

## Aggies on top by themselves

# Metcalfe's men take twelfth win

By DAVID WALKER  
Staff Sports Writer

Come on now Shelby, tell us your secret.

Since taking over as head coach in 1964 Shelby Metcalfe has taken his Aggies to ancient Gregory Gym 12 times. Exactly half of those times the Aggies have enjoyed their ride back to College Station. Saturday night was no different as the Ags motored back to Aggieland with a 80-74 victory under their belt.

The Ags' fourth Southwest Conference victory, coupled with an Arkansas loss to Baylor in Waco, gives them the undisputed SWC lead.

The victory wasn't an easy one. The Aggies and Horns thrilled the packed crowd of 7,800. The crowd was the largest of the year for the Horns, who play their games in 45 year old Gregory Gymnasium.

The Aggies grabbed a quick 4-0 lead with Sonny Parker and John Thornton hitting 15-footers in the first two minutes. Good defense and deadly shooting gave the Aggies an eight point lead 14-6, their largest of the first half, with 14:28 to go. But from there, things got a little wild.

Texas' Tommy Weilert hit an eight foot follow-up of his own shot

and Tom Delatour added a 15 foot jump shot to cut the Aggie lead to four. Then, in the next 3:29, the Horns hit eight straight free throws while in a one and one situation to tie the Ags for the first time at 20-20 with 10:06 left in the half.

Shortly thereafter, the Horns got their first lead of the night when Bruce Baker scored on a lay-up. Baker's shot made the score 22-20. It was the Horns' biggest lead of the night.

The last nine minutes saw the lead change hands nine times and the score tied another nine. During that time the Aggies missed the front end of four one and one's.

A Mike Williams jumper from the free throw line gave the Aggies a one point lead at the half, 44-43.

Barry Davis and John Thornton

each had eight points in the half with Sonny Parker holding the half-time scoring crown with 12. Jerry Mercer did an excellent defensive job on the Texas inside game. A&M hit on 55.6 per cent of their shots from the field while the Horns hit the bucket 46.4 per cent of the time.

Officials Tommy Taylor and W. D. (Shorty) Lawson held true to the Southwest Conference rule of "don't let your whistle get cold" by calling 32 first half fouls. A&M had 14, Texas had 18.

The second half started the same as the first with the Aggies getting the tip. Then it was back and forth for the Aggies and Sips as neither team had more than a two point lead in the first seven minutes, thanks to some great inside work by Jerry Mercer. Mercer continued to hurt Texas' inside game and on offense

he had two important tip-in's that kept the game close.

Two John Thornton jumpers from the right baseline gave the Aggies their first breathing room of the second half, if you can call four points breathing room. With 12:31 to go in the game, fouls began catching up with the Longhorns as they lost Tommy Weilert via the whistle.

Three other Horns had four fouls and two others had three so the Aggies played cat and mouse until Barry Davis put the Ags out front to stay at the 6:24 mark with an eight-footer from the left side.

At this point, the Aggies called a time out and discussed the plans for their now famous "passing game." The Aggies use their passing game not to stall but to find the open shot, and they only take the open shot

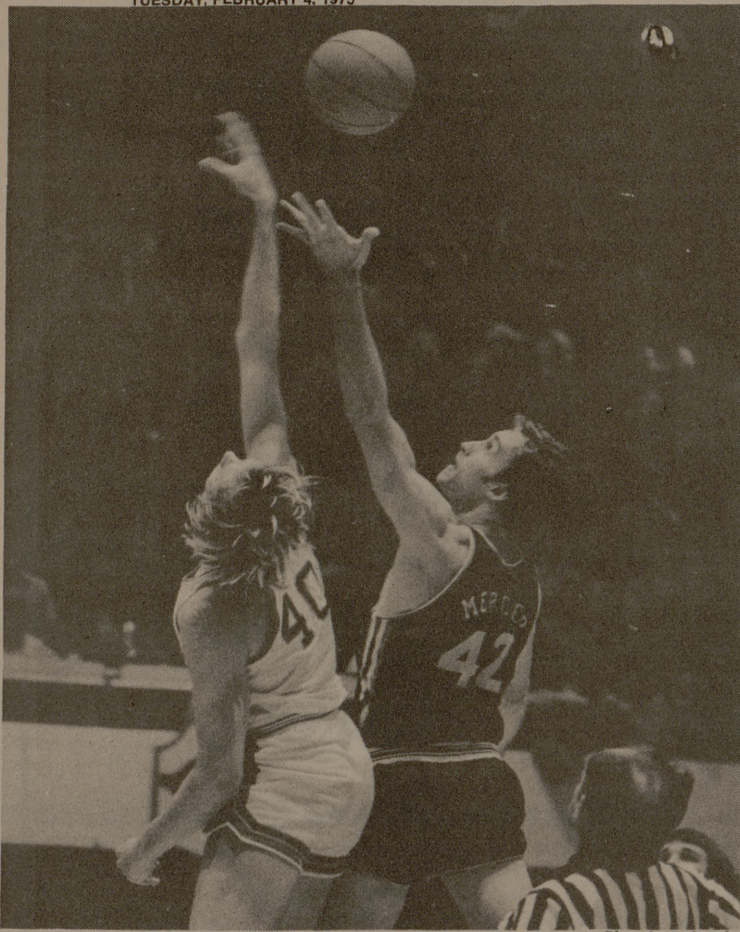
when it's under the basket. The passing game also draws fouls from other team. This is what worked this Saturday night as the Longhorns committed six fouls in the last five minutes of the game. More important than the fouls were the free throws as the Aggies sank seven of ten in the closing minutes to wrap up the victory and complete an almost impossible job of winning in Lubbock and Austin the same week.

