

At Texas A&M

# Metcalf earns doctorate

By DAVID WALKER  
Staff Sports Writer

Question: How many doctors coach basketball in the Southwest Conference? Answer: One. Texas A&M's Shelby Metcalf.

Metcalf, in his 12th season in Aggieland, recently received his Ph.D. in the field of Recreation and Resources Development.

How can a basketball coach find time to complete a dissertation and coach basketball both? Simple, do them at the same time.

That is exactly what Metcalf did. Using 53 games from the 1974 SWC championship race and two A&M-Baylor brawls as guinea pigs, he completed his dissertation entitled, "Variables Affecting Crowd Behavior at Basketball Games in the Southwest Conference."

Metcalf got his idea from two fights involving his Aggies and the Baylor Bears. The first occurred in 1969 when the Aggies were in a tight race with the Bears for the SWC crown. It was the first major fight in the conference and he received letters from both Aggies and Bears, both pro and con. He kept all

of them.

The second fight happened in Waco in 1972. Once again both teams were in a championship race.

This fight was much worse than the first one in College Station. "I was pinpointed as the culprit," Metcalf said. "I didn't feel that I was, agreed

I was involved and a contributor, but I wasn't the culprit."

"It dawned on me after that game that there were more things involved in these outbursts than just the band playing popular music."

In his research Metcalf did discover other variables that were major contributors, 84 to be exact. Ranging from organized cheers to the band playing popular music.

He said the three most dominant factors in crowd control are the coaches, players and officials.

"Most things that lead to crowd outbursts are desirable but sometimes they get out of control, this is what we need to eliminate."

Metcalf stressed the need to do away with the outbursts because, "they are not good for basketball." He also noted how major outbursts were season wreckers. "In 1972 I really thought we would win the SWC but after that fight in Waco we lost our next two games and Baylor lost its next three games. It takes the fine edge away from players and their concentration."

"We try to keep the crowds from going from constructive to destructive. It's a very fine line that can break at any time."

Metcalf's research devised a formula for predicting crowd behavior before the game and recommendations for enforcing it during the game. "The SWC crowds could definitely improve their behavior," Metcalf said.

Dr. Metcalf's Aggies are now involved in another SWC title chase and are expecting a full house Saturday night. While not expecting a crowd outburst they do expect to have their hands full with T.C.U. and hope to reward their doctor with his 96th SWC victory.



Photo by Jack Holm

Dr. Shelby Metcalf instructs assistant basketball coach Bob Gobin.

## NFL draft may nab six Ags

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gies assistant head football coach. He said, "It all depends on their time to pick." If one club needs a defensive back then that's what they're going to look for. "You got to be a little lucky in how you are picked," he added. "You may be passed over in several rounds because they don't need a person at that position," Robertson said. "He (Gray) should be the first one that goes. Gray has the ability to play cornerback, weak linebacker, strong safety or weak safety. He can make any special team squad," he said.

Daniels could make it at split receiver, strong safety, weak safety or running back, Robertson said. "He was suspect early but got interest early," he added.

About Trahan's chances he said, "He may play defensive tackle or on offense." Trahan may find himself on offense in the pros. He has had a problem with injured hands and to play defense you must use your hands. "He has quick feet and is a strong pass rusher," Robertson added.

Robertson said McCrumby may be a middle linebacker or defensive end. "McCrumby may surprise some people," he said. Buffalo is real interested in McCrumby as

Johnny Rae Bills linebacker coach called Tuesday while looking at films of McCrumby. He is big, strong and quick, Robertson said. A&M plays the four-three defense and the pros like that.

Haddox has drawn a lot of interest, Robertson said. The Bears are one of the teams that are interested. "He has a strong leg and the teaching they (NFL) have will help him improve," said Robertson. "Practice makes perfect," he added.

Seeker hasn't made the deep snap, Robertson said. The pros will grade that down, but he has been working on it.

On Tuesday and Wednesday the Aggies should have one of the best drafts they have had in recent years. The rewards for a fine season continue to come in and this is one of them. The Battalion wishes them all good luck. Tom Wilson, new offensive coordinator, said, "They should all go."

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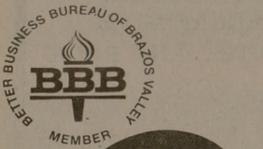


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