

the sports

Ags top Lions, 85-42, head for tourney road



Rynn, him and the rim

East Texas A&M forward Rynn Wright drives in for a layup against East Texas State's Mike Williams during the Aggies 85-42 win Wednesday. Williams goaltended on the play and Wright got the two points.

Battalion photo by Sam Stroder

Cowboys only human

WASHINGTON — Aches and pains in flesh and bone, things that can't be programmed into a talent-analyzing computer, have made the Dallas Cowboys a living, breathing reality to the rest of the NFL.

So when Washington Redskins quarterback Joe Theismann goes into Texas Stadium Sunday to battle "America's Team" for the NFC East crown, it will be "people against people."

Theismann, in only his second season as a starter, has put together impressive credentials, topped in the NFC only by Dallas' Roger Staubach. Theismann has completed nearly 60 percent of his passes for 2,597 yards and 19 touchdowns with just 13 interceptions.

"The Cowboys were supposed to win the division, not us," Theismann said Tuesday. "But they haven't, and it's down to the last week. Our guys have had a ball all season, and this week just adds to the fun."

The Cowboys have had injuries in the past, but they were able to overcome them. This year, their injuries have been tougher to overcome. Now, they're getting several guys hurt at one position, like the defensive secondary.

Veteran safety Charlie Waters went out for the season with a rehabilitation-knee injury. His replacement, Randy Hughes, went

down with a shoulder separation in last week's 24-17 victory over the Philadelphia Eagles as did backup cornerback Aaron Mitchell with a sprained ankle.

"They have had all the things hap-

By SEAN PETTY
Battalion Sports Editor

The Texas Aggies played the last of their pre-road scrimmages against East Texas State University Wednesday night, defeating the Lions, 85-42.

The Ags leave the friendly confines of C. Rollie White Coliseum after winning four games in a row by big margins. The fun stops as the Aggies head to the Cougar Classic where Brigham Young, LaSalle and Montana await along with over 22,000 fans that pack The Marriot in Provo, Utah to watch BYU play.

The Aggies leave after playing what Coach Shelby Metcalf called the best game the Aggies have played all year.

"The first half was the best half we have played all year," Metcalf said. "We played well at every position tonight. This game is going to help us a lot in the tournaments."

The Lions came to C. Rollie undefeated and left with their first loss as did the Sam Houston State Bearkats Monday.

"East Texas State has a well-coached team that comes at you all the time," Metcalf said.

The Lions came at the Aggies the entire first half as the Ags went into halftime with a slim 27-24 lead. Once again it was A&M's defense that held the Lions to a poor 36.4 percent shooting average at halftime.

But in the second half, it was forward Rynn Wright and center Rudy Woods and an airtight A&M defense that helped the Aggies outscore ETSU in the first eight minutes, 22-4.

From then on it was easy sailing as the Ags left the Lions farther and farther behind.

Wright, who has played consistently well the last four games, was the leading scorer for A&M with 18 points. Woods had one of his best games of the year scoring 12 points, grabbing four rebounds, blocking two shots and stealing the ball four times.

Vernon Smith, who hit the opening basket of the game to put him over the 1,000-point career total, scored only six points but led the Ags in rebounding with nine.

Dave Goff played some handy defense as he stole the ball six times and scored nine points.

The Aggies shot a hot 63.2 percent from the field and 59.1 percent from the free-throw line. ETSU shot 33.1 percent from the field and 50 percent from the free-throw line.

The Aggies also overpowered the Lions on the boards as they outrebounded ETSU 39-29.

"The Wall (Metcalf's name for the Aggie front line of Woods, Smith and Wright) moved well tonight," Metcalf said. "In fact, I thought it was Rudy's best game of the year."

(Claude) Riley keeps the Wall honest. I think the fans have taken to Claude. I think he fires them up and they fire him up. They've also taken

to Rob Wright which is good because both these kids have been playing well."

Metcalf also wanted to show his appreciation for the Aggie Band's presence at the home games.

"It wouldn't have been as nice if the band wasn't here. It really fired the players and fans up."

"I think tonight was the best, most enthusiastic crowd we've had and I appreciate them coming out and watching us."

EAST TEXAS (42)
Williams 5-3-5 13, Anderson 0-2-2-2, Battle 3-0-3-6, Roberson 2-2-2-6, Goski 3-0-0-6, Simmons 1-1-2-3, Ford 0-0-2-0, Staal 0-0-0-0, Wisniewski 3-0-0-6, Scalan 0-0-0-0, Zivax 0-0-0-0. Totals 17-8-16-42.

TEXAS A&M (85)
Smith 3-0-0-6, Rynn Wright 8-2-6-18, Woods 6-0-0-12, Goff 4-1-1-9, Syles-tine 3-3-4-9, Riley 3-5-6-11, Rob Wright 4-0-0-8, McHugh 1-0-1-2, Britton 3-1-3-7, Sooter 1-1-1-3, Buford 0-0-0-0. Totals 36-13-22-85.

Halftime — A&M 27, East Texas 24. Fouled out — Battle. Total fouls — East Texas 22, A&M 20. Technical — East Texas bench, Rynn Wright 2. A — 4,377.

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