John Thornton led the scorers with 17, followed by Sonny Parker's 16, Ray Roberts' 14 and Barry Davis' 12.

Other Aggies scoring were Jerry Mercer with six, Mike Floyd with five, Cedric Joseph and Webb Williams with two each, Mike Williams with two and Gates Erwin with one.

The victory officially opens "Catch the Aggies" season with the SMU Mustangs getting the first tip tonight at G. Rollie White with tip off at 7:30. Gates open at 8.

No.	Player	Games	Pts	Reb	Stk
22	Parker	16	241	251	9
12	Davis	16	235	214	13
52	Thornton	16	161	181	8
23	Floyd	16	133	43	2
41	Williams W.	16	128	73	2
34	Roberts	16	98	61	3
42	Mercer	16	77	43	3
45	Tone	15	68	49	3
21	Erwin	12	46	23	3
24	Joseph	16	32	13	0
30	Williams M.	5	11	14	1
40	Merger	3	1	6	1



Jerry Mercer leaps for tip in Saturday win.

## Metcalfe's men now 4-0, challenge Ponies tonight

By PAUL McGRATH  
Staff Sports Writer

Coach Shelby Metcalfe and his Texas A&M basketball squad hope to keep their one-game lead and unblemished Southwest Conference record intact as the Mustangs of Southern Methodist come to town to challenge the Aggies.

The tipoff tonight is at 7:30 p.m. at G. Rollie White Coliseum. A&M now stands 4-0 in the conference after their win in Austin last Saturday. Overall, the Aggie roundballers are 12-4 for the season.

SMU, 2-2 and 6-10 in the record department, is fresh off a victory over the Rice Owls. The Mustangs have suffered from the loss of junior Ira Terrell because of National Collegiate Athletic Association ineligibility and Oscar Roan who decided to play football.

Still, the Ponies pose a formidable threat. Jeff Bourquein, their 6-7

center, is averaging 16 points and 11 rebounds a game. He has done well on the free throw line as of late, connecting on 18 of 20 freebies in SWC play through the Rice game. Freshmen forwards Joe Swedlund and Jeff Swanson have worked their way into the starting lineup for coach Bob Prewitt's squad. Swedlund had hit for double figures in nine straight games and Swanson in six games before their loss to Baylor.

SMU is not hurting in the depth department as seen by the play of Bob Arnold. The sophomore guard is the Ponies' second leading scorer although he has started only one game this year. Chances are he will be in the starting lineup tonight.

The other Mustang guard is John Sagehorn, the only other returning letterman beside Bourquein. Sagehorn will be handling most of the floorwork for the Ponies.

Barry Davis has broken out of his

recent slump and still leads the Aggies in rebounding. The Farmers' second leading scorer was named the SWC Player of the Week for his performances against Texas Tech and Texas.

Sonny Parker leads the Aggies in scoring with 15 points a game and is hitting 55 percent of shots in his conference play. John Thornton, Jerry Mercer and Mike Floyd will also represent A&M on the hardwood tonight.

In four conference games, A&M has defeated its opponents by an average point spread of seven points (71.8 to 64.8). The Aggies have also outrebounded their SWC foes thus far by an average of three bounds a game.

