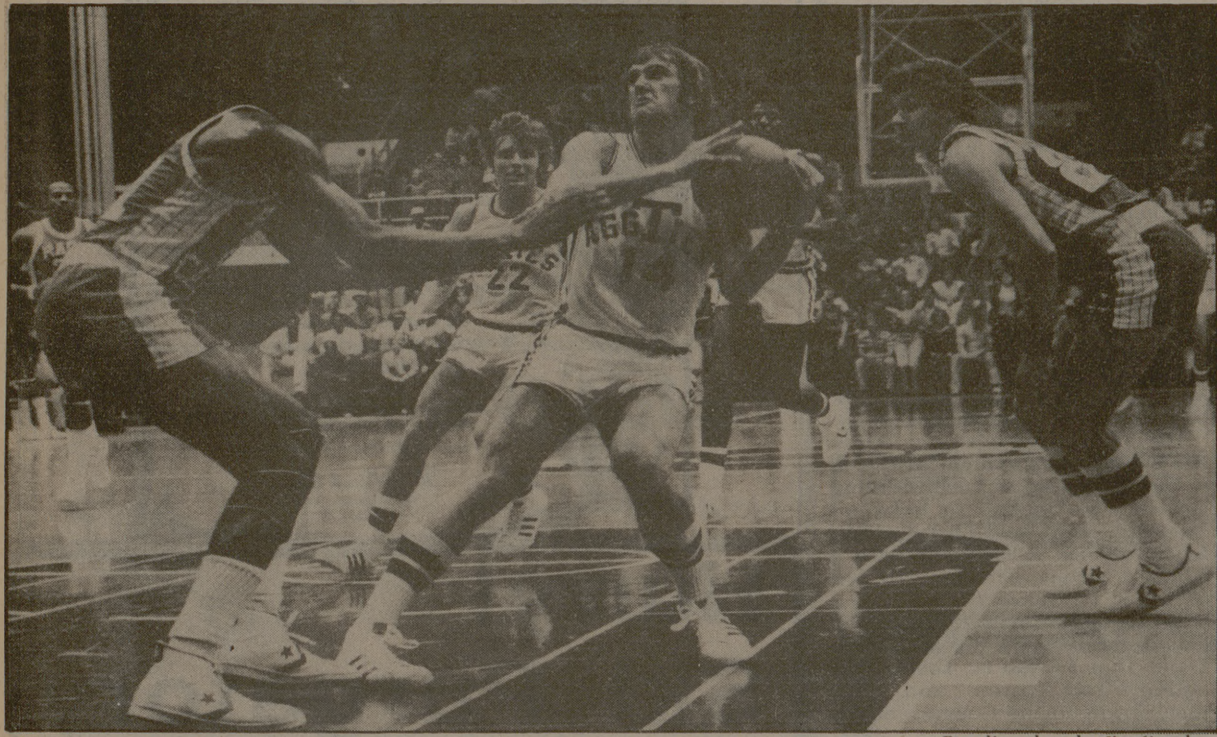


# Aggies defeat Cajuns in a thriller 81-79



Texas A&M guard John Schlicher (No. 14) drives in for two points against Southwestern Louisiana's defense. A&M came from behind to defeat the Ragin Cajuns 81-79.

By PAUL ARNETT  
Battalion Sports Editor

It was 79-79 with 30 seconds left on the clock. Southwestern Louisiana had just turned the ball over to Texas A&M when Ragin Cajun guard Andrew Toney went into backcourt.

The Aggies moved the ball around for 15 seconds, then called timeout to plan their strategy. In a matter of 13 seconds freshman Vernon Smith took a shot and missed, Jarvis Williams took a shot and missed and Smith was fouled while attempting still another shot.

The freshman from Dallas Carter, with a calm confident smile, made each shot like he would in practice. The score was 81-79 with two seconds remaining in the game.

Southwestern Louisiana, after calling timeout, threw the ball the length of the court. Dave Goff tipped the desperation pass and the ball fell to the floor. Cajun forward Pascal Mitchell picked the ball up and heaved it towards the basket. The shot went in, but the officials said that there was no time left on the clock.

"The official just didn't have the guts to say that the shot was good,"

Cajun coach Jim Hatfield said, "That kind of shot will always go against you when you're on the road. The Aggies know it was good and I know Shelby knows that it was good."

But Metcalf saw it another way. "He's wrong," Metcalf said. "The ball was still in his hands when the buzzer sounded. There is no way that a guy can pick up a tipped pass, dribble it once and then shoot it in just two seconds. We were already celebrating the victory on the bench when the shot went in."

The man celebrating the most was Smith. The big forward had 33 points and 12 rebounds, leading the Ags in both categories.

"I was really relaxed," Smith said about his last-second heroics. "I was confident that the shots would go in."

This game was a lot easier for me than the first one. This has to be one of the biggest thrills of my career."

Smith had the chance to be the hero because the Aggies played a strong second half. They worked the ball down close inside taking advantage of the smaller Cajun team.

"Our shot selection was poor in the first half," Metcalf said. "We shot from everywhere on the court. The press got us back in the ball game in the second half. It was a good effort for our guys."

