# Rice out for revenge against Aggies; Fish challenge tough Owlets in prelim

### By JOHN CURYLO Assistant Sports Editor

Round two of the 1971 Southwest Conference basketball race begins this week, and the Saturday night contest here with the defending champion Rice Owls couldn't be a tougher game for the Aggies.

weeks ago that A&M embarrassed the Owls in Houston, 74-73, a loss which sent Rice into a three game tailspin before they handed TCU its first conference loss of the year Tuesday night.

"Rice is hot," said Coach Shelby Metcalf. "They just beat the top two teams in the league. They're coming in here at their peak."

They downed TCU 89-63, and the Houston school knows that it cannot lose too many more and still repeat as champs. TCU is now 6-1. That flat period hurt Rice, and they will want to avenge the loss of just a short while ago.

"They'll be pretty mad," Metcalf agreed. "We'll try to disorganize them if we can. They have that great guard combination, and holds up, they should be tough to beat.'

The Aggies, on the other hand, are 2-5 in conference, having sufTexas make this game a "must" for A&M also.

"I feel like we're playing well," Metcalf said. "Our shooting is not good, but we've had great effort, ball movement, defense, and rebounding. I think that if we It was only a little over two have a normal night shooting, we can win.'

The starting five against Rice will consist of 7-foot senior Steve 82.9 points per game. Niles, 6-5 senior Chuck Smith, 6-7 sophomore Jeff Overhouse, 6-1 sophomore Charlie Jenkins, and 6-4 sophomore Wayne Howard. This is Howard's first starting assignment, although he has seen considerable action the past few times out. Top reserves will be 6-2 senior Bill Cooksey and 6-8 junior Rick Duplantis.

A pleasant part of this 6-13 season has been the play of the sophomores. Metcalf acknowledged Overhouse, Jenkins, Howard, Bob Gobin, and Bill O'Brien.

"All the sophomores have been doing real well," he said. "They hustle, they have character, and if their new rebounding strength they're a smart bunch. They're real mature for sophomores.' Starting for the Owls will be

Gary Reist, Tom Myer, Ted Melady, Mark Wehrle, and John fered since the win against Rice. Mott. Also scheduled to see con- it will be necessary for them to

Although they defeated Arkansas, siderable action are Steve Emslosses to Texas Tech, SMU, and hoff, Bert Schmidt, Dan McGuire, and Terry Timmerman

> With the exception of Melady and Timmerman, all of the above athletes are from out of state. This brought the comment from Metcalf that "they do a great job of recruiting." Indeed Coach Don Knodel does. His charges are hitting from the field at a percentage of 49.3. They average

Myer and Reist, the two guards, are averaging 17.4 and 17.0 per game, respectively. Wehrle is averaging 11.8 and Melady 10.9 to round out the double figure men for Rice.

In SWC play only, the leading Aggies are Niles (14.4), Overhouse (13.6) and Cooksey (10.4) Howard is close behind with 9.7 in four games. The leading A&M rebounder has been Overhouse, gathering 9.9 caroms per outing. Niles is averaging 8.4 a game.

Shooting is very evidently the downfall in conference play for the Aggies. Field goal-wise, the percentage is only 40.8. In the total point department, A&M has been producing 74.3 and allowing 81.6 per game.

For the Aggies to be victorious,

### put 40 solid minutes of play together. One of the keys to losses against Tech, SMU, and Texas has been a lack of consistent performance throughout the entire game. Against Rice, a team that takes advantage of every opportunity, the Aggies must play sharp basketball to overcome the hungry Houston school. Tipoff time is 8 p.m. in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

In a 5:45 p.m. preliminary game, the Aggie Fish take on the red-hot Rice Owlets in another kind of grudge match. The same night that the A&M varsity beat Rice, a come-from-behind effort fell short for the Fish, and the Rice freshmen handed them their only conference loss, 81-79.

and the Fish are 5-3. The leading Fish scorer is 6-6 Randy Knowles. His status is doubtful, however, due to a stone bruise. Also possibly out of action may be 6-7 Johnny Mayo, who is suffering from the flu. Definite starters are 6-8 Jack Vest, 6-3 Joe Arciniega, and 5-11 Bobby McKey.

The Owlets are 9-1 at this point, bounds per game.

Top reserves Mark Stewart and Randy Pryor may be pressed into starting duty if Knowles and Mayo cannot play.

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Mayo and Knowles have been the good things going for the Fish this season, statistically. Mayo has been scoring 12.6 points a game and collecting 10 rebounds per contest. Knowles is averaging 19.3 points per game. His high game was a 30 point performance against Temple Junior College.

