

Houston rivalry renewed

United Press International
HOUSTON — The heated rivalry between former non-speaking collegiate foes Rice and the University of Houston is everything it was expected to be — in football.

But in basketball, Rice has been no threat.

The two crosstown schools renew their one-sided basketball series tonight when Rice cuts through Hermann Park to the Cougars' home Hofheinz Pavilion. But unless coach

Bob Polk can inspire his youngsters to a record performance, this game should go the way the last nine have.

Baylor and SMU, two of the three Southwest Conference leaders, will be favored to run their records to 4-0 in home games tonight. Texas A&M is at Baylor, and Texas is at SMU.

Arkansas, the other 3-0 team, is idle, while TCU visits Texas Tech.

Neither Houston nor Rice is in a decent mood after their most recent games. Houston lost its opener 81-70 at Arkansas and then was snowed in for 30 hours.

"Tell Bob Polk we'll be there by Wednesday," Houston coach Guy Lewis said Monday from Fayetteville after the Cougars' team bus, headed for Fort Smith Sunday, was turned around by state troopers.

No matter the trouble, Lewis would not miss playing Rice. In the nine times that the two teams have played since the series started in 1972 the closest the Owls came to upsetting the Cougars was nine points.

After that 193 game, an embarrassment to Houston, the Cougars came back later that season to win the second meeting 107-62.

Houston's Otis Birdsong, the Southwest Conference leading scorer with a 29.5 average, came home with a scoring record. His 2,126 points in four years is eight more than Rick Bullock compiled at Texas Tech.

Lewis was upset with the officiating during the loss to Arkansas, but he refused to talk about it afterwards.

That was not the case at Autry Court Monday night after Rice lost its seventh straight game by a 72-61 count to SMU and mild-mannered

coach Polk drew a technical foul.

Earlier, because of the officiating job being done by Joe Shosid of Fort Worth and David Dealy of Houston, Polk and coach Sonny Allen of SMU walked to the scorer's table.

Allen later admitted he made a comment about the officiating, but he refused to say what it was.

Snow cools Coogs, Raiders in Ozarks

United Press International
HOUSTON — Houston Cougars' coach Guy Lewis says his first year in the Southwest Conference reminded him of a fraternity initiation and that he is glad now just to be one of the boys.

"We've already had our indoctrination. That came last year, when we would get behind in a ballgame and people would start yelling, 'Welcome to the Southwest Conference!'" Lewis said. "I didn't hear any of that the other night."

Houston, playing at Fayetteville, Ark., was beaten by the Razorbacks in its conference opener. But the Cougars proved themselves a tough road team despite the 81-70 loss.

At home, Houston is even tougher. The crosstown rival Rice Owls, who play the Cougars in Hofheinz Pavilion tonight, can testify to that.

Houston has won all of the nine games the two bitter rivals have played since the series began in 1972. In the four games at the Cougars' on-campus Hofheinz Pavilion, Houston has won by an average of 35 points.

"I think we will have a fine game with Rice," Lewis said. "It's still an

inner city rivalry that has more riding on it than a Southwest Conference game."

The Owls, who won their first six games against lesser opponents and all at home, now have lost seven in a row, including a 72-61 loss to SMU at their home Autry Court Monday.

Houston 0-1 in conference and Rice 0-3 will be seeking a first SWC win.