In the first half A&M played poor defensively and even poorer offensively. The Cajuns, led by Toney and Cordy Glenn, led at the half 46-37. But the second half was all A&M's.

"It was a grudge match," captain Willie Foreman said. "They beat us bad down in Louisiana, so we wanted

to get back at them." Foreman was second in scoring and in rebounds. The forward scored 14 points and grabbed six rebounds.

"They had a pretty good penetrating guard," Foreman said. "That Toney was a penetrating guard."

Andrew Toney for the Cajuns scored 29 points, hitting 10 for 16 from the field. The sophomore from France was an all-American last year.

"He's a great player," Metcalf said. "He is the man responsible for their success. I doubt that we would have had the nation's best winning streak without him."

The Ags next game is this Saturday night at 7:30 in G. Rollie White Coliseum. A&M will play Houston Baptist, a team they defeated twice last year.

## Aggie Ladies defeat other Aggie ladies 75-46

By DAVID BOGGAN  
Battalion Staff

The Aggie Ladies basketball team had little trouble defeating Prairie View A&M last night in G. Rollie White Coliseum. The final score was 75-46, as the Aggies beat Prairie View for the second time this season.

While Aggie coach Wanda Bender was pleased with the victory, she said that her team did not play up to their full capability.

"I wasn't really pleased with our performance," Bender said. "We missed easy shots and we played relaxed on defense."

Bender said that the Aggies were able to get the ball in the lane effectively, enabling them to make 45 percent of their shots.

"We work hard to get inside the lane," the Aggie coach said. "I don't enjoy watching a game where the players can't move the ball inside."

Only four players in the game scored in double figures. For the

Aggie Ladies, junior Cindy Gough had 17 points and junior Margaret Byrne had 12 points. For Prairie View, Mary Gray had 17 points and Debra Gardner had 11 points.

Bender said that points scored by an individual player says nothing of the total performance of that player. It is with this in mind that she has employed a rating system of pluses and minuses that reward players on their overall contribution to the game.

In Bender's system, players are awarded points for field goals and free throws made, rebounds, assists, turn-overs forced, charging fouls forced and jump balls won. Points are deducted from missed field goals and free throws, turn-overs, uncovered shots and fouls. The final number that comes out of these calculations is the player's "game score."

When all was said and done last night, sophomore Von Bunn had the highest game score, +28, making

her the First Lady of the game. "The First Lady award adds incentive," Bender said, "and it's like this lets the players know they need to improve in order to contribute to the team."

Saturday the Aggie Ladies played tough Stephen F. Austin in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

"Stephen F. Austin has probably the second strongest team in state," Bender said. "They have excellent outside shooters."

"We can't run man-for-man with them. We will have to be able to shift in our zone quickly or they eat us alive on the outside shot."

Bender added that SEA should be a good test for the Aggies. "We will find out where we are in the game of basketball," Aggie coach said. "We intend to play Stephen F. Austin in the game they've had all year."

Tip-off (yes, they still use tip-off in women's basketball) is at 8 Saturday afternoon.

## Reed has tough shoes to fill

By D.D. CRUBBS

Exactly one year ago, Texas A&M was preparing to play the University of Texas in an important SWC contest. The Aggies were to be without their all-America middle linebacker Robert Jackson, who was sidelined with a leg injury. In his place was Roderick Reed, a 19-year old sophomore who had played sparingly to that point in the season.

In his first collegiate start, Reed played a key role in A&M's 27-3 defeat of the Longhorns last year in Austin. The Aldine Carver product was in on eight tackles, and recovered two fumbles, one of which he caused himself while sacking the UT quarterback for a seven-yard loss.

With eight defensive starters, in-

cluding Robert Jackson, playing out their eligibility, it became apparent that the Ags were going to be heavily dependant on young players like Reed for the 1977 campaign. Scholastic deficiencies, however, forced Reed to drop out of A&M for the spring semester of '76. He spent that semester and part of the summer at North Harris Junior College in Houston and regained his academic standing and was back at A&M when pre-season drills began in August.

Reed had missed spring training and admits it was difficult getting back in the groove. "I had some trouble getting used to playing with the other guys at first. My timing was off and my reactions were a lit-

tle slow. But after the first three or four games, it all began coming back and I feel like I'm playing at my best now."

Reed was in on 29 tackles last year and earned his first varsity letter. During two-a-days last August, the 6-2, 223-pound junior was one of the 17 players vying for a starting role at linebacker. "I knew I just couldn't walk in and become a starter. The other two middle linebackers, Dick Frazze and Frankie Lemons, were doing a good job and I had to work for a starting position."

Reed has now established himself as the starting middle linebacker this season, especially in the light of his performance against Arkansas two

weeks ago when he was in on 18 tackles. Linebacker coach John Paul Young says Reed has improved steadily this season and had by far the best game of his career against the Razorbacks.

"Roderick is big and strong and can cover a lot of ground. He's much more disciplined this year and is playing a lot better technique. He did a good job filling in for Jackson last season and is now getting better each week."

Eleven months ago the future was uncertain for Roderick Reed. But since, he has worked his way back into school and into a starting position in the Aggie defense. Making 160 tackles is his goal for this season.

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