

# Aggies defeat SWT

The Texas A&M basketball team pleased a hometown crowd as the Aggies won their home opener of the 1978-79 season, defeating Southwest Texas State University 82-78.

Winning the game was no easy task for the Aggies, who had to come back from a 46-44 halftime deficit.

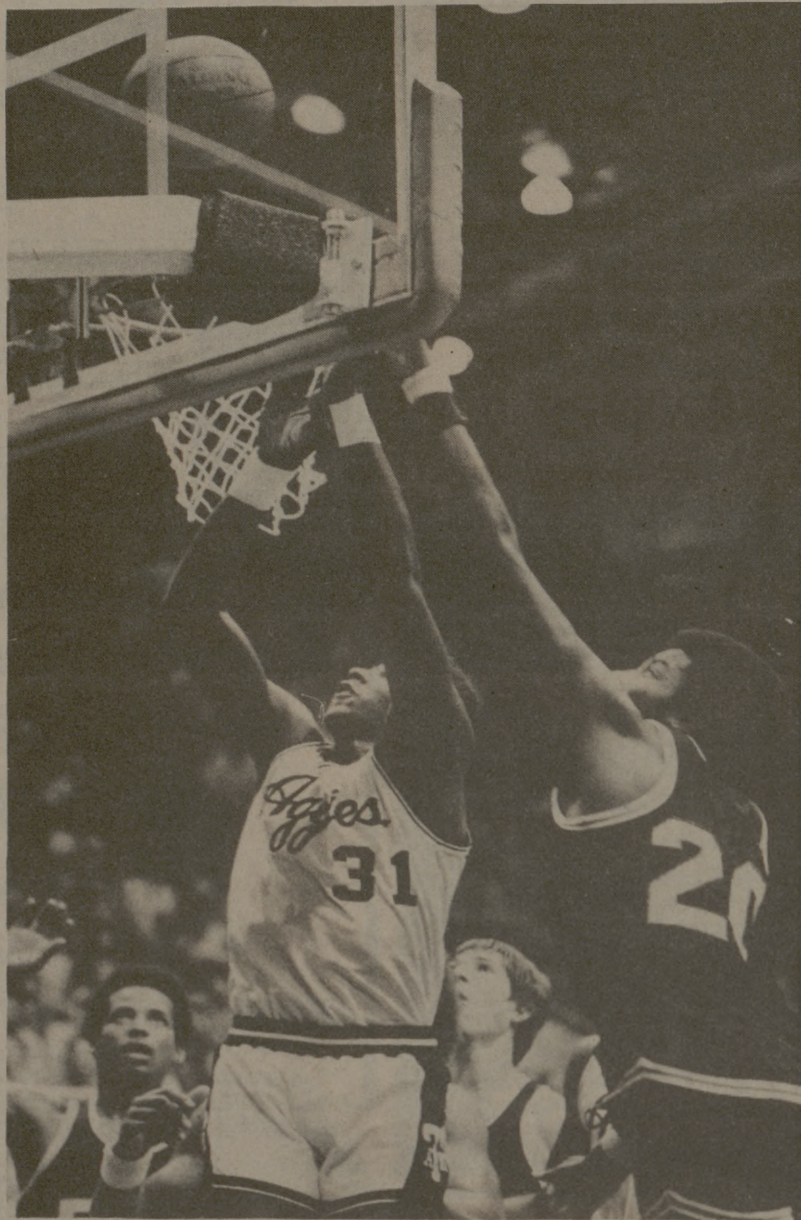
"Southwest Texas is a good basketball team," Texas A&M coach Shelby Metcalf said after the game. "They play a good pressure defense. If we hadn't gone to Alaska we would have been in trouble tonight."

"The big thing that made it so close is that we missed our free throws when we were in our four-corner offense — our delay game." The Aggies went into a delay game with about four minutes left on the clock. In that time, they missed six of seven free throw attempts.

