

Aggie notes . . .

Texas A&M goes after its first Southwest Conference victory Thursday when the tough Houston Cougars come to G. Rollie White Coliseum for a 7:30 p.m. game. The Aggies are 7-4 for the season and 0-1 in the SWC play after losing their opener at Baylor 77-61. Houston has carried a 10-3 season mark and an overall league record into Tuesday night's game against Texas.

A&M coach Shelby Metcalf didn't see much good in the loss to Baylor. "I'm disappointed," Metcalf said after the game. "I didn't realize we were this far behind. It is going to be a tough catching up. We may have to go with fewer players and just get past down in the trenches. We worked hard for this game, and I feel like we were ready to play, but some of the players just forgot what we'd worked on. The veterans made as many mistakes as anybody. Houston is a real critical game for us. I'm interested in seeing how we'll do Thursday. There are still 15 games to go, and it is going to be exciting. I think it was exciting for the wrong people."

The Aggies committed a season high 26 turnovers against Baylor and had only one of eight free throw attempts. Baylor, meanwhile, hit 23 of 35 free throws to account for its margin of victory. Metcalf will not decide on a starting lineup until gametime Thursday. Following the Houston game, A&M's first home appearance since Dec. 6, the Aggies host SMU Saturday at 7:30 p.m.

Both home games will feature special halftime shows. A&M Consolidated's Bengal Belles will perform at the Houston game, and the Bryan's Shy Annes will display their talents at the SMU game. A&M's students do not return to classes until Monday, so there should be plenty of good seats available for both games.

The Texas A&M Aggie ladies will host the Houston Cougars at 5 p.m., Thursday. The Aggie ladies are 9-5 for the season while Houston is 6-5.

Coach Wanda Bender's squad found out about life on the road during a five-game swing through Kansas and Oklahoma. A&M lost to Oklahoma State 88-57 in a single game, then won the consolation title in the Wichita State Tournament in Wichita, Kans., losing to Nebraska-Omaha 50-48, and beating Friends University 97-39 and Wichita State 72-45. A&M lost to Phillips, the No. 2 small college in the nation, 69-60.

In the five games, A&M was called for 122 fouls to only 78 for the opposition. In the Nebraska-Omaha game, A&M did not shoot a free throw.

Following the Houston game, A&M visits nationally-ranked Stephen F. Austin in Nacogdoches on 17.

Texas A&M's football awards program, which will include a sound-film color highlights movie of the 1977 season, is scheduled for Saturday night, Feb. 4.

At the 7:30 p.m. program in the Adder Center Auditorium, coach Jimmy Bellard will present the 1977 term and squadmen and will announce the winner of the coveted Aggie Heart Award. The program is free and open to the public.

The Texas Aggies will be among four teams that will compete in the

LSU indoor track meet at Baton Rouge, La., Saturday, Jan. 21. The other three teams will be host LSU, Houston and Alabama.

Championships in Fort Worth Feb. 17. The Texas A&M women's gymnastics team will host a clinic for youngsters 5-17 years of age Saturday, Jan. 14, in G. Rollie White Coliseum. Registration in advance is \$4 with a cost of \$5 at the door Saturday.

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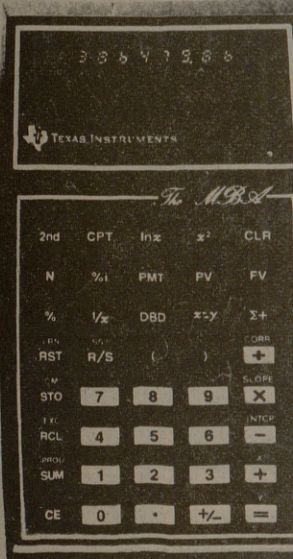
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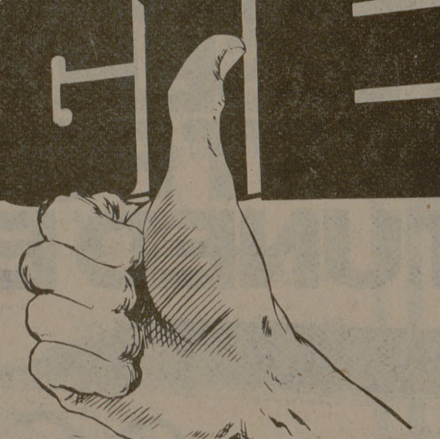
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