# Ag basketball team begins pre-season practice for '74

Staff Sports Writer
With the Aggie football team just into Southwest Conference play, Shelby Metcalf and his troop of roundballers began their official preseason basketball practice last

Six lettermen and four returning starters are back from last year's 15-11 squad. Four junior college transfers and a freshman will also be competing for this year's team.

Despite the number of experienced players, Metcalf says the competition for starting berths is wide open. Part of the reason is the four outstanding junior college transfers and the return of a 1972-73

The transfers are 6-5 junior Sonny Parker, 6-6 junior Barry Davis, 5-10 junior Gates Erwin and 6-7 sophomore Steve Jones. Chuck Tone, a 6-7 senior who lettered in 1972-73, returned to school after sitting out last year. The only freshman is 6-7 Doug Mezger.

Lettermen returning from last year's squad are 5-10 senior Mike Floyd, 6-8 senior Cedric Joseph, 6-9 senior Jerry Mercer, 6-7 senior John Thornton, 6-7 senior Webb Williams and 6-4 junior Ray Roberts. Squadmen Steve Chambers, Dale Donaldson and Kim Wyatt are also competing for spots on the squad.

"Our team has good speed and quickness," said assistant coach Norman Reuther. "If we can prepare them well, we will have a good

Reuther said there have been no bad experiences in the first few days of practice. There are new people learning a new system and this takes time, he said.

"Thornton has a good chance o starting, but right now it's hard to say who will be the starting five,' Reuther said. "Thornton exhibited great leadership last year and averaged 22 points in the last eight

# Ag golfers make plans for season

The golf team has worked hard in preparation for its fall tournament schedule and conference competi-

Coach Bob Ellis narrowed the number of players from the original 63 to a mere 15. The remaining players are: Monte Shauer, Bill Hodges, Steve Whiteside, Steve Hughes, Clay Dozier, Al Pryor, Jerry Orebaugh, Bobby Baker, Gail Mayfield, Ed Pennington, Charlie White, John Laing, Craig Schnur-bush, Tom Sutter and Bill McEn-

Ellis' aim is to attain national recognition. "People like to be associated with a winner, he said. "Our goal is to build a championship team." He added that the facilities for golf at A&M are the finest he's seen anywhere

In the SWC, the Aggies should expect toughest competition from both Houston and Texas, although SMU is also expected to contend. Nationally, the Ags will tee it up against such standouts as Florida, Oklahoma State, Wake Forest and Alabama

Overall, the potential is here. The question is whether or not the experience the team acquires this fall will provide them with the confidence needed to compete to their capability in the spring.

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The Aggies open the season Nov. 30 against Texas Lutheran in G. Rollie White Coliseum. There will be a scrimmage 9:30 on the Saturday mornings of home football games. Practices begin around 4:00 p.m. and are open to the public.

This year the Aggies will play a 10-game junior varsity schedule beginning Nov.30 and ending Dec. 14. They will be coached by ex-Aggie basketballers Bob Gobin and

# **Batt sports**

# Ag water polo team fares well on road

Staff Sports Writer trip to Arkansas this weekend, the lead Aggie scorers with eight goals. water polo team plays its final home
game against the College Station
The first match pitted the Aggies
and the State College of Arkansas

Water Polo Club this Thursday. Coach Dennis Fosdick's Aggies collected four victories while on the road to stretch their season record to 12-2-1. Competing in the Hendrix Invitational Tournament, the Ags made it their fourth time in a row to sweep the tourney.

## The AP Top 20

The Associated Press Top Twenty college football teams, with firstplace votes in parenthesse, season record and total points. Points tabulated on basis of 20-18-16-14-

12	-10-9-8-7-6-	5-4-3-2-	1:		
1.	Ohio State (50)			6-0-0	1,196
	Oklahoma (8)			5-0-0	1.082
3.	Michigan (1)			6-0-0	923
	Alabama (1)			6-0-0	887
5.	Auburn (1)			6-0-0	699
	S. California			4-1-0	628
7.	Notre Dame			5-1-0	529
8.	Texas A&M			5-1-0	507
9.	Nebraska			4-2-0	355
10.	Penn State			5-1-0	314
11.	Texas Tech			-4-1-1	188
12.	Florida			5-1-0	184
13.	Texas			4-2-0	182
14.	Arizona State			4-1-0	125
15.	Maryland			4-2-0	94
16.	Arizona			5-1-0	88
17.	N. Caro. St.			6-1-0	55
18.	Tulane			5-0-0	46
19.	Miami, O.			5-0-1	35
20.	California			5-1-0	28

Others receiving votes, listed alphabetically: Baylor, Illinois, Kansas, Miami, Fla., Mississippi State, North Carolina, Oklahoma State, Pitt, Purdue, San Diego State, Temple, UCLA, Wisconsin.

Offensively, the Farmers banged Staff Sports Writer in 42 points in the four matches Returning from a very successful while allowing 14. Doug Adamson

with A&M emerging victorious by a score of 9-2. Fosdick praised the play of Dennis Light, who scored three goals in the game.

The Aggies took the measure of the Unviersity of Arkansas at Little Rock by a 15-3 count. Fosdick said he was pleased with the overall team effort and with Adamson who found the scoring range four times. On the negative side however, Fosdick commented that the same mental mistakes and poor passing were present again.

The passing improved the very next game as the Ags whipped Hendrix College 9-1. Most of the scoring by A&M came on assists.

The last game saw the Aggies squeeze by Southern Illinois University, 9-8. "We dominated more than the score indicated," said Fosdick. The Aggies played the whole team while Southern Illinois played only starters. Goalie Paul McKinzie did not have one of his better games, Fosdick added.

The Aggies close their home schedule with an 8 p.m. start against the College Station Water Polo Club. The Club consists mainly of A&M grads and former players on the water polo team. Overall, the Farmers are 2-0-1 at home this year. Following the Thursday match, A&M will travel to Austin next week to take on the University of Texas for the second time, having won the first outing here.

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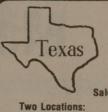
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