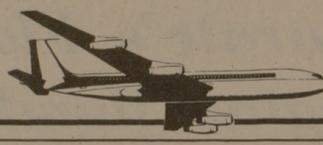


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Aggies Face Kent State In Houston

By Richard Campbell
 Battalion Sports Editor

The Texas Aggie basketballers take to the road for the first time this season Friday night when they skip down Highway Six about ninety miles to the newly opened Hofheinz Pavilion to do battle with Kent State (2-1) in the Bluebonnet Classic.

The Houston Cougars are playing host to the affair as A&M, Kent State, and Nebraska all try to take advantage of their hospitality. The Golden Flashes from Kent, Ohio, are a strong member of the Mid-American Conference in the nation's basketball belt and return two starters from a

14-10 season. They finished 1968-69 with a 6-6 league mark with 6-7 senior Tom Lagodich a cog in the Flash attack. He averaged 16 points last year and was picked on some All-America preseason squads this year.

The Aggies face the Golden Flashes in the first round Friday at 9 p.m. following the Houston-Nebraska clash at Houston, now 3-0, faces a strong Cornhusker five which this year has been the surprise in the Midlands. They have knocked off Wichita State and Duquesne, both highly regarded, nationally ranked teams.

The Aggies are coming off a

109-80 win Monday night as they bombed Midwestern University to even their season mark at 1-1. In running up their top non-conference point total in history, the Aggies finally got the performance out of junior Steve Niles that everyone had been expecting. Niles, the 7-0 postman from San Antonio Lee, hit 31 points and dragged 16 rebounds down to completely dominate the game.

All five A&M starters will be averaging in double figures with Niles leading the way with a 20.0 norm. Senior captain Mike Heitmann has a 17.5 mark, Rick Duplantis 14.0, Chuck Smith

13.0, and Bill Cooksey 10.5. Heitmann and Cooksey are both graduates of Sam Houston High School and will be returning home to Houston.

A&M has outrebounced its two opponents by 15 per game with Niles leading the way again with a 12.5 average. The Aggies have also been accurate at the charity stripe with a .750 percentage.

"These five look like our best lineup," Coach Shelby Metcalf said. "We have Pat Kavanaugh for outside help, but we need to come up with some depth in-

side. We were encouraged with the play of Byron Chandler."

Chandler is a 6-10 senior squadman who backs up Niles at the low post position. He scored 13 points and grabbed eight rebounds in relief of Niles.

There will be two rounds for the tournament with the winners meeting each other Saturday at 9 p.m. with the consolation match at 7 p.m.

A&M's next home contest will be Tuesday at 8 p.m. against the Colorado State College Bears.

Strong Track Squad Goes To Monroe, La. Today

Texas A&M's track squad, winners of three relay races in an outdoor meet at Pasadena, Tex., last Saturday, travels to Monroe, La., this weekend to compete in the Northeast Louisiana Indoor meet.

The afternoon session Saturday starts at 1:30 p.m. and the night session commences at 6:45. The meet's final event is scheduled for 9:05 p.m.

The Aggies, under coach Charlie Thomas, are entered in numerous individual events this week but will compete in only one relay race, the mile relay in which Tony Munson, Marvin Mills, Willie Blackmon and Curtis Mills will comprise the baton foursome.

Last Saturday the same foursome ran a 3:15.6 to win that event at Pasadena. Scotty Hendricks, Curtis Mills, Marvin Mills and Rockie Woods ran a glittering 40.5 to win the 440-yard relay, while Glen Blahuta, Woods,

Donny Rogers and David Prince ran the shuttle hurdle relay in 61.5.

World champion quartermiler Curtis Mills did not run the open 440 last week and will not compete in his specialty this week.

In addition to the mile relay group, A&M's entrants this week by events include:

60-yard high hurdles — Donny Rogers, David Prince and Rockie Woods.

60-yard dash — Rockie Woods, Scotty Hendricks and Steve Barre.

440-yard dash — Willie Blackmon, Don Keller and Harold McMahan.

2-mile run — Sammy Skinner.

