

SMU Mustangs stay in chase by thumping Aggies

By CLIFFORD BROYLES
Battalion Sports Editor

The Texas Aggies continued their terrible outside shooting and added ice-cold foul shooting to it at Moody Coliseum in Dallas Tuesday night as the SMU Mustangs stayed in the Southwest Conference race with a 85-78 win.

A&M has hit on less than 40 percent of its shots in the last three games, and the Ags made four in a row, while adding only that to only 10 of 24 foul shots.

The Mustangs, with great outside help from Gene Phillips, Bobby Rollings and Larry Delzell, jumping to a 12-point halftime lead and although not really with a safe lead were never in serious trouble in the second half.

The Aggies outrebounded the Mustangs 60-31 in their first meeting at College Station. But improved work inside by the Mustangs trio of David Miller, Steve Prewitt and Clayton Korver helped them outrebound the Aggies by seven in the first half as

SMU built its lead and finished the game with 62 rebounds to 50 for the Ags.

Late in the contest the Aggies were forced to foul the Mustangs, who began to sit on a nine-point lead in the final four minutes.

But SMU, with a 76 per cent team average at the foul line, hit eight of nine and the closest A&M could get in the second half was a game-ending seven points. SMU won the game at the foul line where it hit 29 of 35.

In the two games with A&M this year they hit 62 of 70 free throws.

Wayne Howard put on a late spurt by hitting 11 points in the final four and one half minutes but two free throws by Miller, two by Delzell and four by Phillips nullified that.

SMU started quickly and jumped to a 9-0 lead and threatened to make it a runaway before the 6,893 crowd.

A turn-around baseline jumper by Rick Duplantis got the first A&M points and then, after SMU

built its lead to 13-2, Howard narrowed the gap with two straight buckets and Overhouse added a field goal as A&M ripped off seven straight points to trail only 13-9.

SMU jumped to its biggest lead of the half with just over a minute to go when Delzell popped a jumper to end a string of six straight in A&M points and give SMU a 46-30 lead. Buckets by Bob Gobin and Bill Cooksey cut the lead to 46-34 at the half.

Cooksey hit a hot streak midway through the first half to keep the Aggies going. He hit three straight field goals as they battled from a 23-16 deficit to narrow the SMU lead to five.

In the second half, the Mustangs began to work their fast break with crisp passing.

Early in the half, for example, Miller got a layup on a pass from Phillips; the next time down the floor it was Delzell on an assist from Phillips. Then on the next SMU possession Phillips ze-

roed in on a snowbird after he and Miller exchanged passes twice while driving down the floor.

Korver then got two short buckets shortly thereafter and the Mustangs had equalled their biggest lead of the night with a 61-45 bulge.

Steve Niles, who has been having his problems in the last three games — having scored only 17 points in those contests — sat out much of this one for a similar reason and Coach Shelby Metcalf inserted him in the lineup midway through the second half to stop some of the work in the middle.

The Aggies also went to a full court press which did little more than slow down the Mustang pace.

With Niles in the middle, the Aggies were able to keep the Mustangs out and quickly narrowed the SMU lead by eight, to 61-53, before Mustang coach Bob Prewitt—seeing things get a little out of hand—called for a time out.

The lead stayed at between 10

and 12 for the rest of the night until the Aggies were to within 7 at 77-70.

The improved play of the big men for SMU had to be a key factor in this one. In the first meeting of the two teams Putnam, Miller and Korver scored between them 16 points and had six rebounds. Tuesday night, Putnam scored eight and had 11 rebounds, Korver scored 9 and 11 rebounds and Miller scored 11 and had 5 rebounds.

Their work inside slowed down the Aggies. By comparison Duplantis had 20 points and seven rebounds in the first meeting and 15 points and five rebounds last night. Jeff Overhouse had nine points and 13 rebounds in the first game and 12 points and 6 rebounds last night. Niles had 15 points and seven rebounds in the first meeting and six points and six rebounds last night.

Chuck Smith, playing despite a sprained ankle suffered in the Rice game had only one point and three rebounds as compared to a

17 point 12 rebound effort the first time around.

The loss mathematically eliminated the Aggies from any chance at the Southwest Conference crown and leaves the Mustangs as one of six teams with a shot at the league title.

Scoring in the SMU game.

A&M — Chuck Smith 1, Jeff

Overhouse 12, Steve Niles 6, Charlie Jenkins 2, Wayne Howard 23, Rick Duplantis 15, Bob Gobin 5, Bill O'Brien 4, Bill Cooksey 10.

SMU—Gene Phillips 24, Jack Trout 3, David Miller 11, Bobby Rollings 14, Larry Delzell 16, Steve Putnam 8, Clayton Korver 9.

George Mehaffey, Rice coach: this Owl is really an Aggie

By JOHN CURYLO
Assistant Sports Editor

Fans at Saturday's game with Rice probably couldn't help but notice the tall Rice assistant coach.

In fact, many people know him as the guy who's always standing up, protesting a call by the officials or encouraging his players.

But what few Aggies realize is that George Mehaffey is one of us. A 1957 A&M graduate, Mehaffey was cage captain and second team All Southwest Conference that year. In addition, he was a Distinguished Military Student.

Mehaffey is in his second year at Rice. His freshman team was 9-3 last year, and so far has lost but one in this campaign. Before going to the Owls, he was the head coach at Lee High School in Houston for seven years.

He graduated from another Houston high school, St. Thomas, where he was All-State TCIL. Mehaffey served in the Air Force from 1958-60, at which time he played pro ball in the Eastern League in the Pennsylvania area. His service obligation interfered with any plans he may have had to play for the St. Louis Hawks, who had drafted him for the National Basketball Association.

