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Aggie captain speaks out

Thornton desires Tech rematch

By DAVID WALKER
 Staff Sports Writer

"We just want a chance to play Tech again so we can prove that we are the best team in the conference."

Those were the words of Aggie captain John Thornton Wednesday after he and his teammates had been through a brisk one hour workout in preparation for TCU.

The Aggies play TCU Saturday in Fort Worth for the first of three must games. The Ags are tied for first place in the Southwest Conference with the Texas Tech Red Raiders who aren't expected to lose another game in the regular season.

"These last three games mean everything to us," said Thornton. "These games mean the difference

between a great season and a fair season."

Thornton couldn't explain the Aggies lackluster game against the Red Raiders Tuesday night.

"I just can't explain it, I thought we were ready but we just weren't at a mental peak," he said.

Thornton does think that the Aggies learned something from the game. "We know what we did wrong against Tech and it's not too late for us to correct our mistakes.

"We really want a chance to play Tech again," he said. "We realize we can make it and I think we will do it."

"We've got the caliber guys to win it and I think we will win it. We've come too far to not win it. We've practiced hard and had a great year so far and we just aren't going to let it get away."

"I hope our fans aren't down because of the Tech game. It is really

frustrating to let such a chance get away but we've just got to suck it up and come back; we're still in first place."

Thornton is in his second year with the Aggies after transferring from San Antonio Jr. College after an outstanding career at San Antonio Holmes.

He was twice all-city and district at Holmes. Last year he was the captain of this year's Aggie team.

Thornton who is admittedly really upset by the Tech game vows that the Aggies will be back. "We've been number one too long now and we aren't going to give up."

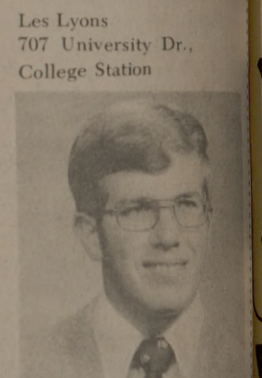
Assistant gets job at SFA

NACOGDOCHES, Tex. (AP) — Richard Munzinger, defensive line coach at Stephen F. Austin State University the past four seasons, was elevated to athletic director and head football coach Wednesday.

Munzinger, 39, replaces John Levra, who resigned last week to become offensive coordinator at Kansas University.

Munzinger is beginning his 12th year as a college football coach, beginning at New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, N.M. in 1964 and serving there until 1969. He was on Levra's staff the last three seasons there.

In 1970 Munzinger was on the staff at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces before rejoining Levra when Levra took over at SFA in 1971.



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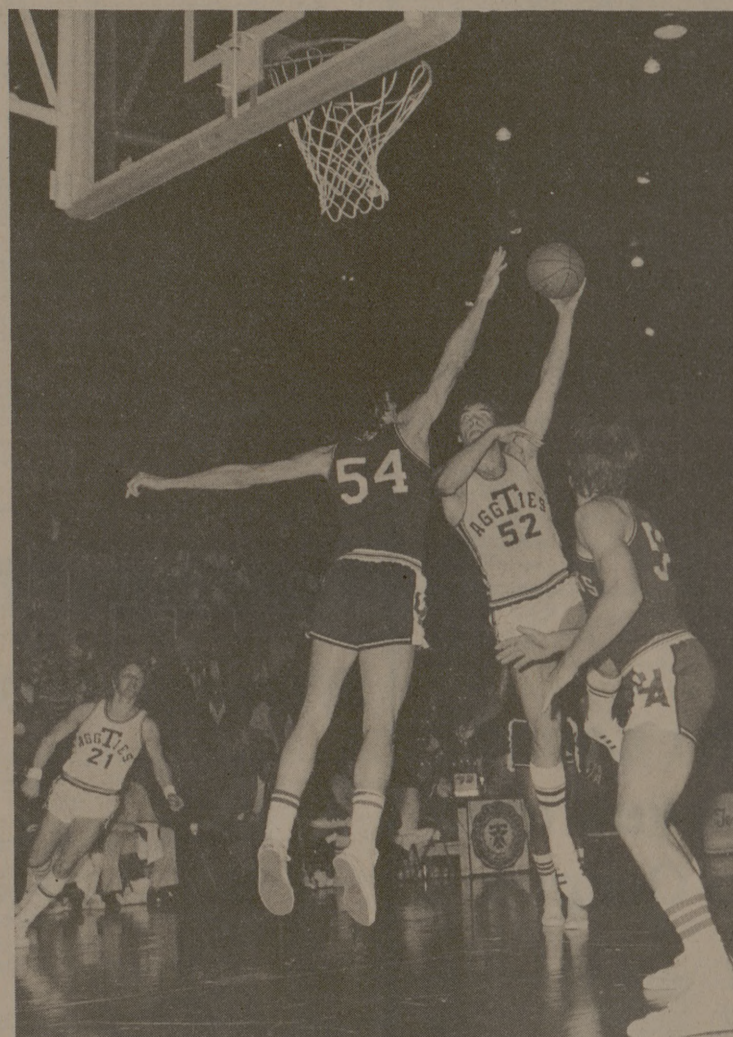
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step into the msc circle

Kentucky State remains on top

(AP) — While the Kentucky State Thorobreds gallop to the close of another winning season, their coach is foraging for additional worthy opponents.

The Thorobreds are 22-2 after defeating North Kentucky State 108-94 Monday night and Coach Lucius Mitchell feels they deserve an invitation to the NIT playoffs.

"The NIT playoffs is what we've been gunning for all season," says Mitchell. "I believe we have one of the top teams in the country, and the fact that we dominated the poll this year shows that other people feel that way too."

"There really aren't too many other teams with better records than ours and so we're hoping we'll get a shot at it."

Kentucky State retained for the second week their grip on the top spot in The Associated Press college division basketball poll, tallying nine first-place votes and 245 points on the strength of their 56-54 trimming of Carson-Newman last weekend.

Jackson State, also hoping for an NIT bid, remained in the No. 2 position, gathering five first-place votes and 206 points from a nationwide panel of sportswriters and broadcasters following three straight victories.

Jackson State nipped Grambling 100-99 in regular season play and then slammed the Tigers 103-87 in the semi-finals of the Southwest Athletic Conference tournament. Jackson State went on to defeat Alcorn 87-76 in the SWAC finals. Bentley was steady at third place after trouncing Babson 110-84 and

Quinnipiac 101-80. The Falcons were awarded one first-place vote and 165 points.

There was a wholesale reshuffling among the other ranked schools.

Gardner-Webb moved up a notch from fifth place with 150 points, beating Livingstone 119-96 and Charleston Baptist 106-92.

Randolph-Macon, formerly fourth, fell to fifth with 109 points after bowing to Old Dominion 86-85 in overtime. The Bulldogs recovered to blitz Washington & Lee 67-62 and Hampden-Sydney 92-56.

Cannon, boasting three consecutive victories, climbed from eighth to sixth with two first-place votes and 96 points. Old Dominion was next with two first-place votes and 94 points, scoring triumphs over Randolph-Macon and Charleston Baptist.

St. Mary's, Texas, dropped from sixth to eighth with one first-place vote and 88 points, while St. Joseph's, Ind. vaulted from 13th to ninth with two first-place votes and 57 points.

New Orleans slipped from seventh to 10th place among the select group, collecting 54 points.

Rounding out the top 15 were newcomers Guilford and Cameron, Marymount, Kan., down from 11th to 13th, UT-Chattanooga, previously 12th, and North Dakota.

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