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tony gallucci

# second guesses

By TONY GALLUCCI  
Sports Editor

I have been known to gripe about bands before — Aggie Band included — and somehow I expected after all the furor died down this week to be writing about the Aggie Band once again.

So here I am writing about the Aggie Band once again. As small as G. Rollie White Coliseum is I always considered it a shame that 300 seats were reserved solely for the band. I was further incensed by the inappropriate and often untimely song selections.

So here I was to be pleading that the band reduce its already reduced number to make room for those students who cared enough to spend the hours waiting outside for the game to begin.

That particular comment I cannot now write. I was so deeply impressed by the band's performance at Tuesday's game that I almost (repeat almost) wish the band was back at full strength.

A championship caliber basketball team, any team for that matter, is

highly affected by its environment. It is no secret that, for years, some schools have had an edge on A&M in the band department — including SMU, UH and even Rice.

It is thus very satisfying that after years of complaint, mostly by the press, A&M now has a band of championship caliber to match its team.

Sweet Georgia Brown, ubiquitously synonymous with basketball because of its theme use by the Harlem Globetrotters, has not been put to any kind of effective use at C. Rollie White since Mario Brown played his senior year out in 1973. A taped version was used then and it cannot hold a candle to the Aggie version played Tuesday night.

"Col. Haney's arrangement of Sweet Georgia Brown was tremendous," said head basketball coach Shelby Metcalf of the song that brought the packed house to its feet.

I would bet that every one of the 16,000 ears that had gone through the turnstile was aimed at the band during the saxophone solo by James Dees. "I think I'll letter him," said Metcalf.

"It's amazing how many former Aggies came up to me and were complimentary about the band," he said. "It was great for the crowd and I believe it really helped the players."

So now while we're at it I have a few requests.

First, keep up the good work. How about some more of those inspired solos and some good old basketball game standards such as "The Theme from Rocky," "The Olympic March," and "The Theme from Star Trek."

And before everybody gets all hot and bothered, I have it on reliable counsel that the Aggie band already knows those tunes.

It should now be obvious that the band can help the team — there is no reason for plaudits otherwise — and can be enjoyed by all the fans. Let's face it. "Semper Fidelis" gets old after a while.

Metcalf said after the Arkansas game, "I've never heard the band sound better." It would be nice to hear the same after every game.

Maybe by the end of the season we'll all have "We are the Champions" down pat.



Staff photo by Lee Boy Lester

## The Crockett Rocket

Freshman Claude Riley, Crockett, goes up for two against the Arkansas Razorbacks in Tuesday nights Aggie win.

## NCAA asks for permission to sue federal government

United Press International DENVER — The National Collegiate Athletic Association has asked for permission to sue the federal government over guidelines that prevent sex discrimination in collegiate athletic programs.

The NCAA Tuesday asked the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to overturn a federal judge's ruling that the organization had no legal standing to sue over the Title IX issue. U.S. District Judge Earl O'Connor issued the ruling two years ago in Kansas City.

NCAA attorneys told the court the federal guidelines usurp authority belonging to the NCAA and its more than 700 member schools. The NCAA also said compliance with the guidelines would cause the organization and its member schools great economic and administrative hardship.

## T. Franklin and Dennard named to Digest squad

Former Aggie football stars T. Franklin and Dennard were named among honorees of the "Football Digest" this week.

Dennard, a center for the Miami Dolphins, and Franklin, placekicker for the Philadelphia Eagles, and holder of numerous NCAA field goal scoring records, were named to the first team all-rookie NFL squad in the magazine in its annual award announcement.

## "TECHNOLOGY: TOOL OR TYRANT?"

- M** Selection for A&M delegates to the
  - C** Conference held on Feb. 13th to 16th begins
  - S** On Mon. January 28th thru Feb. 1st
  - C** Now accepting applications for interviews
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## MESSENGER

Wed. and Thurs. 7:30-10 pm  
Fri. and Sat. 8:30-1 am



MESSENGER will be appearing at T.J.'s Restaurant and Lounge from January 23 to February 2. Messenger is led by three former members of the Toby Beau band: Ron Rose-vocal, lead guitar, banjo, mandolin; Rob Young-vocal, drums; and Steve Zipper-vocal, bass guitar. All three were with Toby Beau for several years, including tours with Bob Seger and the Doobie Brothers.

Michael Workman, formerly of Great Southern, plays keyboards for Messenger. Beth Hooker is lead vocal for Messenger. About Beth, Action Magazine has written, "In a tasteful and ladylike way, Beth Hooker has definite sex appeal and presents it on the stage."



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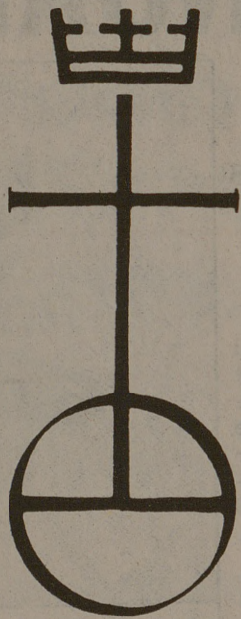
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**TUESDAY EVENING SPECIAL**  
Mexican Fiesta Dinner Two Cheese and Onion Enchiladas w/chili Mexican Rice Patio Style Pinto Beans Tostadas Coffee or Tea One Corn Bread and Butter

**WEDNESDAY EVENING SPECIAL**  
Chicken Fried Steak w/cream Gravy Whipped Potatoes and Choice of one other Vegetable Roll or Corn Bread and Butter Coffee or Tea



**THURSDAY EVENING SPECIAL**  
Italian Candle Light Spaghetti Dinner SERVED WITH SPICED MEAT BALLS AND SAUCE Parmesan Cheese - Tossed Green Salad Choice of Salad Dressing - Hot Garlic Bread Tea or Coffee



**FRIDAY EVENING SPECIAL**  
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