

Ags play Texas at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday cage action features perfect records

By TONY GALLUCCI
Staff Sports Writer

Texas A&M and Texas both enter their Saturday night date risking perfect conference records. But if Texas wins, both teams will be scarred.

The Ags are currently leading the SWC with a 3-0 record while Texas holds down the other end with an 0-3 record.

The Ags, off to their best start in 14 years, are looking for their fifth win in a row. A win would give Coach Shelby Metcalf his 98th SWC win.

The Aggies will start Mike Floyd, Sonny Parker, John Thornton, Barry Davis and Jerry Mercer. Probable Texas starters are Dan Krueger, Ed Johnson, Tyrone Johnson, Hank Bauerschlag and Bruce Baker.

Parker is the Ags leading scorer at a 15.0 clip overall and 13.0 in the

SWC. Davis follows in both categories at 13.7 and 12.0. Thornton is third overall at 9.6, while Ray Roberts and Floyd are tied for third in conference at 7.7. In rebounding, Davis lead the Ags with 7.7 overall and Mercer leads in conference play with 8.0. Overall Mercer and Thornton are tied for second at 5.9.

Parker at 5.8 is fourth overall. Davis is second in the SWC at 5.7. Floyd leads the team in free throws (three or more per game) with 46 of 54 for an .852 percentage. Chuck Tone has hit 8-9 in 14 games for an .889 mark.

A&M is outscoring their opponent by an average of 3.9 points overall and 7.3 points in conference play. A serious deficit however is in the free throw department where the Ags are hitting only 59.4 per cent to their SWC opponents 72.6.

Tyrone Johnson is becoming a threat to other SWC teams with his improving play. It is believed that guard Krueger may be hurting his teams performance by holding on to the ball more than he should. It is thought that this hampers the Longhorns ability to score.

Says Metcalf of Texas, "They've had pretty good luck with the 1-3-1 zone. They run the ball good and get up and down the floor good. To beat 'em we've got to stop their break and cover real well. Krueger dominates their game. We must get the boards. Texas is big."

"Texas has a good ball club. They've lost two close games they could have won. The important thing for us will be stopping their fast break. We're just going to try to

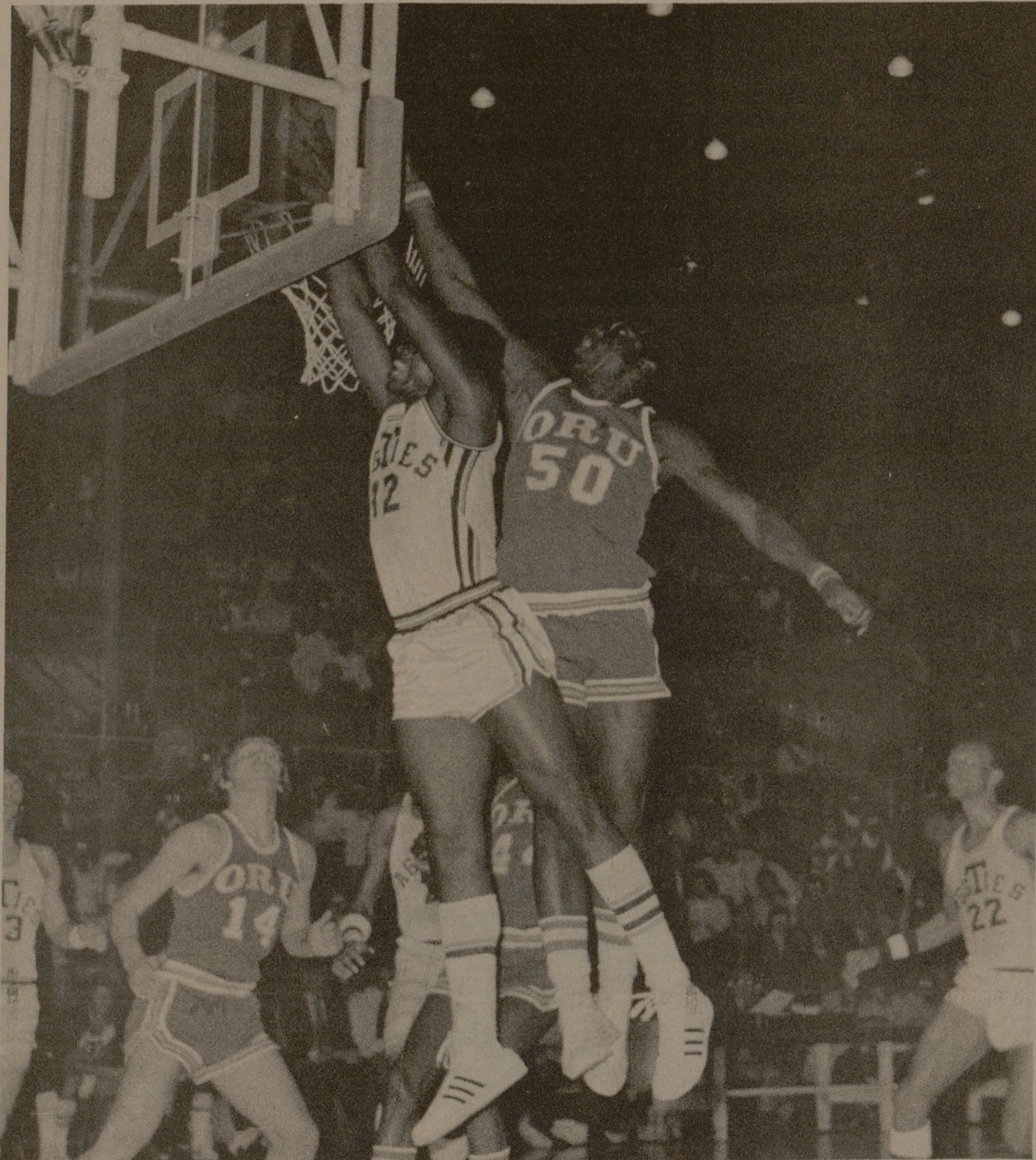
put our game on the floor."