Here's the true test of an Aggie: How can one coach for another SWC school but still remain true to his alma mater? This is an interesting problem, particularly in light of the reputation for loyalty which Aggies are supposed to have.

Well, on Jan. 23, those who noticed found out. TCU was in game with the Aggies. Rice had an open date that night, so Mehaffey and Don Knodel, the head coach at Rice, were here to scout the two clubs.

Before the opening tipoff, Mehaffey rose to his full six feet,

five inches, wearing his blue blazer with the Owl emblem on "Spirit of Aggieland."

Here he was, obviously a representative of another school, here to do a job for that university, but he still had the love for A&M to stand and sing with the rest of the Aggies.

A&M doesn't play Rice again this year, but when the two teams meet again, the tall guy in the blue coat will be as vociferous as ever in pulling for his charges and admonishing the referees.

But he's proven more than once, that regardless of where he works, he's still an Aggie.

SWC race still close

TCU, Baylor, Tech and SMU all win

By JOHN CURYLO

TCU stayed out in front of the pack and Rice was virtually eliminated from the race as the Southwest Conference picture cleared somewhat after being cloudy for so long.

The Horned Frogs of Fort Worth had a 34 point lead at one time in the second half, but Coach Johnny Swain cleared his bench and TCU finished with a six point victory over winless Arkansas, 82-86.

Eugene "Goo" Kennedy broke the SWC rebounding record with his 28 caroms, and added 13 points to his team's total. Simpson Degrate was the leading scorer with 29 tallies. TCU hit in 54.4% of its shots from the field.

While SMU was moving its record to 6-3 with the 85-78 win over A&M, Baylor and Texas Tech were assuring themselves of a second place tie with the Mustangs by beating Rice and Texas, respectively.

As a result of its 73-71 win over Rice, Baylor all but shut off the Owls' hopes of repeating last year's championship. It was

the fourth loss for the Houston school.

The winning margin for the Bears came as guard Tom Stanton was good on a layup after dribbling through all five of the Rice Owls with four seconds remaining.

The leading scorer for the Bears, now 6-3, was William Chatmon, who scored 27 points. Gary Reist, the Owl senior guard, led his team with 24.

Texas, already thwarted of any title hopes, was shoved further from the top by Texas Tech in Austin, 70-55.

The Longhorns went almost nine minutes without scoring after tying the game in the second half, and this was the downfall of Texas. The Red Raiders hit 52 percent of their floor shots, while the 'Horns were good on only 38.3%.

Greg Lowery was Tech's high point man with 20. His teammate, Gene Knolle, had 17, Billy Black led the opponents with 12. The win was Tech's fifth straight over Texas. Their all-time series is now even at 20 games each.

Each of this Saturday's games is important, since a loss by Bay-

lor, SMU or Tech would eliminate that team from the race. Also, if TCU loses, that means that they would be tied with any of the three second place teams that wins.

SMU and Baylor clash in Waco, and the alternatives for the two squads are simple: the winner is still a contender and the loser is no longer in the race.

Texas Tech will be on its home court in Lubbock for a televised battle with the Aggies. If the Red Raiders cannot handle A&M, whom they beat a few weeks ago, they are out for the year.

To stay ahead, TCU needs to win against Rice, who won over the Frogs two weeks ago. Should the Owls do the trick again, there could be a three-way tie for first place.

Consolidated vs. Carver tonight in schoolboy playoff game

The A&M Consolidated Tigers take on Aldine Carver tonight at 7:30 p.m. in G. Rollie White Coliseum in the second game of a best-of-three playoff for the District 10-AAA championship.

Carver won the first game, 65-49, but tonight's contest should prove to be interesting, since the Tigers defeated Aldine earlier in the year in a tournament game.

Jim Foreman, the head cage coach for Consolidated, said yesterday that he thinks his team can take the game and that they will be prepared for Carver.

"When they beat us, we just had a poor night," he said. "I guess they were just better prepared than us. I think things will be different this time."

Should Consolidated win, the third and final game will be played at Prairie View A&M. If Aldine Carver comes out victorious, they will be the district finalists.

Tickets for the game were sold at a reduced price until 3:30 this afternoon at the principal's office at Consolidated High School. All tickets at the gate are \$1.50 each for both students and

adults. Texas A&M students will not be admitted on their activity cards.

Foreman indicated that the game should be good for spectators and fans, and that the two teams use different offenses and defenses. The no grab style of play of the two clubs is entirely different.

"Carver uses the fast break a lot," Foreman said. "They press, too. They use what is known as a zone press. Usually they employ a 1-2-2 zone."

The Tigers, on the other hand, have a disciplined offense. They try to play for the percentage shot. Their defense is a pressing man-to-man.

The outcome of the contest should be determined by A&M's ability to slow down and confuse Aldine Carver. Shooting percentages should be a factor, and execution of the game plan is most important for both squads.

Team	Won	Lost	Pct.
TCU	7	2	.778
SMU	6	3	.667
Baylor	6	3	.667
Texas Tech	6	3	.667
Rice	5	4	.556
Texas	4	5	.444
Texas A&M	2	7	.222
Arkansas	0	9	.000

A and C Wrestling champs announced

Class A and C wrestling ended last Thursday with 10 individual champions being determined. Class B and D wrestling begins today in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

The champions, according to weight class, are: 123 lb., Mike Mahone; 130 lb., Mike Bavaro; 137 lb., James Paryzek; 145 lb., Pete Amaral; 152 lb., Bill Compton; 160 lb., Robert Fitzpatrick; 167 lb., John McNevin; 177 lb., George McCarroll; 191 lb., Joe Russo; heavyweight, Orlin Hecox.

E-1 won the Class B handball championship last week by ousting G-1.

The intramural office announced Monday that an open soccer tournament will be held. Anyone wishing to enter a team must do so by March 1. They added that no team points will be given to the winners.

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