

Aggies, TCU knock tilt heads in conference

By PAUL MCGRATH Staff Sports Writer
Although it is still early, Texas A&M defends its 1-0 record against TCU for their first major challenge

of the young Southwest Conference race. Tomorrow's 7:30 p.m. tipoff pits the 9-4 Aggies and the 6-6 Horned Frogs. Both will be putting un-

beaten SWC marks on the line. On the line is a literal statement considering the amount of time both teams spent at the free throw stripe in their last outings.

A&M's Shelby Metcalf and TCU's Johnny Swain will match wits in what may prove to be a battle of defenses. "We don't know that much about them (TCU)," said Metcalf, "Everybody has played them a zone, we're going to play them man-to-man."

TCU is a good ball club. They have a pretty well balanced attack. They play good defense and they run the ball well. They also have good depth on the bench."

Metcalf says that the Frogs will be more physical than Rice and should feature a strong inside attack with their double post offense. The Frogs big men—Royal at 6-7, Tom Bledsoe at 6-6 and Bill Bozeat at 6-10 play the boards well. Bledsoe has been TCU's leading scorer in their last two games.

Illustrating TCU's board strength is the play of Bozeat, who in one of last season's contests with A&M pulled down 15 rebounds before being disqualified.

On offense TCU often overloads either the right or left side of the

court. That is, by drawing the forward and two guards to one side and placing the two post men on that side's baseline, they can set up a multiple of plays with various options available to the man with the ball.

At the guard positions for TCU are Richard Johnson, who Metcalf says is an excellent ball handler, and Eddy Fitzhugh.

Metcalf feels that for A&M to win they must control the boards and shut down their outside people by not letting them penetrate.

A&M has had some problems setting up their fast break due to a slowness in switching from defense to offense. "Our break has not come along like we would want it to, but it is improving. We have to get the outlet pass better," said Metcalf.

A&M's offense is styled to go inside as much as possible, however, they are not afraid to take the outside shot. "We've got a lot of faith in (Chuck) Tone, (Sonny) Parker and (John) Thornton," said assistant basketball coach Norm Reuther.

"We'll put it up out there." Metcalf takes great satisfaction in the effort and attitude of his players. "We are a team on both ends of the court. All of the players are unselfish. If one man gets beat defensively, another will pick up for him. They make things enjoyable because they play with intensity and are unselfish. I feel this team is a true representative of the school

spirit at A&M." This will be the first of two meetings for the Aggies and Frogs. The duo split their games last year, each winning at home. Other SWC games will have SMU hosting Arkansas, another contest between unbeaten and will be televised. Texas Tech travels to Austin to play Texas. Rice and Baylor have open dates.

Wiggins signs contract to coach Kansas City

KANSAS CITY (AP) — Paul Wiggins signed a three-year contract with the Kansas City Chiefs Thursday, then said his first priority would be to try and talk All-Pro linebacker Willie Lanier out of retirement.

Wiggins becomes the second coach the Chiefs franchise has had. The National Football League club, which began in 1960 as the Dallas Texans in the American Football League, had been coached by Hank Stram since its creation.

The Chiefs said Wiggins, a 40-year-old defensive specialist and an assistant coach with the San Francisco 49ers, will be field boss in the organization which is replacing the authoritarian Stram. The lean, crewcut Californian told a news conference that is exactly what he wants to be — the man in charge on the field.

Stram was a vice president of the Chiefs as well as head coach and exercised considerable front office authority.

After trying to get Lanier to change his mind about retiring, Wiggins said, his next task is to line up a staff, particularly an offensive coordinator since he has concentrated on defense.

Down the road, he indicated, was the quarterback problem.

The Chiefs had never had any coach but Stram until they fired him Dec. 27 and almost no other quarterback but Len Dawson. Dawson was at the announcement session as a broadcast reporter but asked no questions. Wiggins did not mention him, although they played together two years at Cleveland early in their careers.

"I see a rebuilding process needed here," Wiggins said, "but I do not know how deep it will have to go. I'm not going to tell you that this team is going to the Super Bowl. If it were, I wouldn't be here."

But the Chiefs are not in such dire straits that they will have to forget

about winning for a year or two and concentrate instead on building a new and younger team, Wiggins said.

Lamar Hunt, the Texas multimillionaire who owns the Chiefs, described the intensive search for a coach, the contacts with 60 to 70 prospects, interviews that lasted as long as eight hours with 14 of the most promising.

"One person stood out as far as we were concerned, and that was Wiggins," Hunt said.

Wiggins said he signed a three-year contract but would not talk salary.

Woman denies drug ring story

ST. LOUIS (AP) — Roxie Ann Rice, on the advice of a St. Louis police investigator, refused on Thursday to corroborate a story that she was a courier of drugs for professional football and basketball players.

Maj. Charles Wren, assistant chief of detectives, said the 19

year-old St. Louis woman denied that she had ever told such a story. He also said she refused to take a lie detector test or to talk to any one of several persons in the National Football League who remember some of the incidents related in a 39-page intra-departmental police memo.

"She flatly denied the charges she reportedly made, flatly refused to take a lie detector test and flatly refused to talk to reporters," Wren said in a news conf. He said Miss Rice's decision came on his advice.

"In the absence of an attorney, I felt I must take a protective role in her case. I did not want her to be exploited," Wren said.

Miss Rice was arrested Jan. 4 on charges of defrauding an innkeeper and fraudulently using a credit card, reportedly stolen from Ken Houston, a defensive back for the Washington Redskins. She still is in jail. Wren said, however, that the St. Louis police, federal authorities and investigators from the NFL and American Basketball Association were continuing their investigations.

Cowboys schedule top teams


DALLAS (AP) — If top-flight pre-season games mean getting the Dallas Cowboys into top condition for the 14-game drive toward the title, the Pokes should be ready to hit the regular season running for the Super Bowl.

The Cowboys announced Thursday they will play the world champion Pittsburgh Steelers and Oakland, the champion of the American Football Conference West, in pre-season in Dallas. The Cowboys earlier announced they will play Minnesota, the second team in the Super Bowl, in Dallas before the regular season begins.

"The Texas Stadium schedule of Minnesota, Oakland and Pittsburgh represents our most difficult pre-season assignment in years," said Cowboys President and General Manager Tex Schramm.

There will be three pre-season road games with the opponents to be named later.

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