

Take second win

Ag cagers trounce SWTSU, 107-74

Led by Sonny Parker's 29-point smoke, the Aggies upped their season record to a spotless 2-0 by overcoming a tough Southwest Texas State cage team, 107-74, Wednesday night.

The Bobcats came out to play and put the Ags behind for the first time in the young season at 4-3 and the lead seasawed until the Ags took a 25-24 lead with 8:50 left to play in the half. They never relinquished that lead.

The game had a startling beginning, to say the least, as the Cats caught A&M in the wrong frame of mind and got three chances to score in the first 22 seconds. Luckily for the Ags perhaps, they failed to score in that period, although it cost the Ags three fouls. Ray Roberts fouled on a layup attempt by Mike Fitzhugh, but Fitzhugh missed the two shots awarded him. Some 18 seconds later Sonny broke one-on-one and scored the first points of the night on a layup.

Sonny P did most of the damage in the first half hitting on seven of nine shots for 14 points while Steve Jones' outside touch added ten first half points and five rebounds to back him up. In the first half also, Jarvis Wil-

liams pulled down ten rebounds.

The Ags' biggest lead the first half was seven points at 31-24 as the Ags began to pull away, but the cats returned and cut the lead to two at 35-33. The margin stretched and narrowed again to two at 43-41, with the Ags hitting two more to the Cats' one basket to send the teams to the locker room with A&M ahead 47-43.

The 16 fewer shots taken in the first half was balanced by the Cats ability to hit more resulting in a 61.5 percentage at the midpoint to the Ags 50 per cent production for the same period.

Despite being without the services of their tough big man — 6-8, 220 Eric Bartlett — the Cats came out to play, and according to Ray Roberts, "We just didn't come out with the right attitude."

Likewise, the lack of spark in the first half was remedied by the second, and it was the Ags who came out to play this half. The zone press went right to work and began forcing numerous turnovers and steals. In the first five minutes of the half the Ags scored on five layups or rebound layups and two additional free throws after the shots to give the Ags a quick twelve-point lead at 61-49. Southwest Texas called timeout.

From there on there was no end in sight for the Cats as they succumbed to the tough Aggie defense and the scoring power of Sonny P & Co.

For the second time in as many games this year the final margin was the biggest gap of the night, this time at 33. Another short-term tradition was followed in that the player who scored the first point also scored the 100th, this time Sonny P, last time Karl Godine.

Godine was by no means missing this time, being the second highest scorer for the Ags with 15 points,

followed by Jones with 14, Wally Swanson with 13 and Barry Davis and Joey Robinson each with 11. Swanson in his second game as an Aggie also pulled down the second highest total of rebounds with eight behind Williams, Davis, Sonny P and Jones each had six caroms. Godine and Gates Erwin each were credited with four assists and Godine and Jones each came up with four

steals. Leading scorer for the Cats was Richard Bryant with 24 points and also was the leading rebounder with ten caroms. Second leading scorer and only other Cat in double figures was Mike Fitzhugh with ten points. The loss drops the Cats to 3-1 over the season.

The Ags finished the game with an even 50 per cent from the field and

68 per cent from the line. SWTSU finished at 51.8 per cent from the field and 66.7 per cent from the line.

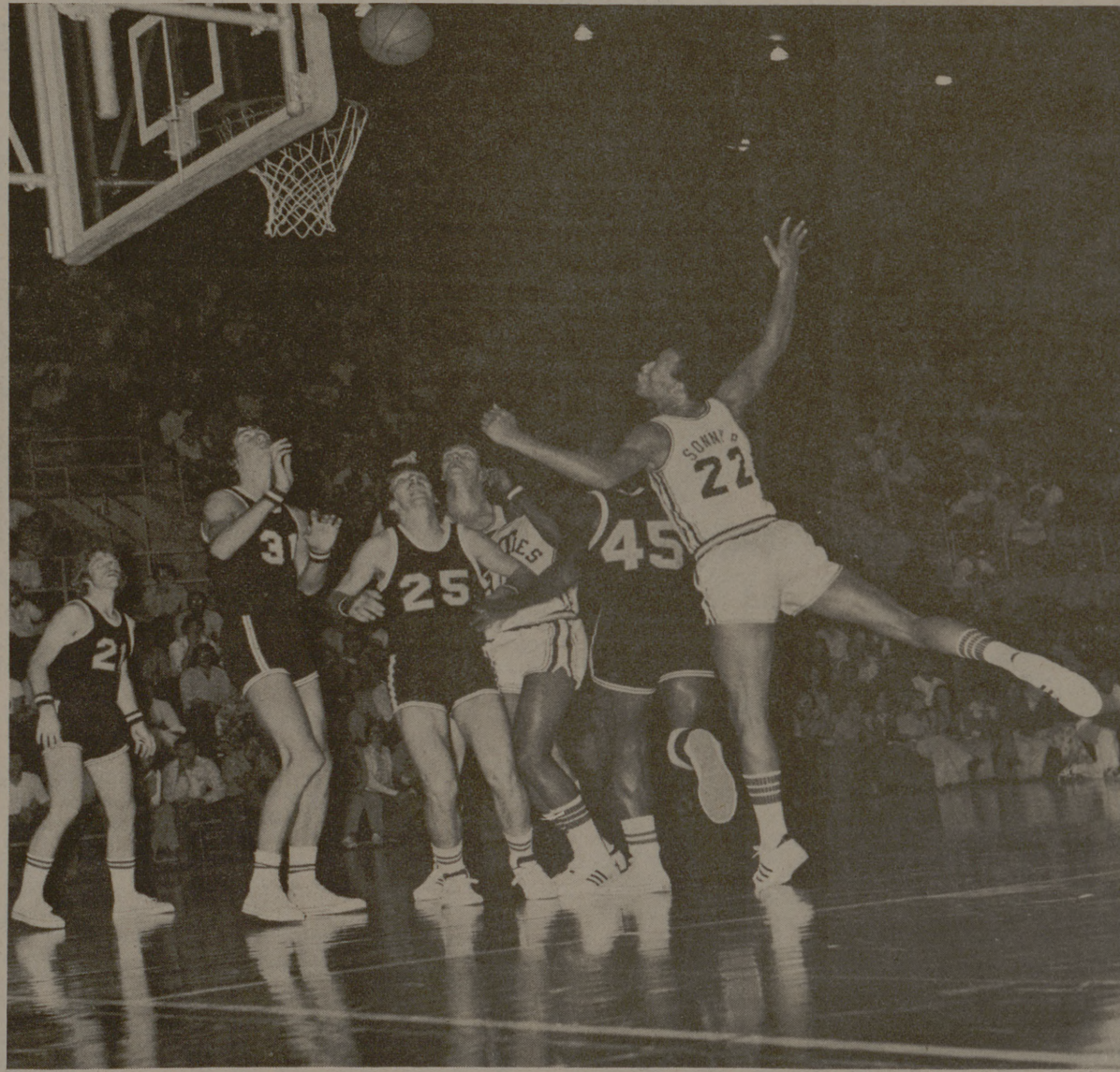
The defensive dominance was shown by the number of steals 18-1 in A&M's favor and turnovers with the Cats losing 37 to the Ags 21.