Vernon Smith led the Aggies with 21 points. Rudy Woods scored 17 and Rynn Wright and David Britton each scored 15. Wright led Texas A&M with eight rebounds.

Metcalf said the play of Albert Culton was "the highlight of the game, no doubt about it," complimenting the sophomore on his defensive work. The Aggie coach was less than pleased, however, with the fact that Texas A&M had 25 turnovers to SWT's 17.

Tonight Texas A&M hosts Oral Roberts University in G. Rollie White beginning at 7:30. Last year the Aggies defeated ORU 79-73 but Metcalf warned, "They are much more talented than they were last year. If we put the ball game on the floor that we did against Indiana (in the Alaska tournament) then I think we can play with Oral Roberts."



Battalion photo by Pat O'Malley  
Vernon Smith goes up for a rebound in Saturday's game.

# Texas dominates contest

By MARK PATTERSON  
Battalion Staff

Forget about the losses to Oklahoma, Houston and Baylor. If the University of Maryland faces the same team that rolled over the Aggies Friday night it will be facing one of the best teams in the country in the Sun Bowl.

The University of Texas looked unbeatable Friday night as it defeated Texas A&M 22-7 in the season finale for both teams. But the score did not truly show how one-sided the game was.

The Longhorns dominated every phase of the contest. The Texas offense rolled up 243 yards total offense on the night, 155 yards rushing.

Defensively, the Longhorns held the previously potent Aggie attack to 212 yards total offense on the evening, allowing an average of 2.6 yards per play. The Aggies were held to 42 yards total rushing on the evening.

But the big story for the Longhorns in their relatively easy victory over the Aggies was the play of placekicker-punter Russell Exleben. The senior from Seguin had his best game as a Longhorn as he kicked two field goals, from 59 and 42 yards, and punted the ball eight times for a 48-yard average. His seventh punt of the night traveled 74 yards and narrowly missed being downed on the Aggies' 1-yard line.

"What a night Russell had for us," his coach Fred Akers said of the punter. "The field position he gave

us on his punts was tremendous. Tonight the people saw why the kicking game is so important to the outcome of the football game."

Exleben may have been the difference in the game, but he almost didn't have the chance to show his talents to the television audience. Exleben injured his big toe on a kickoff against Baylor last weekend and had not practiced all week. His status for the Texas A&M game was questionable up to game time, when he told his coach he wanted to kick against the Aggies.

"I told Coach Akers that my toe was hurting me in warm-ups, but that I wanted to kick against the Aggies," Exleben said after the game. "It was stinging a little bit, but I told Coach that I probably wouldn't feel it by game time. I wasn't going to sit out my last A&M game."

"I'm the only person who knew if I could kick or not. The first time I went out to punt I wasn't sure if I could do it. I kicked it pretty well (47 yards and downed at the Aggies' 7-yard line) and it didn't bother me the rest of the night."

It was as if Exleben wanted to show the viewers that he is a legitimate all-America kicker with his performance. It may have changed the minds of the few doubters watching Friday, but it just reaffirmed the beliefs of the Texas fans who have watched him kick during his four years at Texas. The performance was a fitting way to end his illustrious career as a Longhorn.

"I couldn't have drawn up the end-

ing any better," Exleben said. "This is the way I wanted to go out of here. I wanted to go out a winner. Now I can."

So can the other 16 seniors on the Texas team. It was a team effort that defeated the Aggies Friday night. The game was especially important for one senior. It marked the return to the lineup for Johnny "Ham" Jones, hurt since the SMU game earlier in the season. Ham stepped back into the lineup and carried the ball 19 times for 77 yards and one touchdown in his last regular season game as a Longhorn.

"I don't know if you could say I'm really back, I'm just happy that I could contribute to the win," the Hamlin native said. "The win is more important to me than my personal performance. This win will make the trip to the Sun Bowl more enjoyable."

Dwight Jefferson, another of the departing 16, also enjoyed the win in his last appearance before the hometown fans.

