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Aggie swimmers dominate action at Arkansas

By JOHN CURYLO Assistant Sports Editor

The Aggie swimming team set Conway, Arkansas, back on its heels Saturday, sweeping a meet

at Hendrix College Coach Dennis Fosdick's charges won eight of the nine relay events and the only diving event. The only "flaw" was the 300 yard butterfly relay, in which the Aggies placed second, but still managed to break the meet record.

Fosdick said that the team got its momentum by swimming a 4,000 yard practice the morning of the meet.

"That really shocked everybody else," he said. "They were coming into the pool after breakfast and saw us swimming. From then on, there was no way we were going

He added that there was no rest for the meet. Thursday, the day before the team left for Arkansas, they swam 7,000 yards in practice. He also said that the team was swimming like they would at peak performance, which they are far from at this point.

"They look great for a young team," he said. "There was only one senior, and the rest were freshmen and sophomores. I'm real pleased, and so are the boys. This gave them a real boost. It's satisfying for them to know that their hard work is paying off so

Fosdick said that it was a great team effort, but he pointed out several individuals as performing extremely well. In particular, he said that Steve Prentice, a freshman backstroker, swam his leg of the medley relay in 55.9, which is just a few tenths of a second off the national qualifying time. Also, it would be a new school record, but there was no official watch on him.

He mentioned Doug Carson in the breaststroke, Mike Hicks, Eric Wolff, and Kim Blakeman and John McCleary in the sprints, as being the outstanding individual performers. Fosdick emphasized that it was a team effort, and that all did well.

Fifteen teams were in the meet, and A&M managed to set two pool and meet records.

THIS WAS the way it was Friday night in Houston as the 18th ranked Oregon Ducks controlled the backboards, 47-30 including 24-8 in the first half route to 94-70 thumping of the Aggies in opening round of the 1970 Bluebonnet Classic. Al Carlson (50) and Steve Shaw battle for possession for Oregon. (Photo by Steve Bryant)

By CLIFFORD BROYLES

Battalion Sports Editor The Texas Aggies, a team demolished twice over the weekend at the Bluebonnet Classic in Houston, found themselves Monday night and blasted the Abilene Christian College Wildcats 91-74 in a game that was much further apart than the score in-

Senior guard Bill Cooksey, shooting only 31 per cent before the game, hit on seven of nine first half shots to propel the Aggies to a 43-26 half time lead.

Coach Shelby Metcalf used everybody he had available and also used a full-court press effectively for the first time this year.

The Aggies shot 53 per cent before intermission, and that combined with an inspired defense helped them jump from an early 8-8 tie to a 20-8 lead before the Wildcats could score.

Cooksey finished the game with 19 points and Wayne Howard, a high school All-American who had struggled in the early stages of his varsity career, played a tremendous game, totaling 13 points. But it was his overall floor play that shined.

The Aggies took the lead for good with 14:41 to play when Chuck Smith, who had the best half turned in by an Aggie against Tulane, when he scored 10 points and grabbed 11 rebounds in 17 minutes, continued

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his fine play and scored after taking an in bounds pass.

The Aggies then worked the fast break as Pat Kavanagh scored on a layup after a pass from Cooksey. Cooksey upped the lead to seven with a jumper and Kavanagh got loose for another layup as Niles got the ball quickly on the break after grabbing a rebound.

Cooksey then hit again and the next time he tried the Wildcats fouled him to keep him from scoring and he converted a free throw to finish off the streak.

From there A&M broke fast and pressed to their best effort of the year by far. The lead reached 21 points late in the half as Jeff Overhouse converted a three-point play after taking a pass from Charlie Jenkins.

The lead scored to 27 with just under nine minutes to play when Rick Duplantis got into the scoring act with a couple of free

The 17-point deficit the Wildcats faced at the outset and the end was the closest they were to be in the second half to the red hot Ags as Smith dropped in two field goals in the opening 28 seconds of the second half.

A&M's performance was a far cry from the weekend's stay in Houston and brought back the optimism that had been dimmed by the 1-4 start.

They now take a break for finals before traveling to Tulsa Dec. 23. They'll play in the Poinsetta Classic Dec. 28-29 at Greenville, S.C.

Scoring in the ACC game: A&M—Bill Cooksey 19, Pat Kavanagh 10, Chuck Smith 11, Jeff Overhouse 8, Steve Niles 11, Rick Duplantis 7, Bobby Threadgill 2, Bob Gobin 6, Wayne Howard 13, Bill O'Brien 4.

ACC—Dean Bass 6, Ronnie Hearne 10, Roger Crozier 17, Lonnie Massey 20, Jay King 4, Mickey Wilson 3, Jeff Kimble 4, Matt Scott 6.



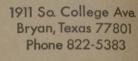
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