

Joseph, Williams spark Fish to victory over SMU Colts

By JOHN CURYLO
 Cedric Joseph and Webb Williams combined for 62 points Saturday night, leading the Aggie Fish to a 101-92 win over the Southern Methodist Colts in Moody Coliseum. The victory made A&M's record 9-3 for the season and 5-1 in conference play.

Joseph, a 6-8 post man from Ft. Worth Arlington Heights, put in 36 points, the best this year for any Fish. He hit on 12 of 18 from the field and 12 of 15 from the free throw line. His 24 rebounds helped the Aggies dominate the boards, 58-40.

Williams, a 6-7 wing man from Comstock, was good on nine of 11 shots from the floor and eight of 11 from the line. He added 14 rebounds, second high for the game.

The Fish shot a blazing 57.3% from the field, connecting with 35 of their 61 field goal tries. SMU put in 38 of 91 for a 41.8 average. The big difference was at the free throw line, where the Fish sank 31 of 44 (70.5%), and the Colts converted 16 of 22 attempts (72.7%).

"I was really pleased with the way we played," Coach Jim Culpepper said. "The team bounced back well from Tuesday's loss to Texas. They made up their minds that they weren't going to let it happen again."

SMU, whom the Fish defeated 100-82 earlier in the season, kept up with the Aggies at the beginning of the contest. A layup by Ronnie Cornelius immediately after he went into the game put the Fish ahead 33-31, and they never relinquished the lead.

The Aggies hit 10 straight shots from the field during that stretch, and they managed to get an 11-point margin, 54-43, by halftime.

The Fish kept a buffer of seven points throughout most of the second half, but a rash of technical fouls against the Colts put the game on ice with less than four minutes to go.

At the 3:30 mark, Williams was fouled by SMU's Bill Marcellus, and a technical was called on the Dallas Jefferson star. Williams cashed in on the

one-and-one and sank the additional try for a 92-82 score.

The next time A&M got the ball, John Vaughn was fouled, and Colt Coach Mike Pinkham exploded at the call. Before the exhibition was over, the mentor had been tagged with three technical fouls. Vaughn made the first of his one-and-one tries and two of the three penalties.

The Fish went down the court three times in hopes of reaching 100. The magic total was theirs for the third time this season when Joseph sank a pair of charity shots after being fouled while rebounding.

Jerry Mercer finished with 12 points for the game, in addition to nine rebounds. The 6-8 post man made five of nine from the field and two of three from the free throw line. Vaughn had 12 also, making two of his four tries from the floor and eight of 11 free throws.

Marcellus led the Colts with 26 points. The 6-3 forward-guard shot 29 times, making 12 of them. He added two free throws and four rebounds. Russell Bourquein contributed 21 points, the result of sinking nine of 20 shots from the field and three of five free throws. Leading Colt rebounder was James Murphy with 12.

The scoring:
 A&M—Cedric Joseph, 36; Webb Williams, 26; Jerry Mercer, 12; John Vaughn, 12; Dale Donaldson, 8; Ronnie Cornelius, 4; and

Phil McGuire and Marvin Taylor cleared 6-7 but it wasn't good enough to place in the high jump.

In the pole vault, neither Harold McMahan nor Billy Hoffman could clear the opening height of 15-0 thus were not able to compete.

"McMahan cleared the bar twice by at least a foot but hit the bar with his body coming down," Thomas explained.

In the 440, Curtis Mills, the A&M record holder who now runs for the Pioneer Track Club, took third place.

"We just had a bad day," Coach Ted Nelson said. "The lack of speed hurt us in the final outcomes. We have been working more on conditioning than in speed."

A&M's next action will be against Rice in Houston Feb. 26th.

"I feel we'll be much better prepared by then," Nelson said. "Rice will be tough this year and we're going to have to get good performances out of all of our people in that one."

Bill Allen, 3.
 SMU—Bill Marcellus, 26; Russell Bourquein, 21; Randy Willis, 14; James Murphy, 10; Mike Hanks, 10; Mark Hughston, 9; and Gene Gorman, 2.

The Fish will be in action against the Texas Christian Wogs Saturday night in Ft. Worth. Tipoff time is 5:30 in Daniel-Meyer Coliseum. This will be a preliminary to the varsity battle between the Aggies and the Horned Frogs.

