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Aggies Hope Tube Jinx Is Over; Battle Longhorns Saturday In Austin

By BILL HENRY
Battalion Sports Editor

It's TV time again for the Texas Aggie basketball team and coach Shelby Metcalf hopes the jinx was broken last Saturday against Arkansas.

The Aggies are riding the crest of a two-game win streak and hope to keep things alive when they visit the unfriendly confines of Gregory Gym in Austin Saturday beginning at 2 p.m.

The game will be regionally televised and A&M hopes last Saturday's 108-82 slashing of Arkansas broke the Aggies of "stage fright."

The Aggies have been on TV three times in the last two seasons, previous to last week, and lost all three.

Things have been going well for the Aggies since losing to SMU in the much-publicized brawl with impressive wins over the Razorbacks and Baylor, 86-73, in Waco.

Randy Knowles is scoring well, 70 points in two games, Mario Brown and Mike Floyd are handling the ball well and inside men, Jeff Overhouse and Jerry Mercer, are battling the opposing big men.

Texas, standing only 3-6 in Southwest conference action, hasn't given up and won't roll over for the Aggies.

Strange things happen when the two teams meet in any sport but especially in basketball. Last year the Longhorns overtook A&M twice but Metcalf stands 12-7 overall against Texas.

The Longhorns have had to replace injured Larry Robinson and haven't been successful. Robinson, as a sophomore last year,

was voted the MVP of the conference as well as being the top scorer.

John Wilson, 6-8 post man from Odessa, has tried to take up the scoring slack but is averaging a little over 15 points per game compared to Robinson's 26 points last year.

Scoring, however, is the only real problem Texas has as the defense and rebound strength is fantastic.

Texas will start a big team against the Aggies Saturday with 6-10 B. G. Brosterhouse and Wilson at the post, 6-6 Eric Groscurth and 6-7 Jack Louis at forwards and 5-10 Harry Larrabee at the guard.

In the first meeting, which A&M won 69-64 in College Station, the Aggies were able to rattle Texas with a full court press. Texas, however, outbounded the Aggies and played a much more consistent game.

Metcalf will start the combination that has been working well for him lately with Brown and Floyd at the guards, Knowles and Overhouse at the wing and Mercer at the post.

The key to victory in the past two games has been Knowles'

tremendous shooting and the guard play. While the defense looks to be closing in on Brown and Floyd driving up the middle, they drop the ball off to the open man under the basket. That dimension was missed earlier in the season.

After the Arkansas game the team vowed to finish the remainder of the season undefeated in hopes of gaining a National Invitational Tournament bid and Saturday's contest will be a big challenge to that vow.

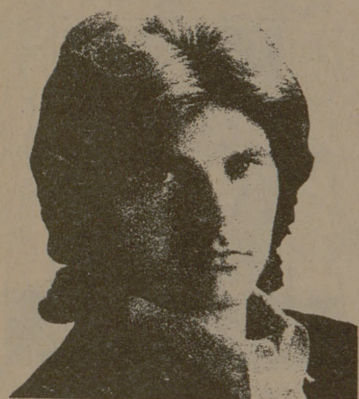
The Aggies return home Tuesday to play the Rice Owls at 7:30 p.m.

SWC Standings

Team	G	L	Pct.	PP
T. Tech	8	1	.888	641
SMU	7	2	.777	734
Baylor	5	4	.555	658
Arkansas	5	4	.555	736
A&M	5	4	.555	719
Texas	3	6	.333	662
Rice	2	7	.222	643
TCU	1	8	.111	631

Tuesday's Results
Texas Tech 74, TCU 64; SMU 74, Rice 68; Texas A&M 76, Baylor 63; Arkansas 86, Texas 74.

Saturday's Schedule
Arkansas at Baylor; Texas Tech at Rice; SMU at TCU; Texas A&M at Texas.



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