

Sports

Ags face Red Raiders tonight

By PAUL ARNETT
Battalion Sports Editor

Thoughts of Texas Tech have been dancing in the basketball players' minds ever since Steve Jones missed a desperation shot against SMU. The 22-foot jumper shot from the corner and hit the back of the basket allowing the Mustangs to salvage a 70-68 victory over the Aggies.

The Pony victory tightens the race for a fifth place finish. With this finish comes the home court advantage in the first round of the playoffs.

As of now, the Aggies are fourth

with a 7-5 record, the Longhorns are fifth with a 7-6 record and the Mustangs are sixth with a 7-7 record. Now, one can see why the game against Tech becomes so important.

The Red Raiders are currently in third place, a game and one-half ahead of the Aggies. A victory for Tech would virtually lock up third place for Gerald Meyer's crew, while a loss would place them in an eventual tie with the Aggies.

A&M lost to Texas Tech earlier this year. The final score was 66-64. The overtime victory came about when Grant Dukes sunk a 15-foot jump shot with four seconds remain-

ing in the game. The Ags had led throughout the contest, but blew a five point lead in less than two minutes. Inexperience cost the Aggies the ball game.

Inexperience in defending a great center also hurt the Ags chances. Mike Russel scored a career high 42 points against the Aggie defense. The junior from Red Raider land is averaging 21 points and 9.6 rebounds a game. Each figure is high in the conference chase for stardom and they make Russel a strong candidate for all-SWC honors.

Dukes is Texas Tech's second leading scorer behind Russel av-

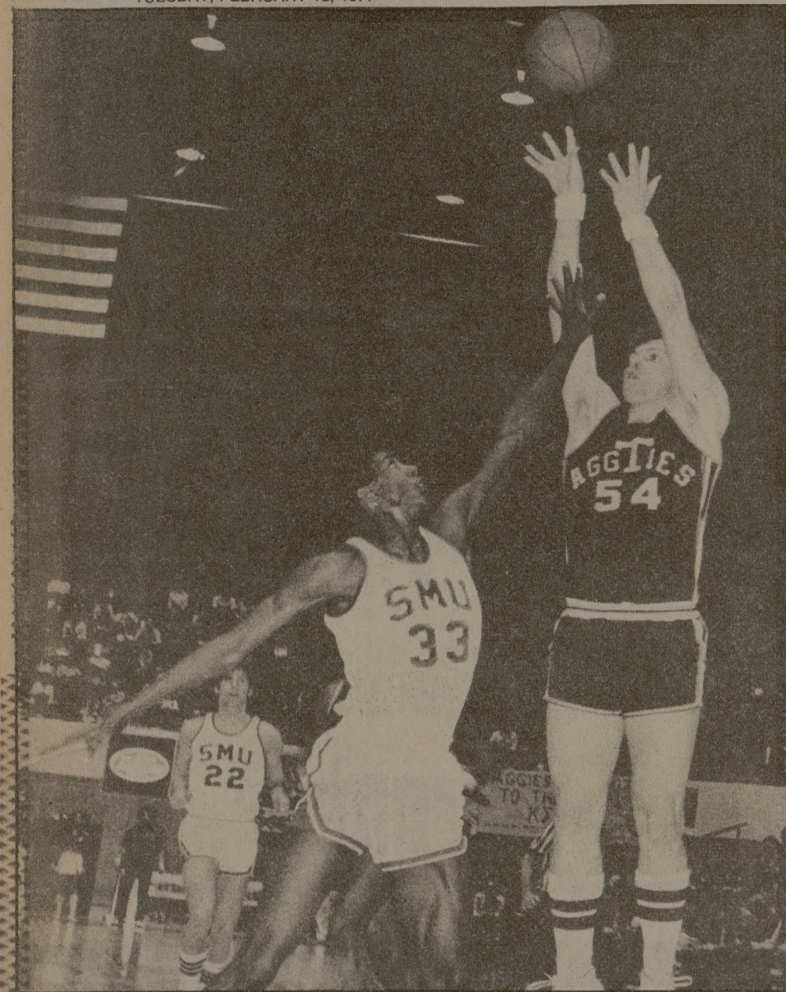
eraging 15 points a game. The senior forward is also second on the team in rebounding averaging 5.8 rebounds a game.