A win over SMU will preserve the Aggies' slim lead over Baylor and Arkansas who play Texas Tech and Texas respectively. TCU will be in Houston to play the winless Owls.



Jack Williams presents Heart Award.

## Lamp wins Ag heart award

Ted Lamp is the newest recipient of the coveted Aggie Heart Award. The award was presented to Lamp at the Texas A&M's Honors Program last Saturday night in the Rudder Tower.

Lamp was a two-year starter and also made the All-SWC academic team. The award given Lamp is based on such things as spirit, desire, dedication, effort and determination and is limited to a senior. The recipient is determined by the vote of the entire football team.

Captains for the 1974 season were announced during the program with Pat Thomas, Warren Trahan and Ricky Seeker being the honorees.



# McDONALD'S INTRAMURAL HIGHLIGHTS



### Free toss kid sinks 46 shots

Free throw champion is Bob Kelly.

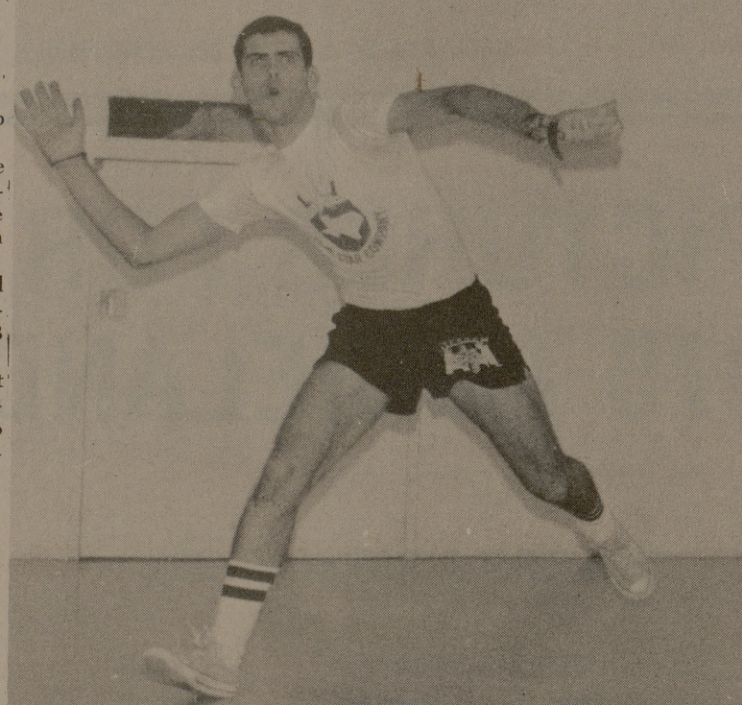
With competition taking place last Tuesday, Kelly sunk 46 consecutive baskets. He stood at the free throw line chucking the ball in without any difficulty.

Larry Archer finished second shooting 19 accurately made baskets. Gary Elliot took third with 18 baskets.

With the team maximum set at 60, the P.E. Grads won with 56 baskets. The team members were Bob Kelly, Gary Elliot and Larry Rodgers.



David Belt from Crocker Hall takes a try in the free throw competition.



John Riddles from LoneStar, L.I., makes the charge to confound his competition as handball double play goes on. Team entries numbered 423. Last year Bronson and Shapiro took the crown.

### February calendar

- FEBRUARY 4 TABLE TENNIS entries close. Play for single players.
- 10 TABLE TENNIS play begins.
- 11 SOFTBALL entries close.
- TEAM MANAGERS MEETING at 5 p.m. room 267, G. Rollie White
- 12 IM COUNCIL MEETING at 7:30 p.m. room 232, G. Rollie White
- 17 FLICKERBALL PLAYOFFS begin.
- SOFTBALL play begins.
- 18 TENNIS DOUBLES entries close.
- 24 TENNIS play begins.

### Game of the Week

## Rinky-dinks stave-off Monaco

By PAUL NETTELL

Fast and furious action Monday highlighted the game between the Rinky-dinks and Monaco. Both are off-campus competitors.

The score was very close all the way down to the wire. When officials called game end, the score was 60-58. Rinky-dinks apparent winner.



Ron Felderhoff of the Rinky-dinks and Leroy Collins of Monaco jump for the ball. The closely contested game caused sweat to pour as the climate in G. Rollie got hotter.



Jay Gotcher puts two away for the Rinky-dinks. The Monaco team played in skins and lost by the skins of their teeth. Better ball handling benefitted the Dinks.

PHOTOS BY PAUL NETHELL