

# White beats Maroon in intra-squad contest

The 1978-79 Texas A&M basketball team made its official pre-season debut at an open house Maroon and White game in C. Rollie White Coliseum Thursday night. The White team won the intra-squad contest 92-69.

Despite some bad passes and missed assignments, which are common at this point, Coach Shelby Metcalf was pleased with what he saw in the game.

"I was encouraged," the Aggie coach said. "They are playing with more intensity and playing together better than they did this time last year. Everybody is enjoying playing together. They had the adrenaline flowing even though they've been playing together since the beginning of October."

"I thought we made the transition from defense to offense and from offense to defense a lot better than we have been. I saw a lot of positive things out there tonight."

For the White team, Rynn Wright lead the scoring with 20 points. Tyrone Ladson and David Britton each scored 15. Rudy Woods scored 14 and led in the game with nine rebounds.

Other members of the White team included Dave Goff, Steve Sylestine, Jarvis Williams, John Schlicher and Vernon Smith.

The Maroon team was led by Joey Robinson with 17 points and Tyrone Emerson with 13 points.

Bruce Baird, Ed Gillen, R.C. Buford, Doug Pederson, Albert Culton, David Barrett, Roy Jones and Wally Swanson completed the Maroon team.

The Aggies leave Monday for the Seawolf Classic in Anchorage, Alaska. The tournament will take place Nov. 24-26 and will feature Alaska, Lamar, Louisville, Penn State, Indiana, Pepperdine and the Aggies' first round opponent, North Carolina State.



Rudy Woods takes a shot (left) and Tyrone Ladson fights for a rebound in a crowd under the basket in Thursday's game. Battalion photos by Page 10.

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## Saints' Nolan haunted by flex defense

**United Press International**  
NEW ORLEANS — New Orleans Saints' coach Dick Nolan, the defensive genius who created the complicated "flex" defense for Dallas in the 1960s, now has to figure out a way to stop his Frankenstein from tearing his own offense to shreds.

And when the Saints play the Cowboys this Sunday, Nolan admits he will have problems trying to confuse the defense he made a Cowboy mainstay.

"The only thing I've been thinking about is Jethro Pugh, who's been playing this thing for 12 years," Nolan said. "There's not anything you're going to show him that's different. They'll be up against guys who have done it for seven weeks. We don't know it that well."

Nolan said the Saints would try as best they could to hide coverages of defense and to change blocking assignments on offense to throw the 7-4 Cowboys off balance. But he ad-

mits the job won't be easy. "There will be some blocking assignments that change, but what we're going to do against them I couldn't tell you," Nolan said. "You don't want to get into too many things because you don't want the offensive line thinking too much."

The 5-6 Saints, who have lost their last two games to Pittsburgh and Atlanta in the final two minutes, have used the flex defense almost exclusively since the fourth regular season game.

But Nolan expects his team to use it more than the Cowboys Sunday

simply because Dallas shifts into long-yardage, five-defensive back defenses when they stop teams cold on first down.

The highly complicated defense has been played only at Dallas, San Francisco and New Orleans — all teams coached by Nolan. The defense involves different alignments and keys among the interior linemen and linebackers that sometimes go against natural defensive tendencies, making it extremely difficult to pick up quickly.

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