

the sports

# Ags prove Metcalf wrong

By MARK PATTERSON  
Battalion Staff

Before Monday night's basketball game against Oral Roberts University, Texas A&M basketball Coach Shelby Metcalf was asked just how good the visiting Titans were. "Better than us," was his response.

Fourty minutes of basketball later the Texas Aggies proved their coach liar. The Aggies took a 85-79 decision over Oral Roberts to extend their season record to 4-1. The Aggies have won their last four contests after losing their season opener.

But this win was not an easy one for the Aggies. Texas A&M held a narrow 42-41 lead at the half before breaking the game open late in the contest.

Most of the second half punch came from guard David Britton. Britton connected for 15 points in the second half to finish the night with 19 points.

"The difference in the ball game was Britton in the second half," Metcalf said. "He was able to go one-on-one and connect on his shots."

"But Britton and (David) Goff were tired out there at the end of the game. We're going to have to develop another guard to help them out. Sly's (Steve Sylestine) play coming off the bench was encouraging though."

The Aggies' play as a whole was encouraging to Metcalf.

"Our intensity picked up as the game went on," the coach said. "It was as if we wanted the win more than they did. We were able to reach down and get that little extra."

"Our offense is getting better and better each time these guys get to play with each other. They still have some things to learn, but everyone who played tonight played hard. Of course, that's suppose to be a trademark of Texas A&M basketball."

The Aggies widened their lead at the start of the second half as they dominated both the offensive and defensive backboards. In the contest the Aggies out rebounded the Titans 47-38, led by Rudy Woods' 15 Ryan Wright's 11 and Vernon Smith's six.

"In the first half they were beating us on the boards, getting two and three shots on offense and staying on the boards," Smith said. "We were able to beat them on the boards if we were going to beat them in the second half. We went out there and did it."

There is no way anyone is going to stop our front line from getting their rebounds," Texas A&M guard David Britton said. "And with Rudy out there as an intimidating factor, they're tough to stop."

"Oral Roberts was a tremendous outside shooting team. I didn't think they could keep it up the entire game."

"We got sloopier with our ball handling towards the end of the game," she said. "Our passing was not what it should have been at times."

Peggy Pope led the Aggies with 15 points while Julia Crawford had 15 and Margaret Byrne scored 10. Crawford, Pat Werner and Cathy Fuller each had six rebounds for Texas A&M.

Monday's scoring and rebounding were just two of the factors that will determine the Aggies' starting lineup against Sam Houston State Wednesday night, Bender explained.

"Our starting lineup is made on the basis of the past game performance," Bender said. "I have ten girls

The Titans shot 43.8 percent on the night, hitting on 35 of 80 shots. The Aggies hit on 36 of 64 shots for a 56.3 percent on the evening.

The main gun in the Oral Roberts attack was Calvin Garrett, the Titan's 6-foot-6 forward. Garrett was high-point man in the game with 28.

"Tonight we got out-hustled," Garrett summarized. "They wanted the game more than we did."

"I shot bad in the game. In the first half I was rushing a lot of my shots. Towards the end of the game I was pushing my shots hoping we could get back into the game."

The Titans did make a final run at the Aggies. With five minutes left the Aggies held a slim 71-69 lead. But the combination of the Texas A&M front line crashing the boards and David Britton stalling the ball gave the Aggies the win.

"At the end of the game we went into what we call a 1-game," Britton said. "The coaches put their confidence in me to control the ball. We go into the offense when we see that I have the advantage over one of their guards. I can either try and score or draw the foul."

Oral Roberts' Assistant Coach Larry Reid was impressed with the performance of the Aggies in Monday night's game.

"We expected a tough ball game and we got one," Reid said. "Britton and Woods were the difference in the game. Woods did a great job on the offensive boards for them. That could have been the key to the ball game."

"Rudy and Britton gives two dimensions to this team that they didn't have last season. The Aggies will improve with every game they play."

For the second time in as many home games the Aggies drew slightly over 4,000 fans. But the few that did show up were as vocal as twice the number.

"The crowd shook a couple of the players," Garrett said. "It was a factor there at the stretch when we were neck-and-neck."

The Aggie players loved the vocal crowd.