"It sure feels good to go out a winner, especially after what happened against Baylor last week," the defensive right end said in the noisy locker room after the game. "This game and this whole season makes me so glad I came to Texas."

"Going into the game we were determined not to let them get outside of us. We thought they would attack our flanks, so we looked to the outside every play and forced them to run inside. The ends just got width and stayed outside."

One of the most interesting match-ups in the game was Jefferson going against Texas all-conference tackle Cody Ham. It was a match-up Jefferson was forward to all season and he was most of the opportunity.

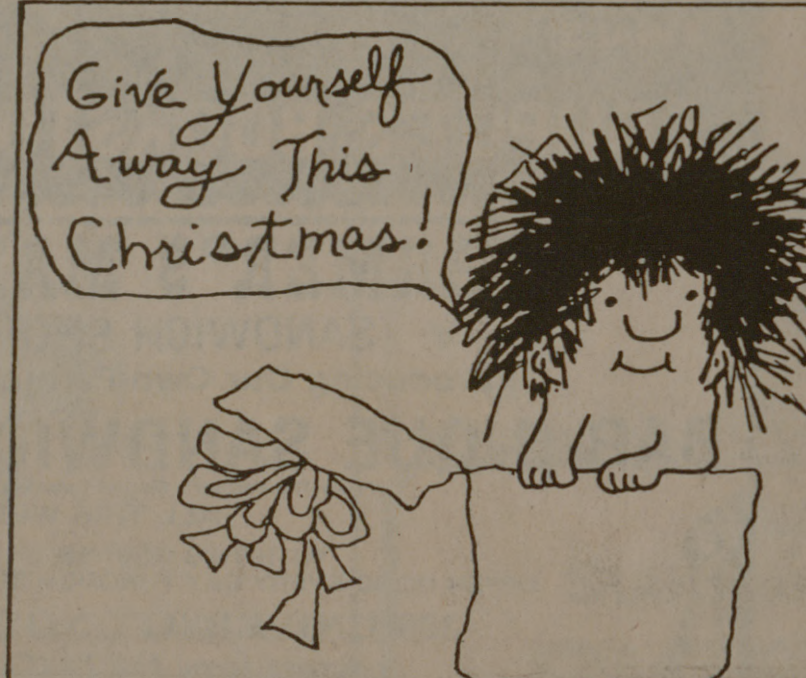
"Cody is the best tackle I've run up against all season," Jefferson said. "But I like to think that I'm a good end as well. It was just a matter of two equal forces going against each other. And I really enjoyed the win."

Another Texan who enjoyed the game was junior quarterback McBeth. McBeth was given a starting nod by Akers early in the game and he took advantage of the situation, leading the team to a win of the year.

The start was the first for McBeth since last year's Oklahoma game where he, along with the other Texas quarterbacks, went down with injuries on the afternoon.

"After last year I came back and worked hard all summer trying to get back to where I was before the injury," McBeth said. "I was nervous at the beginning of the season, but things weren't clicking for me until it's coming together."

The Longhorns will take a few days off and celebrate the victory before they return to work and prepare for their trip to the Sun Bowl. The Aggies will have a week of preparation all that much more enjoyable for the team.



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Despite the cold and rain, Shelly Scherer and Lucy Shelton still came out and watched their team play at Kyle Field last week. If you see the lights on this week, drop on by for the All-University football playoffs. The championship game is Wednesday night.

## The Game Of The Week

Bob's BH's led all the way to win their bowling match over Cheryl's Sugars 1592-1320, total points. In Class A Women's Independent Division, Bob's BH's won all three of their games against the Sugars by fair margins.

In the first game, Cheryl's Sugars scored only two strikes, one made by Cheryl Boord in the first frame of the game as her team's first bowler, and the other bowled by Valerie Starr in the sixth frame. A total of eight spares were marked for the Sugars.

Bob's BH's saw seven strikes, four of them by Ginny Adams who marked every frame except three. Two were made by Dana Hakemack and the last was picked up by Tammany Williams. A total of sixteen strikes were bowled by the BH's in the first game. The score totaled at 556 BH's to the Sugars' 404.

