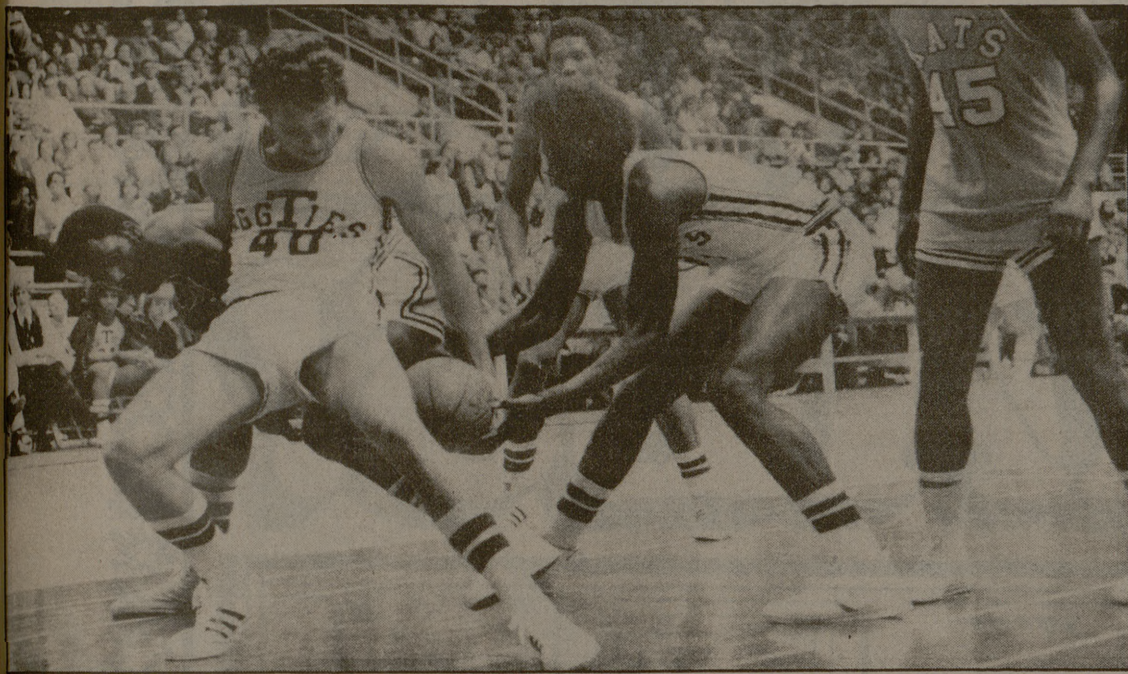


Aggies romp past Bearkats, 95-73



Joey Robinson (No. 40) and Vernon Smith (No. 31) fight for a rebound in last night's game against Sam Houston. The Texas Aggies improved their season record to 4-0 by defeating the Bearkats 95-73.

Battalion staff photo by Jim Crowley

By PAUL ARNETT
Battalion Sports Editor

The Texas Aggie basketball team has had a problem motivating itself in the opening moments of a ball game this year. Last night against Sam Houston State was no exception.

With 10 minutes remaining in the first half the Ags had scored only eight points. By the end of the game Metcalf's men had 95 points and had defeated the Bearkats 95-73.

"I told our guys before the game that we wanted to get the first 10 minutes on film," coach Shelby Metcalf said. "In that span of time I wanted us to play a zone defense. Well we played real good defensively, but the zone slowed our offense down.

"After the 10 minutes were up, we switched back to man on man and you saw the results. I actually was to blame for the slow start, but we wanted to see our guys play the zone against them."

The Aggies trailed Sam Houston 12-10 with 9:47 remaining in the half. But at intermission the Aggies led the Bearkats 45-33.

"It was a good effort for our guys," Metcalf said. "Willie has really im-

proved since the beginning of the season. If your seniors are improving, then you know that the rest of the squad is improving as well."

Foreman finished second in scoring for the Aggies with 17 points. The senior from Houston electrified the crowd when he stole a Bearkat pass and drove down court for a slam dunk two-point play.

"It definitely gets me excited when I hear the crowd cheering for my shots," Foreman said. "I had to get one tonight and when the opportunity lent itself, I took it."

Foreman, the captain of the Aggies this year, played his best game of the young season.

"I had a lot more concentration tonight," Foreman said. "We have to get ready for Oral Roberts this weekend. I think we can play them a good game."

Another man who had a good game for the Aggies was Jarvis Williams. Williams was A&M's leading scorer with 18 points.

"I just did the same as usual," Williams said. "As time goes by my shots are starting to fall. I think I'm coming along just fine."

Coach Metcalf agreed with

Williams' progress.

"Jarvis played really hard tonight," Metcalf said. "He still is forcing some shots, but he makes up for it on defense. He really hustled tonight."

Williams' counterpart, Karl Godine, played for the first time in three games. Godine has had an ankle injury and it didn't appear to be much better last night.

"My ankle is a little better," Godine said. "I still can't make any cuts on it, but I really don't think the lay-off will hurt me."