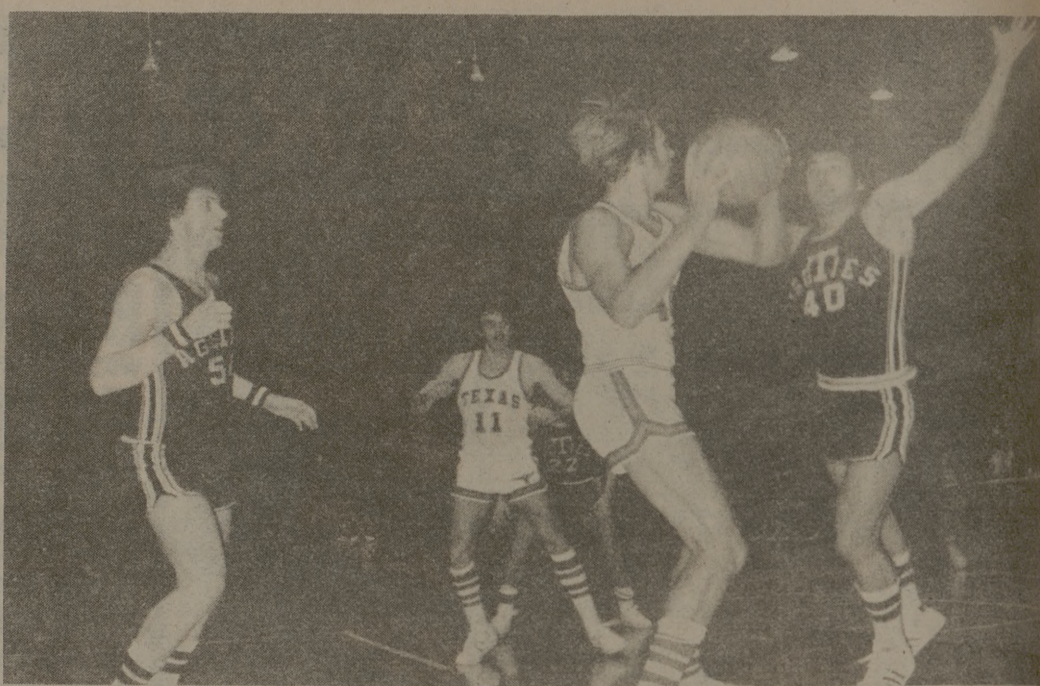
In other games tonight, SMU 3-0 hosts Texas 1-2, Baylor 3-0 hosts Texas A&M 1-1 and TCU 0-3 is at Texas Tech 1-2.

"We are really going to be a good team in about three weeks," Lewis said of his Cougars. "Now don't ask me why. I just feel that way."

Lewis' prediction would indicate Houston will be hitting stride about Feb. 5, which not coincidentally is when Arkansas visits Houston.

Coach Eddie Sutton said last year that he hoped everybody would be rooting for them," Lewis said. "But I hope this year that we've been indoctrinated and maybe somebody around the state will be rooting for us."

"Of course our football team may have messed that up."



Although Wally Swanson (far left) and Joey Robinson (far right) seem to have Texas' Rich Parson well guarded, the Longhorn was able to maneuver the ball around the Aggies for most of Monday night's game in Austin. The Aggies are shown here in a "press," a defensive tactic to put pressure on the opponent to obtain possession of the ball. The method often used by teams who are behind with time remaining in the game, as was the case here.

Longhorns against Metcalf's Men since 1974.

Aggies lose to Texas 87-73 prepare for Bear in Waco

By PAUL ARNETT
Battalion Sports Editor

The Aggies travel to Waco tonight to play the Baylor Bears in hopes of regaining the momentum they lost in Austin last Monday night.

"It'll be hard getting our guys ready to play the Bears after a tough loss like tonight," coach Shelby Metcalf said following the Texas game. "The Bears are a real good basketball team this year, and will be tough to beat at home."

Baylor is undefeated in the Southwest Conference (SWC) race thus far, boasting a 3-0 record. The Aggies, on the other hand, dropped to a 1-1 mark after Texas defeated them 87-73. It was the first victory for the

Aggies leading rebounder for the game was Wally Swanson with 15. Swanson has been the best all-around player for the Aggies this season. He has consistently led the team in rebounds, and is always close to the top in scoring.

Swanson's 16 points against the Longhorns was second only to Steve Sylestine's 17 point production. Sylestine had another good night hitting eight out of eleven from the field.

Swanson, Sylestine, and Dave Goff have been the bright spots for the Aggies so far this season. Goff's outstanding passing has him leading the team in assists. The freshman guard can also shoot. He had 10 points last Monday night in addition to his seven assists.

Goff was also instrumental in the Aggie press, which caused Texas to turn the ball over six times in the second half. Goff's quickness allows him to come from nowhere and steal an opponent's pass. The press was the only thing that kept the Ags in the game against Texas.

A&M will have to press the Bears in order to stay in the ball game.

Baylor can get down into court in a hurry if unimpeded.

Once into the front court, like Larry Spicer and Tom Moore drive to the basket, and make the shot or draw the foul.

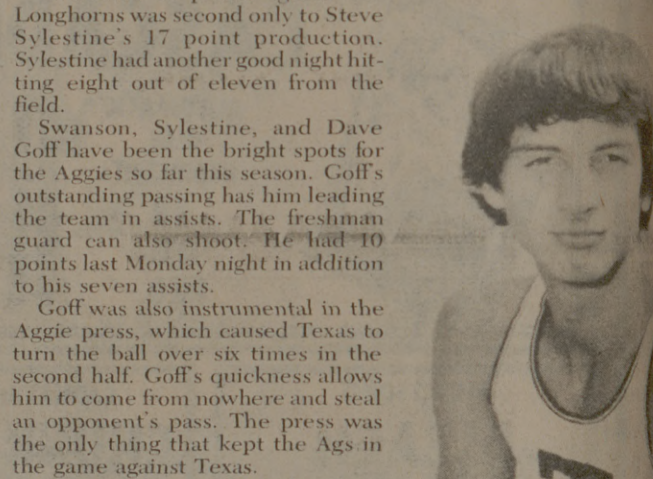
Defensive rebounds are a must for A&M if they are to have any chance of winning.

