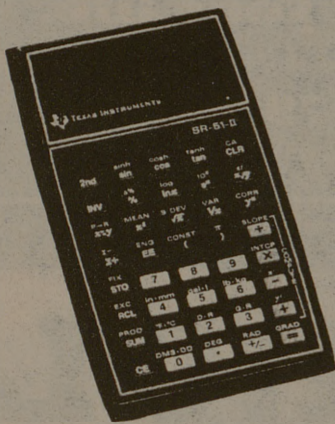
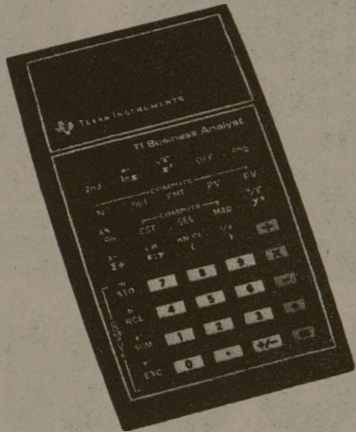


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## Sports

# Ags anxious to play Coogs

By PAUL ARNETT  
Battalion Sports Editor  
Turkey and dressing had barely been packed away, Bellard's Bunch had just finished defeating Texas for a second straight year and thoughts of final exams were on the minds of

many students, when Shelby Metcalf first led his kindergarten basketball team onto the court of C. Rollie White.

That November night about 500 people witnessed the beginning of what was to be the most surprising season for coach Metcalf since coming to Texas A&M. After watching the youngins' defeat members of past A&M teams in an intra-squad game, not many of those fans entertained any thoughts of being in the Southwest Conference (SWC) Tournament in March.

But they are. This Thursday night at 7 p.m. the Aggies will play the Houston Cougars. It has been a game A&M has looked forward to since losing to the Coogs 116-83.

"We want to play Houston," Wally Swanson said after Saturday's game with SMU, "and show them what kind of team we really are."

Senior Steve Jones had his own thoughts upon the subject.

"We got something to show them," Jones said. "We'll be ready for those guys this time."

A&M earned the right to face the Cougars by defeating SMU 89-79. Using a grand display of offensive shooting, coupled with a strong defensive showing, the Aggies led from the start and were never seriously threatened.

"A&M was just too tough today," Mustang coach Sonny Allen said. "They shot the eyes out of the basket and were aggressive on defense. We made some mistakes in some key moments and were never able to make a run at them."

The Aggies shot 57 per cent from the field. This is the best shooting percentage for A&M this year.

Swanson collected 26 points and nine rebounds in leading the Ags to victory. Jones had 24 points for his afternoon's work.

"We knew we'd win if we played as well as we did against Arkansas," Jones said. "Even when they made a run at us we were never worried. Now we're in the tournament. That's something I've believed we could do since the beginning of the season."

Dave Goff also had a good game for the Aggies, scoring 14 points. The freshman guard has had a long season, with the Mustang game being the first one he has not started.

"David had a good game for us," coach Metcalf said. "We have tried to rest him these past few games and I think it showed this afternoon."

Goff has had his best games of the season against the Mustangs.

"I like to play everybody," Goff said. "My legs felt real good today. Things really opened up when they tried to play us man-on-man. They just didn't know how."

The Aggies will need a good game

from Goff if they want to defeat Cougars. The guard play was a factor in the Aggies defeating Mustangs so easily.

Swanson will need to go to the hoop as often as he did against SMU. The center from Illinois has 18 times against the Mustangs.

Swanson also will need to play great defensively. He held Roberson, the Mustangs' leading scorer, to just three points. The aggressive style of defense will have to be employed Thursday night as Texas A&M enters the court of the Summit in Houston.

They've come a long way since that November night.

## 36,000 walrus seen in Arctic

MOSCOW (UPI) — Soviet biologists say they have discovered the world's most densely populated rookery of walrus in the Arctic Ocean, the Tass news agency said. Tass said aerial photographs of Vrangal Island near Cape Elizabeth showed more than 36,000 walrus, a surprise to scientists who had believed no more than 50,000 existed in the entire Pacific sector of the Arctic.

Vrangal Island is in Soviet territory.

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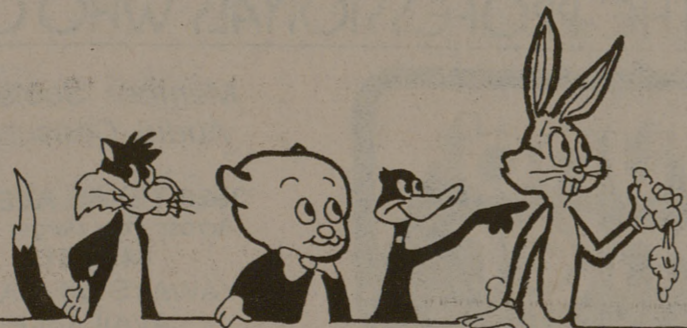
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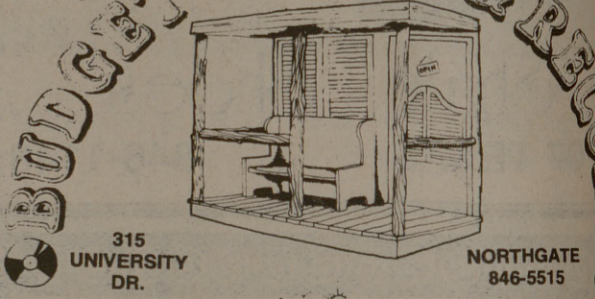
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