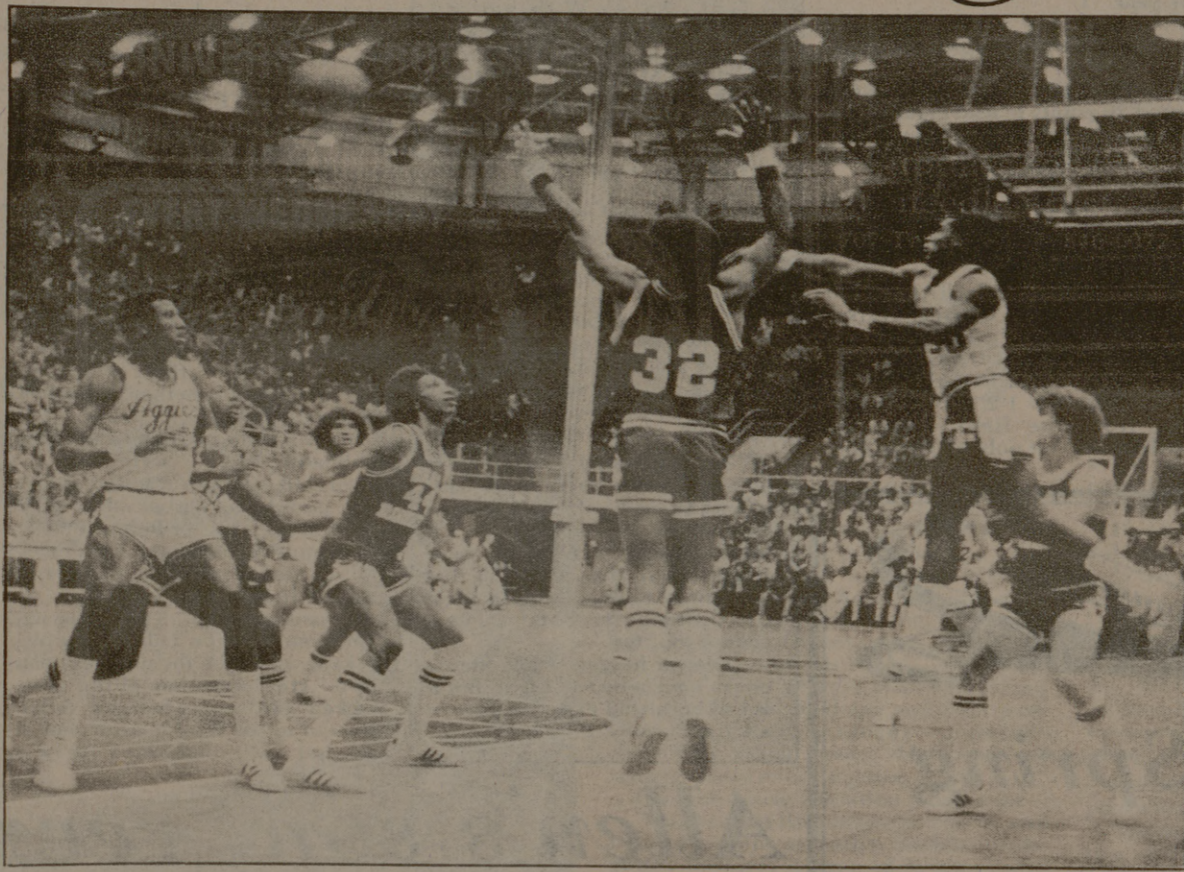
"Coach Metcalf told us that we had to get the fans back this season," Britton said. "The crowd tonight was a joy. I'm out here to have fun and tonight I think the crowd did too."

Metcalf agreed that the crowd was a big factor in Monday night's win.

"The folks out here tonight were behind us when we needed them," Metcalf said. "We're playing the type of ball that, when the word gets around, we'll get more students out."

"Imagine what we would have done with twice as many people out here."

Wednesday night the Aggies play their third home game of the year when Sam Houston State University pays a visit to G. Rollie White Coliseum. Tipoff is at 7:30.



David Britton passes across court during Monday night's Texas A&M-Oral Roberts game.

## Wilson names new coach

United Press International  
Texas A&M head football coach Tom Wilson has added Jess Stiles to his staff, the university's athletic department announced today.

Stiles and Wilson coached together at Texas Tech, where Stiles was an assistant from 1969 through last spring. He was freshman coach five years, dur-

ing which his teams were undefeated four seasons, and served as defensive end coach.

Stiles is a native of Clarksville, Texas, where he was a high school running back. He played linebacker and offensive guard at Paris Junior College and Midwestern University in Wichita Falls, from which he graduated in 1954.

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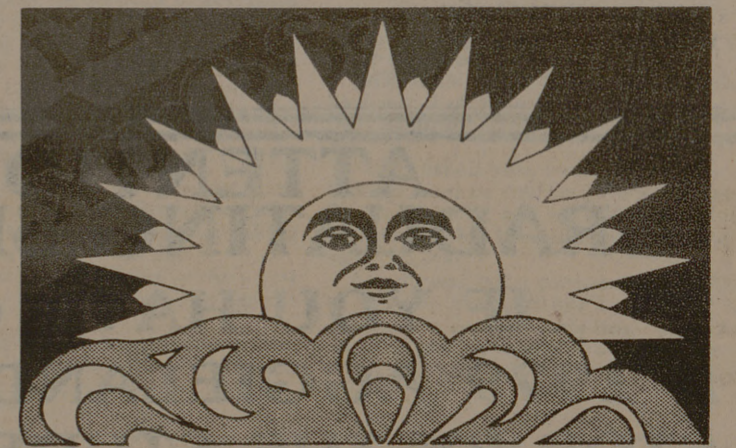
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## Ags get easy victory

The Texas A&M women's basketball team easily defeated Prairie View A&M 89-64 Monday night in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

"The half court press Prairie View weakened their defense," said Aggie coach Wanda Bender, "and we were able to score fairly easily."

Leading 45-32 at halftime, the Aggies had some problems in the second half, according to Bender.

"We got sloopier with our ball handling towards the end of the game," she said. "Our passing was not what it should have been at times."

Peggy Pope led the Aggies with 15 points while Julia Crawford had 15 and Margaret Byrne scored 10. Crawford, Pat Werner and Cathy Fuller each had six rebounds for Texas A&M.

Monday's scoring and rebounding were just two of the factors that will determine the Aggies' starting lineup against Sam Houston State Wednesday night, Bender explained.

"Our starting lineup is made on the basis of the past game performance," Bender said. "I have ten girls

who I feel confident with as starters. So I don't decide who starts; I let them decide who starts, based on their performance in the last game."

"Sam Houston is a very, very tough ball club. The play a good man-on-man defense. We are going to have to play good basketball to beat them."

The Aggies, now 9-2 for the season, host SHSU at 5:15 Wednesday night.

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