of 38 for 52.6 in the first half and then came back to connect on 15 of 26 for 57.7 in the second stanza. Southern Mississippi hit on 32 of 75 shots from the floor in the contest for a 44 mark. A&M also out rebounded their

visitors from Mississippi 54 but committed 10 turnovers for the Southerners.



FENCED IN

Aggie postman Ronnie Peret looks for a little help from his friends as he is surrounded by John Vitrano (left) and Bill Edkins (rear), both of Southern Mississippi. A&M players in the background are Harry Bostic, Bill Cooksey, and Sonny Benefield. (Photo by Mike Wright)

For all your insurance needs
See U. M. Alexander, Jr. '40
 221 S. Main, Bryan
 823-3616

STATE FARM INSURANCE

State Farm Insurance Companies - Home Offices: Bloomington, Ill.

Sero
 OF NEW HAVEN/A GENTLEMAN'S SHIRT

Iva Starnes
 university men's wear
 329 University Drive 713 / 846-3706
 College Station, Texas 77840

ODOM
 BEFORE AFTER

TAX SERVICE
 105 S. COULTER AT E. 27 TH
 BRYAN, TEXAS 77801 823-8701
 Typing . . . Mimeographing . . . Income Tax
 Quarterly Returns — Bookkeeping

Call 822-1441
 Allow 20 Minutes
 Carry Out or Eat-In

THE PIZZA HUT
 2610 Texas Ave.

ATTENTION ALL CLUBS

Athletic
 Hometown
 Professional
 and
 All Campus
 Organizations.

Pictures for the club sections of the 1969 AggieLand are now being scheduled at the Student Publications office.

216 Services Bldg.

Aggie Fish Whip Wharton For First Victory, 72-68

By RICHARD CAMPBELL
 The Texas Aggie Fish shook off a cold first-half shooting performance to come back and deal the previously undefeated Wharton County Pioneers their first loss, 72-68, in a nip-and-tuck battle Monday night. Jeff Watkins, a former High School All-America player from Laurel, Miss., poured in 23 points for the Fish as he hit on nine of ten attempts from the field for the game scoring honors. Wharton took the starting tip and scored on Willie Terrell's layup to go ahead 2-0. The lead from there saw-sawed back and forth four times until Chip Brees, a 6-2, 185 pounder from Cockeysville, Md., sank a free throw with seven seconds left in the half to throw the lead to the Fish 33-32 at intermission. Robert Threadgill, a 6-4, 170 pounder from New Braunfels, who finished with 16 points for the Fish, hit a 13-foot jumper early in the first half to send the Fish ahead for the first time, 11-9. From there, the shooting of Watkins and Skip Carleton, a 6-4 Dallas Jefferson product, kept the Fish in the game with the lead never going beyond five points for either team. Both teams were cold from the field in the first half with Wharton hitting only 14 of 39 for 35.9

per cent and the Fish connecting on only 15 of 47 for 31.9 per cent. Watkins hit on all three of his shots in the first 20 minutes but unfortunately his teammates could not find the range as well. The Pioneers entered the game riding the crest of a 2-0 record which they had fashioned with an 83-72 victory over Hill County and a 105-91 win over Schreiner. But the second half action found the Fish steadily adding to their lead with Carleton, Watkins, Threadgill and Frank Farnsworth all finding the range at one time or another. They combined to give the Fish their biggest lead at 10 points, 68-58, with 2:39 left in the contest. Wharton County JC fought back with a full-court press in the last two minutes with Danny Hauser stealing a Fish throw-in and getting a layup, Burt Griffin hitting a layup on a fast break and Hauser hitting a short jumper to pull the Pioneers within two points, 68-66, with 1:06 left. The Fish quickly called a time out and talked the situation over with Coach Jim Culpepper. When play resumed, Watkins was fouled by Terrell on the throw-in and went to the line for a one-and-one. He hit the first one but missed the second and the score was 69-66. On the ensuing quick pass by the Pioneers, Watkins swiped it and passed to Carleton, who was

fouled by Hauser with 43 seconds left. Carleton sank one of the two free throws but Terrell took the rebound and drove in for a short jumper to make the score 70-68 with 34 seconds left. The Fish managed to hold the ball until the final second when Watkins tipped in the last basket for the final score of 72-68.