880-yard run — Robert Brew.

Teams entered include Grambling, Arkansas A&M, Lamar Tech, Houston, Mississippi State, Dallas Baptist, Arkansas State, Oklahoma University, Southeastern, McNeese, Southern State, Mississippi University, Northeast Louisiana, Austin, McMurry, Northeast Oklahoma, Harding and Texas A&M.



CHARLIE THOMAS

Aggie Fish Host Wharton In Tuesday's Prelim Game

By Mike Wright

The Texas Aggie Fish, led by the hot scoring trio of Bob Gobin, Bill O'Brien and Jeff Over-

house, are priming for Tuesday night's shoot out with Wharton County Junior College here at 5:30.

In the season opener against Blinn Junior College, the trio accounted for 51 points, as Gobin chipped in 21, O'Brien sank 17, and Overhouse crammed in 13 points. The production equaled the exact total of scores tallied by the entire Blinn team.

Charlie Jenkins came off the bench in the second half to zip the coads with nine points in the brief time that he played.

Wharton is led by returning letterman John Tucker, 6-7; Burt Griffin, 6-2; Art Lockett, 6-5; Lester Dickinson, 6-3; Ty Pate, 6-1; and Gerald Tension, 5-9.

The Pioneers play an aggressive man for man defense with a run-and-shoot offense. The Pioneers were edged by the University of Texas at Austin Freshmen by one point in the final second last week.

Wharton is coached by Eugene Bahner, who in 10 years at Pioneerland has produced five Texas Junior College Champions. There have been several Wharton players who have transferred to other colleges and made creditable showings for themselves. The most recent one being Earl Dow, a star guard for the Lamar Tech Cardinals, who played here against A&M last fall.

Fish Coach Jim Culpepper will probably start the contest with Wayne Howard and Gobin at the forwards, Bill O'Brien at point, with Bryan Mezger and Overhouse at the post slots.

The Fish will layoff until January 10, when they play the Baylor Cubs here preceding the Varsity game.

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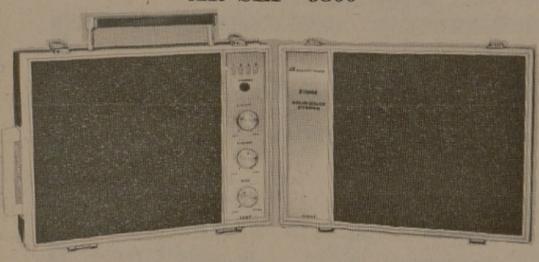
The first religious songs used by the early Protestants were Psalms set to music. The following carol, "Joy to the World," written by Isaac Watts in 1719, is a paraphrase of Psalm 98.

A Litany in Words and Song
 Joy to the World; the Lord is come;
 Let earth receive her King;
 Let every heart prepare Him room,
 And heaven and nature sing.
 Joy to the world, the Savior reigns;
 Let men their songs employ;
 While fields and flocks, rocks hills and plains
 Repeat the sounding joy.
 God was in Christ
 At first (the contemporaries of Christ) may have said, God sent him. After a while that sounded too cold, as though God were a bow and Jesus the arrow. That would not do. God did more than send him. So I suspect they went on to say, God is with him. That went deeper. Yet, as their experience with him progressed, it was not adequate. God was more than with him. So at last we catch the reverent accents of a new conviction, God came in him. That was not so much theology at first as poetry. It was an exhilarating insight and its natural expression was a song: God can come into human life! Divinity and humanity are not so separate that the visitations of the Eternal are impossible.

CHRISTMAS SALE

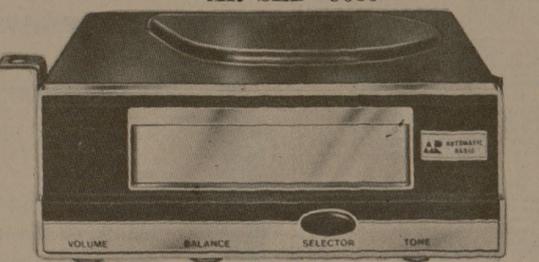
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