Said Wally Swanson after the game when queried about the defense, "That's the name of the

game." "We are real aggressive because of our size. We have lots of quickness and speed," said Sonny P.

Roberts finished, "We came out playing hard. I'm glad we won big, but it's a shame as hard as they played. They didn't deserve to lose that big."

The undefeated Ags will entertain a much improved Houston Baptist team on Saturday night at 7:30 in G. Rollie White. The women's team will host Sam Houston State in a prelim.



Two for Sonny P.

Senior Texas A&M guard Sonny Parker scores two of his team-leading 29 points

against Southwest Texas State. The Aggies won 107-74.

Staff Photo by Steve Goble

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Ramsey wants 'healthy' game

Associated Press

AUSTIN, Tex. — The Texas Longhorns' sports information director said Wednesday his boss, Coach Darrell Royal, was too much of a gentleman to cry over losing his star quarterback in the A&M game.

"I think Royal showed a lot of class not alibing about not having Marty Akins," Jones Ramsey told the Longhorn Club. "But I don't have any class, and I'd like to see the teams play with both sides healthy."

Akins, named Wednesday as first-string quarterback on the All-American team selected by the Football Writers Association of America, played only 10 downs against A&M.

Akins had to be carried from the field after reinjuring a knee that he hurt while cutting unfield against TCU on Nov. 15.

A voice in the sparse theater crowd suggested the Aggies also had injury problems: "They played with two quarterbacks."

"That's right," Ramsey said. David Shipman, the Aggie starting quarterback most of the year, replaced Mike Jay after Jay was hurt.

Akins' replacement was untested

freshman Ted Constanzo. With the slower Constanzo directing the attack, the Longhorns lost their outside ground game, which is set up by Akins' running and deft pitches. Fullback Earl Campbell, who Aggie defensive coordinator Melvin Robertson said was the target of two linemen on every play, gained only 40 yards in 15 carries.

After the game, A&M linebacker Ed Simonini said before he was asked that he didn't want to read in the newspapers that the loss of Akins made any difference. Any such talk would be "sour grapes," he said.

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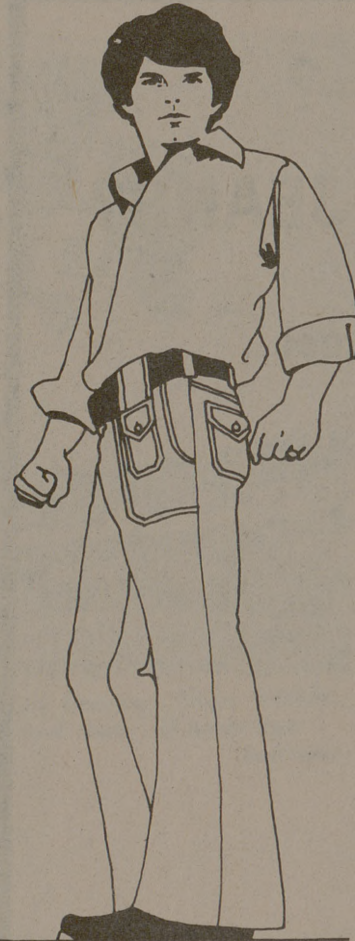
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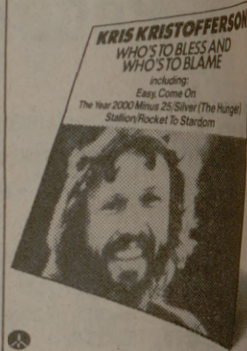
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