A&M must stop these two men, something they didn't do in their first outing. Doug Pederson will start against Russel, while Steve Jones will guard Dukes. These two men must play well if the Ags have any chance of winning.

Another key man for the Aggies is John Schlicher. The freshman from Ft. Worth is replacing the injured

Joey Robinson. Against the Mustangs Schlicher scored 11 points. Robinson twisted his ankle Thursday in practice, and will be back until the Houston game.

The Ags must play their game in order to defeat Tech. This is the first of three tough games the Houston or Arkansas game, which still remain. An Aggie victory would help them lock up a top slot. A loss would make that much more difficult.



Battalion photo by Jim Crawley

Wally Swanson (No. 54) shoots over the outstretched hand of SMU center T. J. Robinson. Swanson finished the night with 10 points and six rebounds. The Ags lost to the Mustangs 70-68.

Aggie golfers tie for fourth

The Texas A&M golf team tied for fourth place among 21 teams last weekend in the Pan American Invitational tournament in Monterrey, Mex.

The Aggie golfers finished a distant 44 strokes behind tournament winner Oklahoma State.

Last year's national champion, Oklahoma State, set a tournament record for the event this year with a three day total of 859. Their closest competitor was Brigham Young University, who finished 35 strokes behind with 894.

Next was the University of Houston at 897, followed by Texas A&M and Louisiana State University who tied at 903.

Other Southwest Conference teams competing in the tournament were the University of Texas, who finished at 904; Texas Tech, 932; and Baylor at 942.

A&M's Bobby Baker tied for fifth place in the tournament with a 220 total. Rusty Day finished with 223; Steve Whiteside, 225; Monte Schauer, 235; and Jerry Orevaugh, 244.

Coach Bob Ellis praised the team's effort along with admiring the play of Oklahoma State.

The Aggies begin qualifying this week for the Lamar Invitation to be held in Beaumont Feb. 27-March 1. —Wayne Nelson

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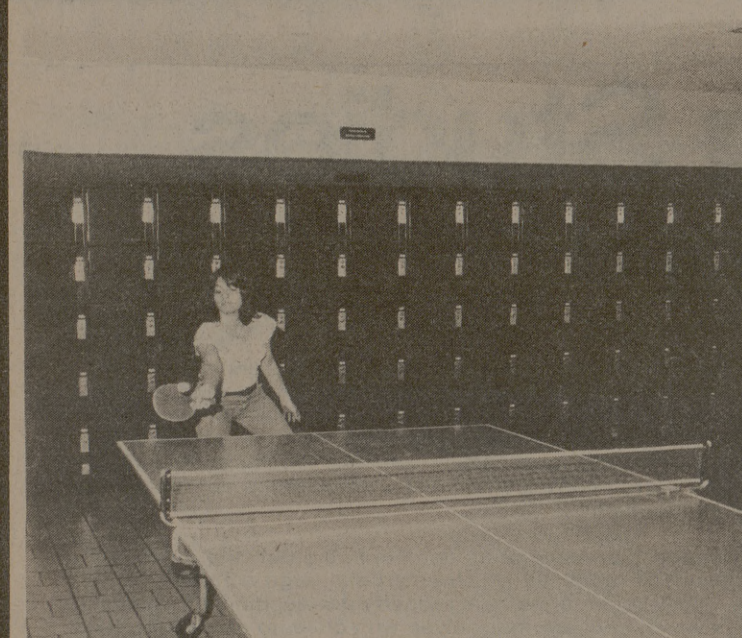


Table Tennis action gets started this week in the basement of the MSC. (Above) The annual IM Free Throw Contest was held last week in G. Rollie White. (Below) See story at right for results.