Oh, the lay-off is got to hurt him," Metcalf countered. "With Karl the problem is compounded since he hasn't played that much. I don't think that he will be able to help us against Oral Roberts. His ankle seemed to still be bothering him tonight."

The undefeated Aggies don't return to G. Rollie White until early January. The first stop on the road trip is Tulsa, Okla., and Oral Roberts University.

"They have a real good ball club," Metcalf said. "They beat West Texas State the other night by 17 points."

We know that we are going to have to play our best game of the season against them.

"After we play them we have two tough tournaments. In the next six games, I'm sure we'll be the underdogs. These first four games of the season has helped prepare us for this part of our schedule. We've played a lot of guys and I think that we are ready."

One of these men who has seen a good deal of action is Wally Swanson. Swanson appeared to be playing up to his capabilities against Sam Houston. The junior from Illinois had 12 points on the evening.

"I was looking to score at the end of the ball game," Swanson said. "I am finally getting confidence in my jump shot."

Swanson, Foreman and Joey Robinson will all be key men for the Aggies this next month. Their team leadership should help the younger players in the next six games.

The season really begins this weekend in Tulsa. As Metcalf so aptly puts it, "We're going to find out just how good we are over the next four weeks."

Women defeat Sam Houston 63-54

By DAVID BOGGAN
Battalion Staff

In their last home game before the holidays, the Aggie Ladies defeated Sam Houston state 63-54. Leading by a score of 29-18 at

A&M rugby team defeats state champs

By GERARD A. O'DONOVAN

The Texas A&M Rugby Club had its finest performance of the season downing the Houston Old Boys 16-0. From the opening whistle the Old Boys, Texas state champions, were outclassed by a fired-up Aggie

Jeffrey made it 12-0 with the conversion.

Rutledge came right back beating three defenders and going over near the left corner flag. The Aggies led 16-0 at halftime having played into the wind for the opening 40 minutes.

"They had really scouted us well," Aggie coach Wanda Bender said after the game. "They knew what kind of offense we had run in our earlier games."

The Bearkats effectively defended one of the Aggie's favorite plays. The base line shot, in which the ball is fed inside, usually to either 5-foot-11 freshman Julia Crawford or 6-foot sophomore Pat Werner, was almost stopped cold by the SHS defense.

The Aggie Ladies had to rely on outside shooting to compensate for the inside shots they were having trouble making.

"We hit fairly good from the outside," Bender said. "That's one thing we had to do because they can't defend both the inside and the outside."

"We weren't able to run our 1-4

offense either. So, we used a 2-3 offense that enabled us to get ahead. We had just started practicing that offense yesterday. We hope to get it running better in the future."

The Aggie Ladies had two players in double figures at the end of the game: Margaret Byrne with 14 points and Cindy Gough with 13. Sam Houston's Bobbie Bruton led the Bearkats scoring with 16 points.

After eight games, the Aggie Ladies have a 7-1 record, losing only to a tough Stephen F. Austin team. Bender said her team still has problems it must overcome.

"On offense, we've got to learn to pass the ball quicker," the Aggie coach said. "We've got to move the ball faster than the other team can shift their zone."

"Our post girls missed passes to-

night and we fumbled the ball a lot. That was our main weakness tonight."

Bender said the Aggies played a good defensive game against SHS.

"Our defense looked a little better than they have previously, they covered better," she said. "They've got to learn to talk more on defense, to help each other."

The First Lady in the Sam Houston game was sophomore Von Bunn. Her game score was +11, based on a rating system of best floor performance.

The Aggie Ladies now begin a long road tour, starting this Friday at Tyler Junior College.

"Tyler has an excellent team," Bender said. "They have the best freshman in the state, a blue-chipper named Bonnie Buchanan."

Jeffrey started things off in the second period with a 23-yard penalty goal to make it 19-0. Quickly the Aggies attacked again. Belew found Jeffrey on the move at mid-field, Jeffrey threw a pass to winger Billy Tigner who raced towards the end zone. Robert Moorman cleverly followed up the play and when Tigner was tackled near the goal line Moorman was there to gingerly touch down the ball for a try near the left corner flag. The conversion was wide and the Ags led 23-0.

Houston won its first set scrum of the second half but before the Old Boys' scrum half could pass off, he was tackled by the fearless Belew.

Bolen found forward John Patrick near the right sideline. Patrick twice interchanged with Belew and Tigner before diving over near the flag. The conversion was straight but short and A&M's lead was 27-0.

Houston finally managed to get some movement from the backs and scored on a breakaway, but Tigner caught their inside center from behind at the 15-yard line and the shutout was preserved.

The Aggies final score was a gem. Tigner, helping out on defense, picked up a loose ball at his own 15-yard line. He kicked ahead beyond midfield, chased the ball to the Old Boys' forty, dribbled it along the ground towards the left corner flag before touching it down for a masterful try. Tigner, had travelled 85 yards untouched as he outran everyone to make it 31-0.

With that score A&M closed out an 11-2 season. The White squad led the Central Division, being undefeated and untied. They will compete for the Texas State Championships in the spring when the North, Central and South Counties vie for the Texas title.

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