

sports

Ags defeat Bobcats 82-61, coach blasts yell leaders

By DAVID BOGGAN
Battalion Staff

The Aggie Ladies' basketball game last night could not be considered a warm up game before the men's game because the men had the night off. In their 82-61 victory over Southwest Texas State University, the Aggie Ladies were the main event of the evening.

Aggie coach Wanda Bender will be the first to admit that the crowd that filled the gymnasium during the second half of her game is there primarily to see the men's game. She said she was extremely happy to see approximately 200 people at her game last night.

"I was afraid that only my hus-

band and a few people from Snook would show up," the Aggie coach said, "but I was very pleased to see that many people here. I realize that if we expect to gain the support of the school and the community we're going to have to win.

One thing that upset Bender was the fact that there were no yell leaders present at the game.

"I guess the yell leaders just don't feel that we're a part of the esprit de corps," she said, quickly adding that she appreciated the three students who led yells and the crowd's participation.

Contacted after the game, head yell leader Joe Reagan said that he was aware of the game, but that all the yell leaders were occupied with school work.

The Aggie's pre-game warm up is almost as entertaining as the game itself. To the tune of "Sweet Georgia Brown," the Ladies perform Globetrotter-like feats with the basketball, much to the fans' delight.

"My philosophy is this," Bender

said, "Most of the time it looks good and it gets the players loose. It is also a psychological thing. I've seen other teams stand there and watch us instead of warming up themselves."

A&M and SWT played a nip-and-tuck game until the five-minute mark in the first half. At that point the Aggies took command and went into the locker room at halftime with a nine-point lead.

"We just made simple mistakes," SWT coach Dana Craft said of the Bobcat's downfall. "Our girls got rattled and we never hit a basket again that half."

SWT could not correct its mistakes in the second half and the Aggies increased their lead on the strength of their rebounding.

"They definitely out-rebounded us," Craft said. "A&M's low posts did good jobs both offensively and defensively on rebounding. When they allow us only one shot you know they are doing a good rebounding job."

Coach Bender said that she has been stressing rebounding in her practices.

"We've worked on rebounding and jerking the ball so that the opponent won't tie it up," she said.

Pat Werner led the Aggies with nine rebounds. She was also the leading scorer with 22 points. Other Aggies in double figures included Von Bunn, 14; Sheree Christian, 12 and Cindy Gough, 10.

"We didn't expect Southwest to use their full court press as much as they did," Bender said. "Their press and their zone gave us the most trouble."

Susan Kimbro did not suit up for the Aggies last night. She sprained an ankle in Wednesday's practice and probably will not play against Texas Tech.

"We are greatly weakened without Susan," Bender said. "She is our leading rebounder. She should be ready for the Texas game."

The Aggie Ladies play Texas Tech in Lubbock Saturday with tip-off scheduled for 5:00 p.m.

Come early for Texas

The Texas Aggie basketball team plays Texas next Monday night at 7:30 p.m. in C. Rollie White Coliseum. Officials said that the doors for students will open at 5.


The women's team will play the University of Texas women's team at 5:15 p.m.

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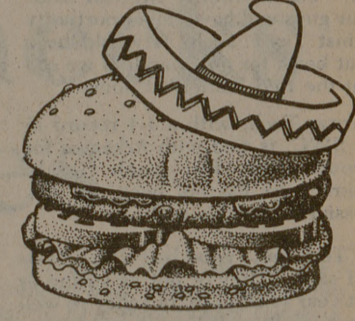
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