"The thing I feel good about is we have a good basketball team," said Metcalf about the Ags. "We have a good mental attitude and are very unselfish. All we have to do is keep that same attitude and stay healthy."

Texas is tough, always tough, and Texas in Austin is tougher. Increasingly confident and stronger Aggie play though should easily overcome what's left of the 'Horns after graduation. They've lost Larry Robinson, Roosevelt Leaks and Harry Larabee. The only thing better that

could happen to Texas sports would be if Darrel Royal had a promotion and decided to take the tennis coach job at Mentone High. The Aggies by five if the referees are as gentle as they were at Tech. The Ags by 14 if not. Let's hope that officials disperse

Batt sports



Barry Davis, a key man in the Aggie attack, puts up a layup against Oral Roberts in a non-conference game earlier this season. Davis will be the man to watch when the Texas Aggies face the Longhorns Saturday night in Gregory Gym, at Austin. Tipoff for the contest will be 7:30 p.m.

Longhorn tracksters suffering

AUSTIN (AP) — The scholastic loss of hurdler Nate Robinson has cut deeper in Texas' track depth, which virtually disappeared in the off-season.

The Southwest Conference champion Longhorns have lost 95-1/2 points of the 182 they scored last year in winning the championship, including those who graduated.

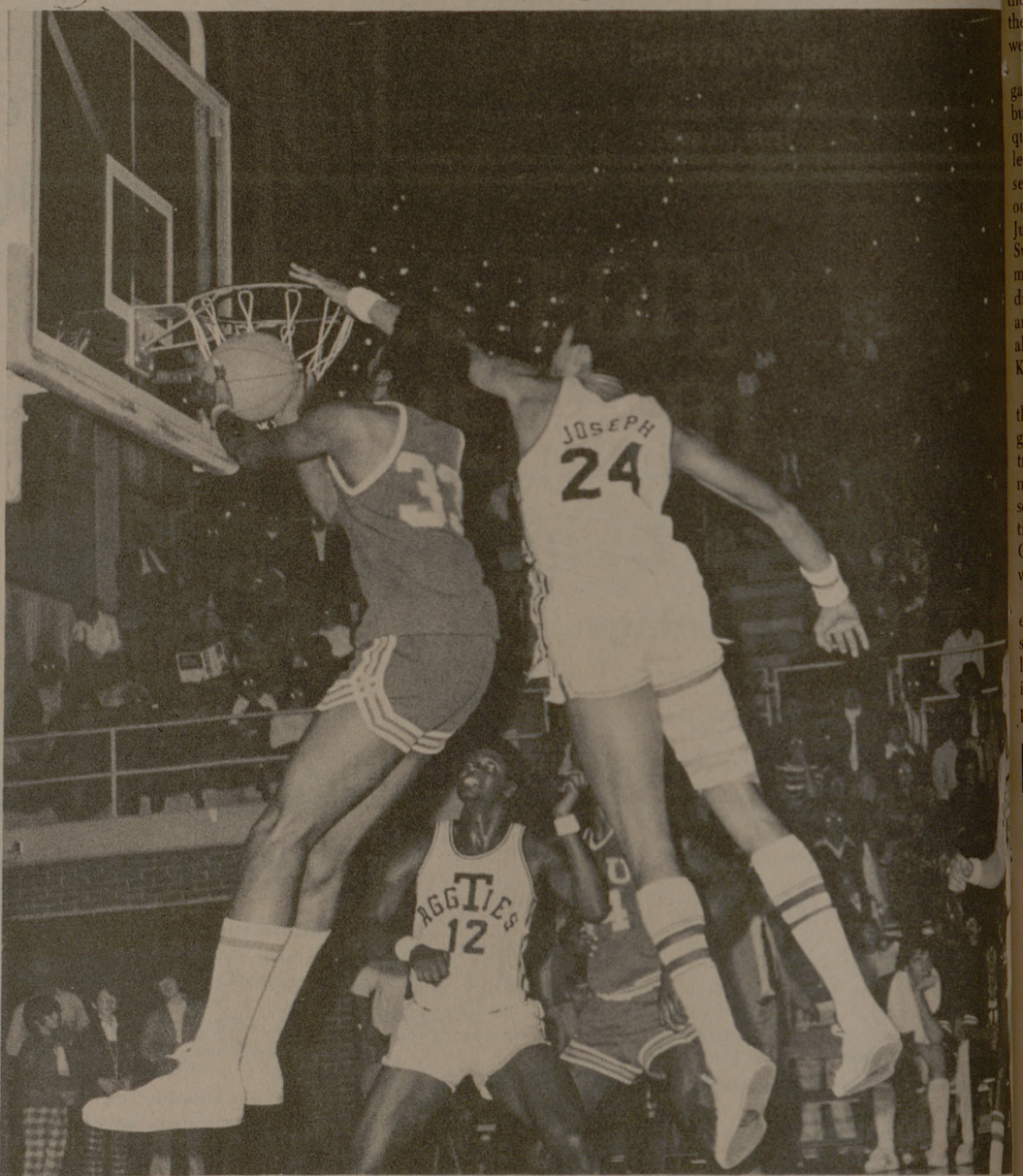
Robinson, second in the SWC last year in the 120-yard hurdles and also the conference's no. 3 long jumper, lacked the required number of classroom hours to remain eligible for his senior year.

The fifth-place finisher in the 120-yard hurdles, Randy Lightfoot, was dismissed from the team for allegedly smoking a cigarette.

Another hurdler, prep champion Bill Blessing, spent a month in bed with hepatitis and is just now joining workouts.

Shot putter Bishop Dolegiewiez, second in the SWC shot put and fourth in the discus, and javelin thrower Sigg Busha also were dismissed for "disciplinary reasons."

The SWC mile champion, Paul Craig, will miss at least two months with a shin fracture.



Cedric Joseph goes high to battle an Oral Roberts player for a rebound in a contest which the Aggies lost in overtime 84-83. Joseph has been slowed by an injury to his thigh, but in his last couple of games he has played well. Also pictured is Barry Davis.

CORRECTION

In the swimming article of Thursday's Battalion there was a statement that the A&M swimmers were going to Houston on February 1 to face the Coogs. But the Ag tankers are to take on the Cougars here in P. L. Downs Natatorium. Our apologies.

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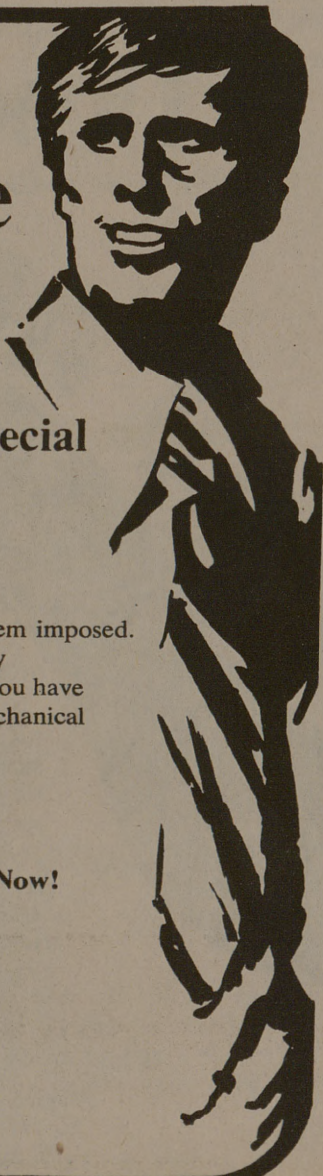
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