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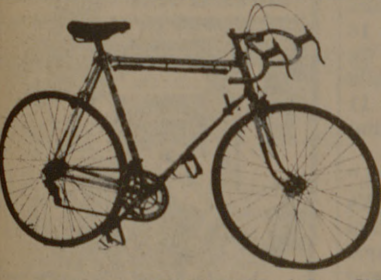
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Tracksters lose in Dome

A&M's performance was less than spectacular in Saturday's AstroDome - Federation track meet at Houston's AstroDome.

The mile relay team, which was looked on to be the Aggies' only chance for a first place, ran well in the preliminaries, 3:10.1, but fell to 3:12.0 in the finals which was only good for sixth place. Nebraska won the event with a time of 3:07.

"Wayne Mills led off in the finals and tried to race Colorado's sprinter Cliff Branch, but tired early and dropped two seconds off his prelim time," Coach Charlie Thomas said.

Doug Brodhead and Horace Grant did well in the relay with times of 46.8 and 47.1 respectively in the finals.

Billy Porter won his heat going away in 9.7 but failed to qualify for the finals in the 100-

yd. event.

"Billy beat some real good sprinters in his heat but couldn't qualify with his time," Thomas said. "He beat two 9.3 people, but in a meet of this caliber a 9.7 isn't good enough to qualify."

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Rugby Club of A&M wins weekend Mardi Gras tourney

The Rugby Club of A&M defeated Brantford Rugby Club of Canada Sunday to win the Mardi Gras Tournament in New Orleans.

Playing at Tulane University, the less experienced Aggies surprised Brantford, ranked second in Canada, 7-6.

Prior to the Sunday final, A&M defeated the Denver All Stars, composed of the top rugby players in Colorado, and Tulane University. The scores of these Saturday games were 12-0 and 4-0, respectively.

In the three-game tourney, no opponent ever entered the Aggies' end zone. The only scores were two penalty goals kicked by the Canadians in the finals.

Coach Roger P. Boos said that although the team was far from home, several Aggie students in New Orleans for Mardi Gras showed up to support the team.

Scoring for A&M in the tournament were Randy Harju, 8, John Gunn, 7, and Mark Fisher and Giles Fort, 4 each.

Also competing in the New Orleans tournament were some of the top rugby teams in the United States and Canada, including the Tulane White, Tulane Green, Brantford (Ontario) Rugby Club, University of Waterloo (Canada), Denver All Stars, U.S. Navy Seals (Coronado, California), Old Dominion Rugby Club (Norfolk), Beacon Hill Rugby Club (Boston) and the University of Florida. Old Dominion is No. 1 on the East Coast, while Beacon Hill is ranked second.

A&M, now finished with pre-

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Net team ties for fifth at Edinburg; Fikes advances to quarterfinals

A&M tied Rice for fifth place in the 18th annual Pan American University Intercollegiate tennis tournament at Edinburg Saturday with six points.

Trinity, the nation's second rated tennis team, won the meet, but they were hard pressed by Pan Am for the honor. A&M defeated Pan Am the previous day in a dual meet. University of Corpus Christi took third, and Houston fourth.

Senior Dick Fikes advanced farther than any Aggie, reaching the quarterfinals before losing to Trinity's top seeded Panch Waithall in split sets of 3-6, 6-1, 3-6.

Billy Wright was the talk of the town as he came within minutes of defeating Corpus Christi's top seed, Jorge Andrews. Wright had split sets going into the final set, and led 5-2 before the set

had to be called due to darkness. The next morning, Wright awoke with a sore arm and some freshman jitters and lost to the seasoned Corpus veteran, 7-5.

In other action, Dan Courson beat Carlos Gaffee, 6-4, 6-4 in the opening round only to lose to NTSU's Steve Buck, 6-4, 6-7, 7-6. Billy Hoover lost to Ronny Flores of Houston, 6-4, 6-4.

"I was real pleased with our dual match win over Pan Am and felt our kids did a good job in the tournament," Coach Omar Smith said. "I just wish we could have come up with that upset for Billy Wright."

"I think we are coming along real strong as a team," he said. "We have tremendous team spirit and we pull together as a team instead of individuals. This is a sign of a great tennis team."

The tennis team's next meet will be Saturday in Austin against St. Edward's University.

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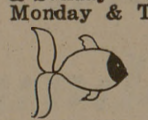
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