

Metcalfe gets 100th win as Ags defeat Bears

By PAUL McGRATH
Staff Sports Writer

The Baptists never had a prayer last night as the Aggies of Texas A&M came out smokin' and never cooled off until the final buzzer, beating Baylor 96-66.

The Maroon and White made the night a happy one for Head Coach

Shelby Metcalfe who became the fourth Southwest Conference coach to win 100 or more league games. "We did mention the fact before the game and how important it was to him (Metcalfe)," said John Thornton, who fouled out with nine minutes left.

Metcalfe placed a lot of emphasis

on rebounding against the Bears and it showed on the court as well as in the statistics. The Ags out-bounded the hapless Bears 51-26.

The rebounding and tenacious defense by A&M shut down the Bears offense almost completely in the first half. For the first 12 minutes Baylor managed only four

field goals and it wasn't until almost ten minutes were gone that the Bears got into double figures.

On the other end of the court the Aggies were just as good, hitting 69 percent of their shots for the first 20 minutes. The Ags finished with a field goal percentage of 63 percent.

The Aggies jumped to a quick 2-0 lead on two free throws by Thornton. Baylor came back with a freebie by Billy Carlisle and a bucket by Tony Rufus to grab the lead 3-2. Barry Davis sank a 13 foot jumper to give A&M a lead they would never again relinquish. Davis went on to score 19 in the first half and ended the team's top scorer for the night.

After Davis put the Ags back out in front, A&M began to romp, out-scoring the Bears by a 20-8 margin. The Aggie lead stretched to 19 and at the half A&M was 22 points to the good side, 51-29.

The second half began with Thornton again scoring the first two with a ten foot jumper. A&M and Baylor traded baskets but the Bears could never get any closer than the margin they were trailing with at the half. At one point A&M held a 31 point bulge and finished the night with four straight buckets to give the 30 point victory.

Behind Davis in the scoring department were Ray Roberts with 14, Sonny Parker with 12 and Thornton with ten. Davis also led the Ags in rebounds with nine caroms while Parker followed with eight.

For Baylor, Rufus and Arthur Edwards were the only Bears to score in double figures with 11 and ten points respectively. Sherman Patton was BU's top rebounder, grabbing five.

Metcalfe said that Baylor has a

"young ball club" and has a "bright future." The Aggie coach said looking back on the contest that 11 years we didn't play an exceptional ball game. I think we played a normal game for us."

Thornton said the crowd had a lot to do with how the team played. "All that hollering right before the game was unreal. You can tell they wanted us to win. They didn't treat us any differently (after the loss to

Arkansas). We didn't have as many as you'd expect, but it really helped us."

The Aggies are now 6-1 in the SWC and 14-5 overall. Arkansas, who handed A&M its first conference loss, visits G. Rollie White this Saturday in a game that will decide the SWC leader. The Razorbacks also won last night, defeating TCU 70-61. As Thornton says about the upcoming game, "It's gonna be something baby, it's gonna be something."

Athletic oatmeal

Aggie sports doing well in national top 20 polls

By TONY GALLUCCI
Staff Sports Writer

There used to be a ton of Aggie jokes floating around about the Aggies always finishing second. Problem was a lot of that was truth. When I first came to school here, sports was probably at the low point of the pit. But the hiring of a new athletic director and football coach promised a turn for the better.

The last 365 days have produced a lot of second place finishes; football, baseball and track and a few even worse. But let's look at something more important, the quality of sports at A&M.



While its merits are sometimes questioned, in my opinion the most steady, accurate way to determine the strength of a given sport in any one year as opposed to another school is the top 20 polls.

Pro drafts may determine who has the best graduating class and opponents may differ on who is number one, but the top 20 is actually a pretty reliable source for determining the top teams in the country.

To make the top 20 in any sport is an honor, for then the school is representing the top 10 per cent in that sport. A pretty elite group.

Let's look back over the past year and one might realize the recent impact of Aggie sports.

The football team, after a disappointing finish in the SWC race, was still given the best rating of any SWC team in the AP rankings. The Ags finished 16th higher than both Texas who beat the Ags to knock them out of the conference lead and Baylor who won the SWC title.

At the end of last season the Aggie baseball team also lost the title on the final day of play. Yet the team was so highly regarded that it was voted a top 10 spot in the final poll.

The tennis team did well in last summer's NCAA tourney and returned with a 16th national ranking. Although there are no official rankings, the rugby team certainly was one of the top teams in the nation. An invitation to the national collegiate tournament at LSU provided the chance for the team to prove it and they returned with the national championship.

Water polo is not an NCAA sanctioned sport at A&M but again the team had to be one of the top 20 teams in the nation.

And now the rarity. For the past two weeks prior to the Arkansas game the basketball team has received top 20 votes. The top 20 in basketball is truly an elite group.

More teams compete in NCAA basketball than any other sport. The teams that make the top group are usually well established, perennial powerhouses.

It would truly be a tribute to A&M sports if the Ags were to finish the rest of the season strong and break into the top twenty.

With the Aggies 96-66 win over Baylor last night, coach Shelby Metcalfe became only the fourth coach in SWC history to win more than 100 games. With the win he moved past Baylor's Bill Henderson who had 99 career SWC wins. He is behind, in order, Glen Rose (176) of Arkansas, SMU's Doc Hayes with 163, and Buster Brannon (Rice, TCU) with 143.

Metcalfe's 6-1 SWC mark so far this year also moves him up three places in the career SWC percentage rankings. Metcalfe's .621 average moves him into seventh place. He is the only active coach in the top ten in either category.

Our congratulations to Coach Metcalfe for a super job.

Although it has happened twice before this year (UNLV, UH) home court fans got their first glimpse of a new era in A&M basketball. For the first time in TAMU's 62-year basketball history, four black players were on the floor at once for A&M at G. Rollie White.

Ever wonder who the young man is who takes up the slack down on the end of the Aggie bench at basketball games. It's Tracy Tate, 9, son of Assistant Athletic Director Marvin Tate. I'm told he keeps things from getting out of hand.

Batt sports



Barry Davis arches the ball over Baylor's Sherman Patton. (Photo by Jack Holm)

	fgm	fga	ftm	fta	reb	pf	tp
WEAVER	1	3	0	0	0	0	2
Miller	2	4	1	5	2	0	5
Rufus	4	6	3	5	4	4	11
Carlisle	2	5	2	4	1	2	6
Corley	1	5	0	0	1	1	2
Hutchinson	1	3	0	0	1	0	2
McGuire	0	1	0	0	0	1	0
McDaniel	4	8	1	2	3	3	9
Patton	4	9	1	2	5	3	9
Wilkins	1	4	4	5	1	1	6
Edwards	2	3	6	8	2	0	10
Downs	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
Colwick	0	0	2	4	0	1	2
Callis	0	2	0	1	0	0	0
Bishop	1	1	0	0	0	0	2
TOTALS	23	58	20	36	26	16	66
TEXAS A&M							
Davis	8	12	3	4	9	2	19
Thornton	4	6	2	3	4	5	10
Merrett	4	4	0	0	6	5	8
Parker	6	8	0	0	8	3	12
Floyd	3	5	0	0	0	1	6
Williams, W.	3	4	0	0	7	2	6
Roberts	7	8	0	0	0	3	14
Erwin	1	4	3	3	3	4	5
Joseph	1	3	2	2	4	4	4
Tone	3	6	0	1	2	1	6
Williams, M.	3	7	0	0	9	2	6
Mezger	0	1	0	0	4	2	0
TOTALS	43	68	10	15	51	34	96

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