

sports

# Aggies host the Cajuns

By MARK PATTERSON  
Battalion Staff  
After rolling past Angelo St. 86-67 Monday night, the Texas Aggie basketball team returns to the court tonight to play the Ragin Cajuns of Southwest Louisiana.  
The same two teams met last year in Southwest Louisiana's tournament. In that contest the Aggies were soundly defeated 81-72. And the loss is still on coach Shelby Metcalf's mind.  
"I can remember when we played them last year in their tournament, they beat us by a bundle," said Metcalf. "They beat us with good shooting and great quickness. And they even better this year."  
In the first half of Monday's game

the Aggies shot a putrid 32 percent from the field. Yet their defense enabled them to hold a 37-34 lead at the half.  
A team effort in the second half enabled the Aggies to pull away with a victory. The same kind of team effort is what Metcalf is looking for tonight.  
"We'll have to play better ball than we did Monday to beat Southwest Louisiana," said Metcalf. "We have to put two solid halves together if we hope to win."  
Understandably, the Aggies weren't at mid-season form in their first game of the new season. But coach Metcalf liked what he saw against Angelo State.  
"We showed great effort and intensity in our play Monday," said Metcalf. "But we do have some things we need to improve on. Our shot selection was poor and we need to block out more on rebounds."  
"But I think we're right on schedule with our performance in our first game."

"As far as the win goes, I think our zone press in the second half won the game for us. We forced some turnovers and capitalized on them."  
The Aggies used 10 men in the victory Monday night and the shuffling of players will continue against Southwest Louisiana tonight.  
"We have seven or eight hopefuls on our bench that we're looking at for our lineup at this point," said assistant coach Norman Reuther. "With the aggressive way we play, we have to keep fresh players on the floor."  
"But we don't play a certain number of players in a game. We put our people in the game according to the situation on the floor. And right now we're trying to take a look at everybody we have."

The players on the Aggie team play an exciting brand of basketball. Mixing a full-court press and tight defense with slam dunks and sharp shooting, A&M hopes to avenge last year's loss to the Ragin Cajuns.  
Game time is 7:30 p.m.

## Oilers print play-off tickets

United Press International  
HOUSTON — The NFL league office has authorized the Houston Oilers to print play-off tickets despite the club holding only the slimmest of chances of earning a play-off berth.  
A club spokesman said applications for play-off tickets to games on Saturday, Dec. 24 and Sunday, Jan. 1, were mailed to season ticket holders. Those applications had to be returned by Dec. 9.  
A possible public sale of play-off tickets would not begin until the season ticket holders' requests are filled, the spokesman said.  
The league, by authorizing the Oilers to print tickets, apparently had no insight as to Houston's chances. The other three teams in the top-heavy AFC Central Division were also given the authorization.  
Houston, 6-5, needs victories in its last three games and two Pittsburgh losses in the last three weeks to represent the division in the play-offs.

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