The Owlet starters will be Randy Youngling, Kim Kaufman, Scott Fisher, Keith Huff, and John Kabbes. They are rated as one of the best freshmen basketball teams in the state, and they will want to prove that the close finish at Autry Court was a fluke and that they are more than two points better than the Aggies. Their scoring is balanced, with Kaufman the leader at 18.1 per game, followed by Fisher with 17.3, Kabbes with 16.8 and Huff with 13.0. The leading man on the boards is Kabbes, with 10.3 re-



## Aggie netters 2-0 with wins over UH, A&I

### By BRUCE BLACK

**Battalion Staff Writer** 

The Aggie tennis team made it 2-0 yesterday as it beat Texas A&I. 7-0.

"We had about a 20-mile-perhour wind," Coach Omar Smith said. "It was a real tough day, but our boys handled it very well."

The results of the match: Singles:

Jon Ragland, A&M, defeated Bob Rivera, A&I, 6-2 and 6-0. Dickie Fikes, A&M, defeated Gerald Rauschuber, A&I, 6-2 and

Mike Hickey, A&M, defeated

George Jones, A&I, 6-0 and 6-0. Tommy Connell, A&M, defeated

Reed Smith, A&I, 6-1 and 6-1. Dan Courson, A&M, defeated Gordon Buckley, A&I, 6-0 and

Doubles:

Ragland-Fikes defeated Rivera-Smith 6-1 and 6-2. Hickey-Courson defeated Buck-

ley-Rauschuber 6-0 and 6-2. The team will remain in Edinburg through Sunday for competition in the Pan American International Inter-collegiate matches.

"I feel we have a chance in the tournament," Smith said, "though

Trinity and the University of split with Flores and Rambeau, Corpus Christi are strong favorites.'

Last year Trinity was ranked second in the nation, while Corpus Christi took the fifth ranked this point. place in the country. In the first match of the year, the Aggie tennis team decisively

defeated the Houston Cougar netters, ranked 14th in the nation, here Wednesday.

A&M lost the first two matches, but rallied to take the next four before the final doubles match was called because of darkness.

Jon Ragland dropped the opening match, being nipped by Jim Rombeau, 3-6, 12-10, and 6-8. Dickie Fikes fell short in the second one, 6-4, 3-6, and 0-6.

Mike Hickey then took the third match from Richard Ley, 10-8 and wins gold medal 6-4. Tommy Connell won the fourth match, beating Tom Gustafson by scores of 3-6, 6-2 and 6-3. In the final singles match, Lawton Park downed Doug Banks 6-2 and 6-0, and the Aggies led 3-2.

Hickey and Courson won the first doubles match from the team of Gustafson-Ley, 6-4 and 8-6. In the last match, to be replayed at a later date, Ragland and Fikes

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8-6 and 3-6. The final doubles match was not pertinent to the outcome of the team competition, because A&M had a 4-2 lead at

Action in the Pan American tournament began this morning as Mike Hickey met G. Jenkins of Lamar Tech, Tommy Connell faced All-American Johnny Gardner of SMU, and Jon Ragland played Gordon Buckley of A&I in the first round of singles play.

The first-round doubles competition got under way this afternoon as Hickey-Courson met Paulson-Vann of SMU and Ragland-Fikes met Smith-Rivera of A&I.

## U.S. woman skater

SAPPORO, Japan (AP) — Julie Holmes, an American dream in a wisp of green, brought the United States its first gold medal of International Winter Sports Week Thursday with a sparkling victory in women's figure skating.

Following the tradition of such earlier American stars as Tenley Albright, Carol Heiss and Peggy Fleming, the 19-year-old Littleton, Colo., girl gave a bold and imaginative performance in the free-skating final to win the event handily.

"I had no idea," she beamed

In this age of medicare, social security and homes for the aged, sometimes people forget an important part of growing old-tranquility!

Yes, tranquility and peace are just as important in growing old gracefully as is sufficient insurance or all the other means with which we show our concern for the elderly.

Have you ever noticed that old people have a knack of putting things in order? In fact, they need everything tidy, neat and sure. Certainly their greatest need is for peace and security-but this can come only when they are at peace with God!

If we want to reap the harvest of friendship with God in our old age, then we must cultivate our relation with Him-when we are young and able. Regular church attendance and worship is your assurance of peace and tranquility during your own gentle lengthening years. It will be a heaven-sent reward and one which you cannot, will not, want to miss.

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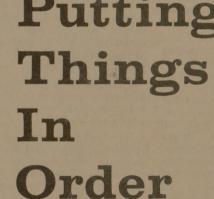
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