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sports

Now the year begins

By PAUL ARNETT
Battalion Sports Editor

The Texas A&M basketball team will find out just how good they are this weekend. They play Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Okla. "They are good... real good," coach Shelby Metcalf said. "You know if they can beat West Texas State by 17 points, then they are a team to be reckoned with. We know that we are going to have to play our best game of the season to beat them."

The Aggies raised their record to 4-0 Tuesday night, defeating Sam Houston State 95-73. Metcalf is hopeful his team will be 5-0 after the ORU contest.

"We think that we have a good ball club right now," Metcalf said. "Our progress as a team has been

real good. The kids have put a lot of effort into each and every game.

"These first four games allowed us to get a good look at everybody. Now we are ready to find out just how good we are."

Senior and captain Willie Foreman had his best game of the season against Sam Houston State. He said that it was a tune-up game for Oral Roberts.

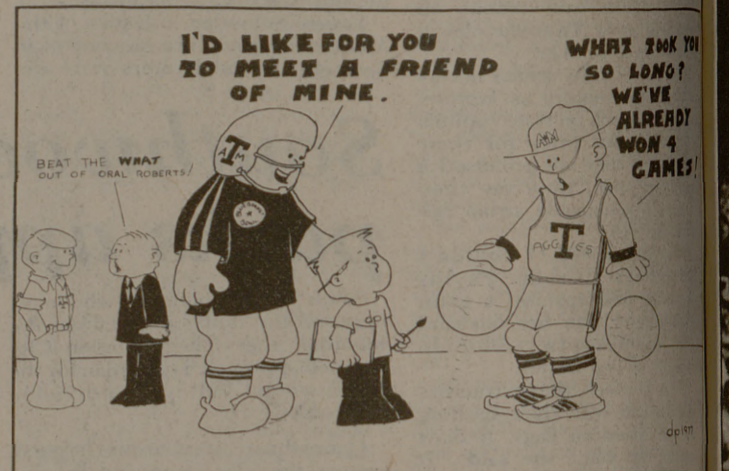
"I had a lot more concentration against Sam Houston," Foreman said. "We have to get ready for Oral Roberts. We know that they are going to be tough, but I think that we will be ready for them."

For the Aggies to do well in Tulsa, Foreman will have to play his best.

"Willie has been progressing right along," Metcalf said. "It makes a coach feel good to see his seniors progressing because he knows that his younger players are progressing as well."

Vernon Smith is one of those younger players who is progressing very well. The freshman from Dallas is the Ags' leading scorer. He is averaging just over 17 points a game.

"If Vernon keeps his good attitude then he will keep helping us," Metcalf said. "Right now he just wants to play good basketball.



And he is sure doing that."

The ORU game is the first of six road games for the Aggies. The Aggies won't return to G. Rollie White until mid-January.

"I'm sure that we will be the

underdogs in these next games," Metcalf said. "But we might surprise some of those fans that are picked to beat us. We're just going to take them one at a time."

North Texas State beats West Texas State

United Press International
DENTON, Texas — Fred Mitchell scored 23 points to lead the North Texas Eagles to a 100-85 victory over the West Texas State Buffaloes Thursday night.

West Texas fought a see-saw battle and led 48-44 at the half. But North Texas broke the game open in the second half.

the last three minutes, scoring 17 points in the last 2 1/2 minutes.

Maurice Cheeks led the Buffaloes in scoring with 24 points. They rebounder for West Texas was Fred Addison with 12. Jon Manning scored 20 points for the Eagles and Ted Williams led with rebounds of 17.

North Texas State is now 4-1. West Texas is 2-3.

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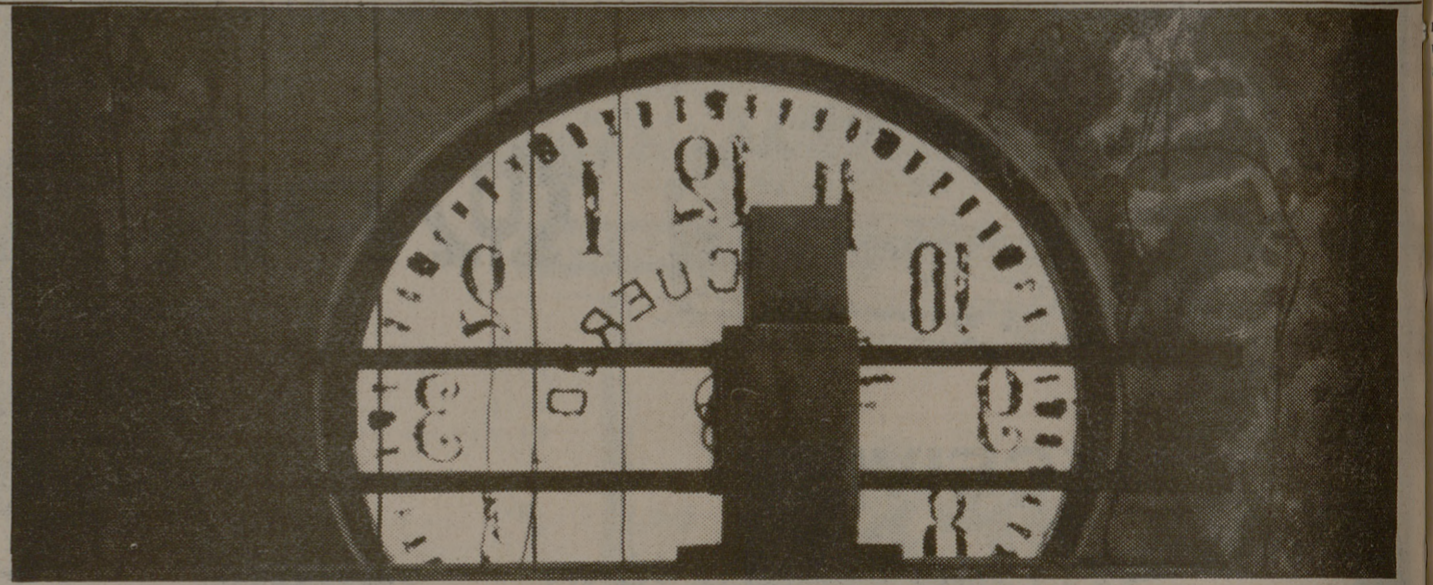


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