Six Flags Star Search '69

Curtain up!
 SINGERS AND DANCERS — YOU'RE ON! This is your Big Chance to steal the spotlight in the most spectacular show ever produced at SIX FLAGS. Something completely new for Season '69 at SIX FLAGS' Southern Palace. A fabulous show, professionally directed and produced — a rare opportunity for the talented!

ENTERTAINERS OF ALL TYPES — SIX FLAGS WANTS YOU! Can you spin a rope? Crack a whip? Throw your voice or do magic? SIX FLAGS wants cowboys and Indians, singing groups and instrumentalists, acrobats, gunfighters, ventriloquists and trick riders — grease-paint buffs of every persuasion!

AUDITION NOW FOR A FULL SEASON'S EMPLOYMENT. Don't miss this sensational SIX FLAGS opportunity. Bring your talent and join the stars at SIX FLAGS — SEASON '69.

AREA AUDITIONS
 WACO, TEXAS Monday, December 9 — 4 p.m. Baylor University, Roxie Grove Hall
 FORT WORTH, TEXAS Tuesday, December 10 — 4 p.m. Texas Christian University, Ed Landreth Building (Music Building), Room 116
 ARLINGTON, TEXAS Wednesday, December 11 — 4 p.m. University of Texas at Arlington, Student Union Building, Manassas Room
 DALLAS, TEXAS Thursday, December 12 — 4 p.m. Southern Methodist University, Owens Fine Arts Center, Ford Music Building, Room 210
 DENTON, TEXAS Friday, December 13 — 4 p.m. North Texas State University, New Music Building, Choir Room (Rm. 165)

SIX FLAGS
 OVER TEXAS
 DALLAS/FORT WORTH TURNPIKE



PARDNER
 You'll Always Win
 The Showdown
 When You Get
 Your Duds Done
 At
CAMPUS CLEANERS

Gordon B. Richardson
 Aggie Campus
 Career Life Underwriter
 Phone 713 — 367-3165

Plac Qual
 How? The S a qualifie "We tude and director. The stand-in S store. Th priate siz the first "But The siring par auto mecn nessesmen lessons, b musical g "If y Logan re do we fin

It pays to plan for responsibilities. You can do this now by investing in a life insurance program that can provide the foundation for a sound financial structure. The earlier you start, the less it costs, and the more security you'll have a chance to build.

Stop by our office today. Or give us a call, and let's talk about subtracting something from your life: financial worry.

PROVIDENT MUTUAL LIFE
 INSURANCE COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA

recommended for mature audiences

DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS
 AUSTIN PRESBYTERIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
 100 East 27th Street
 Austin, Texas 78705

ENGINEER CAMPUS

VOLUME

A&M SCOR quarters on started at 8 on the regi

Yea Sets

Texas A&M tute will cele niversary of giant "atom general open Gilbert W rector of the to the facility 2 until 10 p.m. "WE INVITE eral public out ties," Witsel especially hope ence students the area will He noted gram will be ing the year t open to the s Institute pe

Plac Qual

How? The S a qualifie "We tude and director. The stand-in S store. Th priate siz the first "But The siring par auto mecn nessesmen lessons, b musical g "If y Logan re do we fin

Pla

For delegat Fourteenth S on National mark the beg of lively disc For the A&M up the SCON it will mean t end of 10 mor hard work. In addition who will be e mittee, prelin SCONA XV the corner. THE FAC over 140 stud 60 colleges Southwest, M to discuss t the American to the exerci tical power, a es by top-ran ficials and th ies, doesn't j a year-round

BB&L