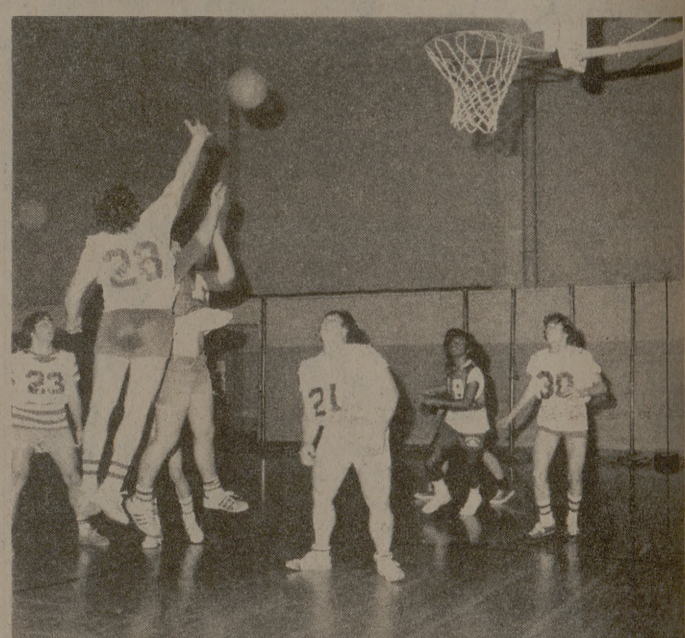


Many Winners In Free Throw Contest

John Hagens hit 19 free throws in a row to win the Mens' Individual division of the IM Free-throw Contest last week. The winner in the Women's Division was Beverly Baum with 18 free throws. There were 122 men and 17 women entered for a total of 139 participants. Each person attempted 20 free throws in a row on the main floor of G. Rollie White. . . Claude Hermann and Robert Pierce tied for second in the Mens' division, with 16 goals each. Ginger Killian took second

in the Women's Division with 16 while Billie James took third with 15. In the team competition, three person teams attempted 20 goals each with the total possible points in a team being 60. The Mens' team champions was Constant High, with a total of 46 points. This team was made up of David Norwood (15), Rick Taylor (16), and Todd Shipley (15). The Scrubs took second with 45 points. Abel Salizar (13), Leo Saenz (15), and Paul Easley (17) made up this

team. Third place was taken by the Dexter Jets with Dan Mohr (16), Tom Parrish (13), and Marty Self (15), for a total of 44 goals. In the women's Team Division, the Superstars took first with a total of 38 goals. They were Marie Bilsback (14), Ginger Killian (16), and Jane Blount (8). Us placed second with 35 points, with Tracie Chandler (4), Beverly Baum (18) and Susie Parker (13). The Red-necks, Peggy Till (12), Helen Seubar (6), and Teresa Sharp (8), took third with 26 goals. In the Co-Rec division, BSU took first with 49 points. They were Beverly Baum (18), Joe Bohlin (17), and James Long (14). Sq. 3 took second with Robert Locke (10), Billie James (15), and Bob Prescott (8) for a total of 33, while the Last Minutes with Jim Four (14), Ross Oliver (9), and Jan Swinnea (2) took third with 25 points.



IM Basketball action is still underway in G. Rollie White nightly with the finals rapidly approaching. At the same time, IM Handball Doubles is taking place in DeWare Fieldhouse

Wrestling, Fast Pitch Now Open

Entries for Wrestling and Fast Pitch Softball open today and will close next Tuesday, February 22 at 5 p.m. at the IM Office.

Weigh-ins for wrestling will be held on Tuesday, February 22 from 4:30 to 7:30 p.m. Entries will be taken at this time only and teams must weigh-in as a group. The upper-limits of the weight classes are: 118, 126, 134, 150, 158, 167, 177, 191, and unlimited. Matches in the single elimination tournament will be 3-one minute

bouts under NCAA rules. No one who has wrestled within the past year for the TAMU Wrestling team may enter IM competition and anyone who has won his weight class in his division in IM competition must wrestle in class A.

Fast Pitch Softball will be played under ASA rules with a single elimination tournament. Entrants can check with the IM Office for rules and dates of tournament.

Refs' Box

Softball Officials will meet at 7 or 8 p.m. in room 267, G. Rollie White on Tuesday, February 22. Basketball Officials will meet Thursday, February 17 and 24 at 7 a.m. at the IM Office or 7 or 8 p.m. in room 267, G. Rollie White.

This ad is sponsored by McDonalds on University Drive and is prepared by the Intramural Office, DeWare Fieldhouse. Photos and stories by Paul "Poogie" Nettell.