The turning point of the game was when we allowed get five offensive rebounds were in a zone defense.

If the Aggies allow the Bears to get second shots, then it will be a night in Waco that is not to be forgotten.



Dave Goff

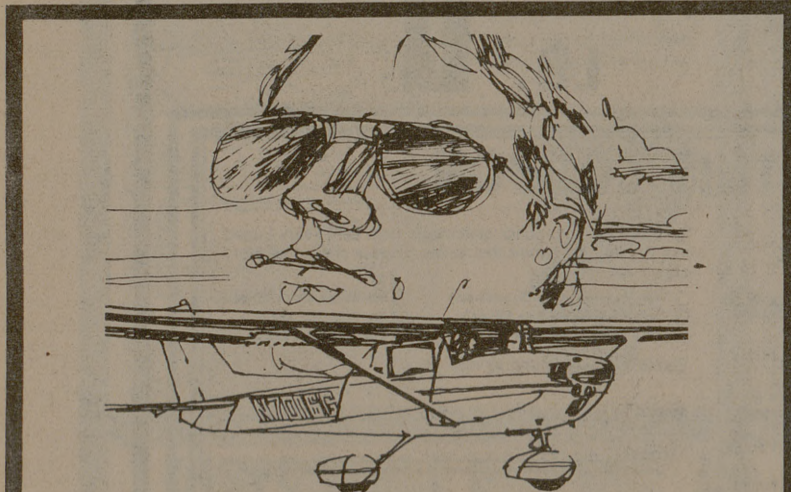


Steve Sylestine

Basketball poll

NEW YORK (UPI) — The United Press International Board of Coaches' college basketball ratings with won-lost records through games of Saturday, Jan. 8, and number of first place votes in parentheses:

Sixth Week	Record
1. San Francisco (31)	17-0
2. Cincinnati (1)	10-0
3. Kentucky (1)	9-1
4. Alabama (1)	12-0
5. North Carolina (1)	10-1
6. Michigan	9-1
7. Nevada-Las Vegas (1)	10-1
8. Wake Forest	11-1
9. Marquette	9-2
10. Arizona	11-1
11. Minnesota (1)	10-0
12. UCLA	11-2
13. Purdue	8-3
14. Louisville	9-2
15. Oregon	11-2
16. Arkansas	10-1
17. Tennessee	8-2
18. Providence	11-2
19. tie Holy Cross	
tie St. John's NY	



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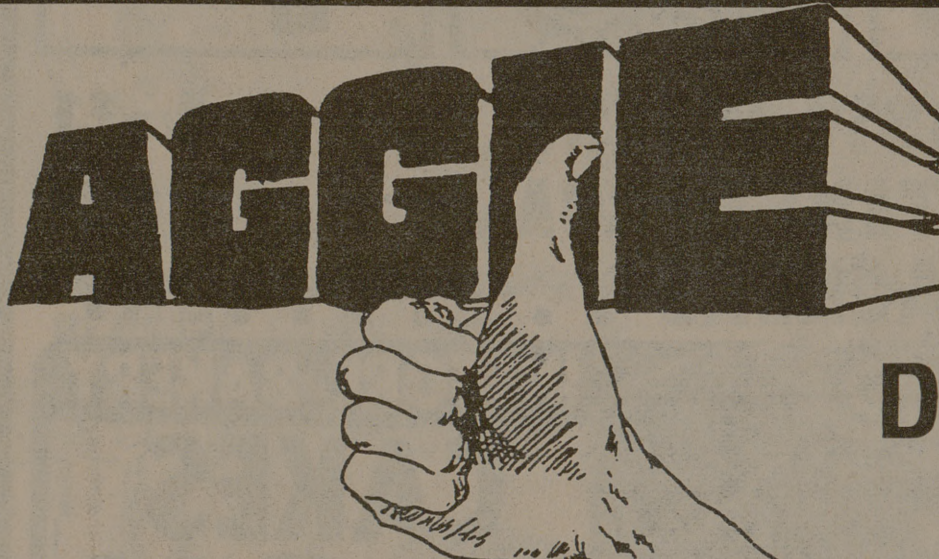
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