During the second game the Sugars gained momentum as Valerie scored three strikes, and Cheryl and Cindy Shoemaker each picked up one. Eleven spares helped their second game to score 456 points, totaling to a 860 match score.

The BH's marked seven strikes again as Cary George came up with three as did Dana, and Tammany bowled one strike in the seventh frame. Spares totaled to fourteen, several of them made from splits. Game score was 525 for the BH's and match score added up to 1081.

The third game was the closest as the Sugars made six strikes, three by Cindy, and one apiece by Cheryl, Valerie, and Julie Striekert. Eleven spares were scored to give the Sugars a 460 game total and a 1320 match score.

The BH's scored lower than in either of their previous games. Their 511 game score included two strikes by Ginny, two by Dana, and fifteen spares. They won the match with a total of 1592.

Individual pin scores for Cheryl's Sugars were 326 for Cheryl Boord, 352 for Cindy Shoemaker, 359 for high scorer Valerie Starr, and 293 for Julie Striekert. High scorer of the match was Dana Hakemack, with 451 for the BH's, followed by Ginny Adams' score of 434. Tammany Williams bowled a 378 and Cary George ended with a 329.



"I-Spy" Participant Of The Week

Rick Fiske goes up to spike the ball during an A&M Volleyball Club practice. Les Templeton, foreground, and Bob Bradsby, background, are rushing in to help. The team played in San Marcos last weekend in their last big tournament. Our club has the best record in the southwest. After four tournaments involving every team in the Southwest Conference, they have won two, and placed 2nd and 3rd in the others. Bob should come by the I.M. office to pick up his "Be Our Guest" card, redeemable for free food at McDonald's.

**Ref's Corner**  
Basketball clinic, Room 267 G.R.W., 7:00 p.m.  
Monday, December 4  
Tuesday, December 5  
Wednesday, December 6  
Basketball officials are still needed for the spring semester. Pay starts at \$2.50 an hour with opportunity for advancement. No experience necessary. Will train. Hours are worked around your schedule and desire to work. See James Welford at the IM Office, DeWane Fieldhouse as soon as possible.

**The Extra Act**

Club	Destination	Date
Target Archers	University of Texas	Dec. 9 & 10
Men's Bowling	Rice	Dec. 2
Women's Bowling	Rice	Dec. 2
Gymnastics	Arlington	Jan. 15
Fencing	Bridge City	Dec. 2 & 3
	Bellaire	Dec. 9 & 16
Team Handball	Waco	Dec. 15
Judo Club	Port Arthur	Dec. 16
Polo Club	San Antonio	Dec. 3
	Houston	Dec. 10
	Midland	Jan. 4-8
Racquetball	Houston	December
Women's Soccer	Austin	Dec. 2
Weightlifting	Texas A&I University	Dec. 3
	Metrolplex Tournament	Jan. 9

These dates and tournaments are subject to changes and corrections. Contact the IM Office or officers of the clubs for more information.

**IM SPORT SHORTS**

Basketball entries close Tuesday, December 5.  
Bowling playoffs — All-University  
Women's Dec 5 4:10 p.m. MSC Lanes 5 & 6  
Men's A Dec 6 4:10 p.m. MSC Lanes 1 & 2  
Men's B Dec 6 4:10 p.m. MSC Lanes 3 & 4  
Men's C Dec 4 4:10 p.m. MSC Lanes 5 & 6

Table tennis playoffs — All-University, December 5, 8:00 p.m. G.R.W.  
Racquetball playoffs — All-University, December 7.  
Flag football and flickerball playoffs will be during dead week, weather permitting, and are tentatively scheduled to finish up December 6 and 7, and

All divisional champs (Corps, Fish, Dorms, Independents, etc. . . .) in racquetball will receive Super Z racquetball balls, courtesy of the IM department  
All All-University Class A, B & C champs and winners of special events are reminded to come by the IM Office to pick up your T-shirts.