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"QUALITY FIRST"

Unbeaten cagers host Bearkats

The Texas Aggies host the Sam Houston State Bearkats tonight in G. Rollie White at 7:30 in the final home game of 1975.

The Aggies, off to one of the hottest starts in history, will hit the tournament trail after tonight's contest and will not return to College Station until January 14 when they host SMU.

The Aggies have one of the nations top scoring machines averaging 116 points per game. They are the first A&M team ever to score over 100 points in three consecutive games. In their last outing against Houston Baptist this past Saturday night the Aggies set a school record scoring 127 points against the Huskies.

The 127 points breaks the record of 119 against SMU in 1969. In their first two games the Aggies beat Wayland Baptist 115-64 and Southwest Texas State 107-74.

The potent offense has enabled the Aggies to hold a 43 point victory margin over their first three opponents which is also among the nation's leaders.

All hasn't been offense though as the pressing Aggie defense has forced 97 turnovers in three games to go along with 51 steals.

Five Ags are scoring in double figures. Sonny Parker has led the way with a 22 point per game average. Barry Davis is right behind Parker with a 19 point average and 11 rebounds per game. Davis' co-captain partner, Ray Roberts is the number three scorer on the Aggie squad hitting 16.3 per game. Freshman Karl Godine is averaging 13 points per game and the Aggies lone junior, Steve Jones, rounds out the list of double figure scorers with 11 per game.

Freshman Jarvis Williams is just under the double figure output with 9.7 points with Wally Swanson hitting an even nine points.

Coaches expressed concern over the small crowds at the first three Aggie home games. Officials hope for a large crowd to send the Aggies off to their three tough holiday tournaments.

Next Friday the Aggies play LaSalle in the first round of the Kansas tournament. The winner of the Aggie-LaSalle contest will meet the Kansas-Yale winner.

Then the next week the Aggies will participate in the Louisville tournament. Joining the Ags will be host Louisville, Seattle and Kentucky State.

After that the Aggies will be in the Houston tournament with Houston, San Francisco and Houston Baptist.

At halftime of tonight's game there will be a special program honoring the Texas A&M football team in appreciation of their efforts during the season.

FOR
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I'm not the Quarterback

By DAVID WALKER
Battalion Sports Writer

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Battalion Sports Writer

George Carroll travels with the Texas Aggie football team on all of their road trips to take care of the sideline phones. When we were leaving War Memorial Stadium last Saturday night Mr. Carroll asked me a question that I hadn't thought about much less had an answer for.

"Well buddy, how are you going to write this one up?"

I answered with what seemed to be the answer of the day, "I don't know."

There is one problem Battalion sports writers have. While most sports writers write their story as soon as the game is over and go home we at the Batt have until the next Tuesday to think about the game to do our story.

This is one game that you would like to forget as soon as possible but one that will be remembered for a long time, like it or not.

It's one of the most helpless feelings in the world, like when your dog got hit by a car or your favorite movie star died. It's empty. It's a time when you want to hit someone when they say it's only a game, or when you want to hit someone when they say anything.

There are two questions everyone seems to ask: Why us and what happened?

As for the why us? It only happened to us once this season out of 11 chances. That's not bad at all. I'm sure there are coaches all over America who would like to have the chance where they would only hear that one once a season.

And for the what happened? A cruel but necessary question to ask. Cruel because of the obvious reason that if Coach Bellard knew the answer he would have done something about it. Necessary because that's part of this job.

If it sounds to the reader like I'm hurt by this loss your perception is perfect. I'm a sports writer but I'm also an Aggie.

I'll be accused of defending the Aggies but there is no need to accuse me. I'm guilty. Why get down

on them? They proved that they are one of the top teams in the nation. They proved that they are the number one defensive team in the nation. They are in the top spot in the Southwest Conference along with two other fine football teams.

Texas A&M, Arkansas and Texas are tri-champs with a combined record of 28-5. It is an honest tri-championship. Each team's loss came to one of the other two teams.

I feel bad because we proved we were a better team than Texas and we are a better team than Arkansas. We didn't prove it and Saturday Arkansas was a better team.

We're 10-1 and we're the number two team in the nation. We'll be the number two team until after the bowl games because that's when the next polls come out and who's to say that if we do a good number on Southern Cal we'll drop at all.

Yep, I'm defending them and I'll keep on defending them. I just hope that before you ask someone "What happened to your Aggies," you'll remember that last week you told the same person, "Hey, did you see my Aggies."

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