

sports

Hogs beat Texas, still in SWC race

By TONY GALLUCCI
Sports Editor

The Arkansas Razorbacks stayed in the heat of the Southwest Conference basketball race Saturday with an electrifying 60-59 win over Texas, and in so doing showed the Aggies just how lonely it is at the top.

Texas A&M, now 17-5 overall and 9-0 in conference, is at Texas Tech in Lubbock tonight for what promises to be another heart-thumper. Arkansas was a winner at the buzzer in Lubbock last week, in overtime, and Tech has been as cruel to the Ags as they have been to Arkansas.

Head coach Shelby Metcalf takes his charges into the contest with few changes in strategy.

"Basically we'll be the same," he said. "We've worked on our presses a little more, but, hopefully we won't have to use them."

The Ags are already 63-60 winners over Tech this year, and will start the same five as they did against the Red Raiders earlier in College Station.

Vernon Smith will be assigned to cover Ben Hill, Rudy Woods will take Ralph Brewster, Rynn Wright will be on Jeff Taylor, Dave Goff will cover Kent Williams and David Britton will start against David Little.

Bench strength, as usual, will come from freshman Claude Riley and senior Steve Sylestine. Bruce Sooter, who saw action against Baylor could see more playing time and Tyrone Ladson could benefit the Ags. Ladson's play was crucial in the home victory over Tech earlier in the season.

Game time is 8 p.m., preceded by the women's game at 4:30 p.m. The headliner will be aired over the

Texas A&M basketball network, KTAM locally, with play-by-play by DeWayne Staats and color by David

Walker. Frank Gieber and Rudy Davalos will be commentators as Metro Communications telecasts

the game. Local television coverage is provided by KBTX Channel 3, Bryan.

Dallas nears deal with NBA

United Press International
DALLAS — Although investors will have to make a larger down payment than originally advertised, there were indications Sunday that Dallas interests would accept a National Basketball Association offer and thus bring the NBA its third Texas team.

The NBA Board of Governors Saturday approved the Dallas bid for a franchise, but said the investors would have to provide a \$6 million down payment instead of the \$3½ million announced by the NBA's expansion committee.

In addition, the remaining \$6 million must be paid with 10 percent interest instead of being interest free. And instead of protecting their

top seven players in an expansion draft, the existing 22 NBA teams will be allowed to protect their top eight players.

All of these changes were less than popular with Norm Sonju, a former NBA executive who has acted in behalf of the investors for the past year.

Sonju said Dallas Mayor Bob Folsom was also unhappy and that Folsom told the Board of Governors, "I know politicians change their minds, but I expect businessmen to honor deals."

After the initial announcement, however, Sonju indicated he was optimistic that the \$6 million down payment could be raised within the 30-day limit imposed by the NBA

and that the investors would approve the change in the league's admission price.

"I'll admit I was a little down at first," said Sonju, who was previously president and general manager of the Buffalo Braves. "But I talked with the mayor and he said, 'Norm, we've got the franchise. Then it hit me."

"So, yes, we're in it for the long haul. I'll be speaking with all our investors. If some drop out we'll find some new ones. I would hope they would be excited about this thing, as I am."

If Dallas does join the league it will begin play next season in the soon to be completed Reunion Arena on the edge of the downtown area.

Among those with at least a small share in the new team are actor James Garner. And country music singer Willie Nelson was also reported to be thinking about buying into the franchise.

Women's team faces fourth-ranked Raiders

After a five-day layoff, the Texas A&M women's basketball team gets back into action tonight in Lubbock against the Texas Tech Red Raiders.

Tonight's game will feature the fourth and fifth ranked teams in the state. The Red Raiders are currently 16-6 and ranked fourth, while the fifth-ranked Aggie Ladies come into the contest with a 13-8 record, winners of seven of their last eight outings.

The Red Raiders are especially tough at home, where they have won all 10 games played in the Coliseum, including a recent 75-72 victory over third-ranked Wayland Baptist. Texas Tech is averaging almost 77 points a game and has topped the century mark twice.

The Red Raiders are a young team, starting three freshmen, a

sophomore and a Freshman Gwen McCray forward, leads the team in scoring, averaging 14.7 points per game. Another freshman, Pam Stone, a 6-1 center, is averaging 13.9 points and leads the team in rebounds with a 10.4 per game average. Louise Davis, a 5-4 starter, is averaging 3.7 points, good enough to place in the state. Bonnie Lee, a 5-6 freshman guard, is averaging 3.7 points and leads the team in assists with 5-10 sophomore forward Penkunis.

