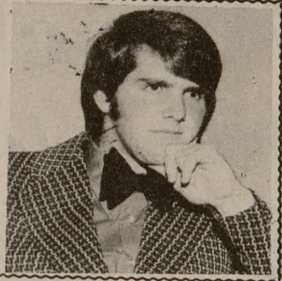


Kevin's Korner



KEVIN COFFEY, Sports Editor

ATTENTION! Contrary to popular belief A&M has a sport other than football. What, you say? Indeed, Shelby Metcalf unveils the 1973-74 edition of the Aggie basketball team Friday night in G. Rollie White Coliseum at 7:30 against Houston Baptist. Metcalf doesn't guarantee an undefeated season, but he does insure an exciting one.

"This team is not as good as last year's was at the end of the season but they have the potential," said Metcalf. "We should be a physical team that runs and shoots."

There will be some added attractions to pre-conference basketball this year, something that has been forgotten by fans in the past. First, the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band will play at all home games, not just conference action as has been the tradition.

"The band should help with student support," Metcalf said, "and the players like all the noise they make."

In the past, attendance at December basketball games has been poor to say the least. Anything around 3,000 fans was good and some 10,000 would come for conference games. With 18,000 students, a full house should cram G. Rollie for every game.

With the energy shortage and no gas on Sundays why go home on weekends? Stay here and take in a basketball game.

Fan Club Revived

The second highlight of Friday's action is the revival of the now famous "Arciniega's Army," the fan club of Aggie co-captain Joe Arciniega.

Thousands are expected to join this unofficial organization, according to a source close to the club.

"We just want to support basketball the way a major university would," the source said in an interview.

"The Aggies are known for being great fans with undying spirit, but they don't show it for basketball. This year we are going to have a good team and the band is making the extra effort to come to all 12 home games. I think we can fill the ball yard."

Our unnamed informant pointed out that basketball games start at 7:30 p.m. and students can be home and in the rack by 9:30.

"Basketball has a lot of action and the Aggies fast break will be excellent," the source said. "I hope all the students will come out."

It is rumored that the fan club may buy T-shirts, issue membership cards which will grant special privileges and charter a jet to Fayetteville, Ark. for the Aggies final game of the season.

"We can do exactly what we want to do if the students will get behind the team in mass," our informant said.

The Aggies' first four games are in here before the team departs on holiday tournament, not to return to the friendly confines of College Station until Jan. 8. Conference play opens on Jan. 15 with Aggie hosting Southwest Conference favorite Southern Methodist.

After Friday's battle with Houston Baptist, Southwest Texas stays on Monday, Tarleton State on Dec. 6 and Stephen F. Austin on Dec. 10.

"Southwest Texas should be in the battle for the Lone Star Conference championship," said Metcalf, "and Stephen F. Austin was 15-3 last year. Houston Baptist finished strong last season playing most of its games on the road. They will give us a real test in the opener."

Metcalf stresses the importance of a good winning record this season as the second place team in the SWC will have the opportunity to play in a tournament for runner up in nine major conferences. Since only eight spots are available, the teams with the best record would seemingly be the picks.

Come out and prove that Aggies can support a sport other than football. Attendance and spirit has been outstanding throughout the fall. Let's carry it over to basketball.

US-Russia Track Meet Slated for June at UT

AUSTIN (AP) — American and Russian teen-agers will compete in track and field here next June, a meeting the Amateur Athletic Union thinks may be part of the answer to the United States' declining fortunes at the Olympic games.

The June 28-29 meet on the artificial track at the University of Texas' Memorial Stadium will be the first international track meet ever held in Texas.

All events are scheduled at night to escape the Texas heat.

The Russian squad of about 75 men and women, all 19 or under, will arrive on campus five days before the meet to work out and get accustomed to humid weather.

The international meet completes a track schedule that should make the 80,000-seat stadium a focal point of track next year. The Texas Relays are set for April 12-13, and the NCAA championships will be held here June 6-8.

Executive director Ollan Cassell of the AAU, a former quartermaster for the University of Houston, said the Russia-U.S. meet "should take the state of Texas still another step up the ladder in the sport of track and field."

He said the AAU selected Austin over Los Angeles and Eugene, Ore., and he added that the organization

tries "to move the events around because it does stimulate interest wherever they go."

Cassell noted the numerous European meets for those 19 and under, and he said, "That's the reason, more or less, that they are catching up to the U. S. in athletic abilities. Just look at the Olympics and the medals the Americans don't win."

He predicted that 80 per cent of the 1976 United States Olympic track squad will be chosen from the teen-agers who ran this year in meets in West Germany, Poland and Russia.

Russia won the first junior Russia-U.S. track meet at Sacramento, Calif., in 1972, and the Americans won at Odessa, Russia, this year.

"It's a natural competitive situation," Cassell said. Members of the 1973 U. S. squad will be selected at a qualifying meet in Gainesville, Fla., June 21-22.

The Russia-U.S. meet here will be televised by CBS and shown on the network's "Sports Spectacular" show.

Besides the track competition, local businessmen have arranged for the Russians to see that Alamo at San Antonio and also to attend a rodeo and barbecue.

"I'm sure when they go back they'll be transplanted Texans," Cassell said.

Crocker Faces F-1 Today For All-University Title

Working their way through the intramural team in Class C and A, Crocker and F-1 have won the honor of competing for the title of University Champions in intramural football on Kyle Field today at 4:00 p. m. The contest promises to be the battle of the semester as both teams have displayed outstanding team play,

combining powerful defenses and ground gaining offenses.

Final competition in the field goal kicking contest will be one of the features of the half-time along with a performance of the 1974 Fish Drill team.

A small admission fee of 25 cents will be charged and all proceeds from this game will go to the Campus Chest.

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