The overall series between A&M and Tech is even at the meeting 62-46 at the Texas Classic. The game is scheduled for 4:30 p.m.

Tennis team wins first dual match

The Texas A&M tennis team, in its first dual match of the year, took 108 games to Hardin-Simmons University's 32 to win every set.

Trey Schutz topped HSU's Bob Grout 6-0, 6-3 in the top-seed match and then teamed with Jim Grubert to take the No. 2 doubles match, 6-1, 6-2 over Jeff Woolsey and Grout.

The No.1 doubles team of Reid Freeman and Alberto Jimenez took a 6-3, 6-1 win over Steve Hoover and Chip Putman. Freeman, the second-seed singles man for A&M, beat Putman in singles also, 6-3, 6-2.

Jimenez, A&M's No. 3 singles player, beat Woolsey 6-2, 6-3. In the other singles match, Max King of A&M beat HSU's No. 5 Brian Whipped Carl Johnston 6-2, 6-0. Grubert knocked off Peter Johnston in the No. 3 doubles match, 6-1, 6-1. With the 9-0 win the Aggie 1-0 record. They lost to Texas State on Friday at

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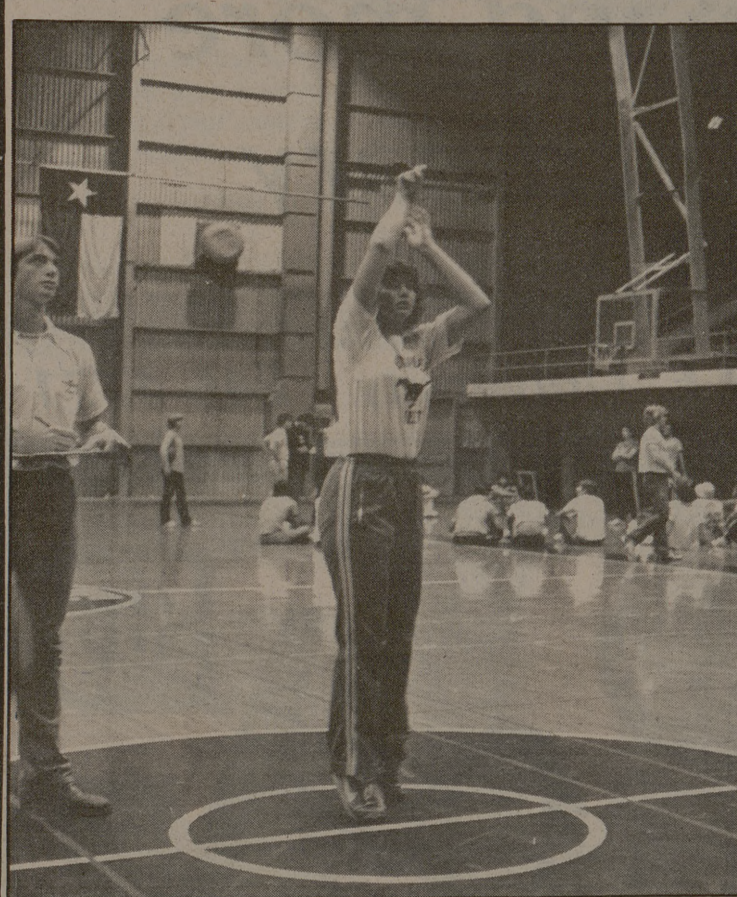
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Vicki Coburn in action at the free throw contest nets 19 consecutive baskets to win the women's division.

Free Throw Competition

The Freethrow Contest was a wild and crazy night on G. Rollie White's main floor. With all the basket balls going, it was hard to keep up. 129 people and 36 teams participated. It was a great contest and we have new champs for 1980. Congratulations to:

Men's Champ — Glenn Demois with 17 in a row and 19 scores.

Women's Champ — Vicki Coburn with 19 in a row and 19 scores*

Men's Team Champ — The Gym Rats with 30 in a row and 49 scores. (Michael Gillerman, Kevin Candle, Jfef Wilson)

Women's Team Champ — Best Kept Secret with 31 in a row and 45 scores. (Sandy Lambert, Vicki Coburn, Annie Muniz).

CoRec Team Champ — The Mob with 35 in a row and 48 scores. (Glenn DeMois, Mike Psench, Debbie Layont)
*New Record

Gymnasts Score High

In Men's Gymnastics on Saturday, January 26, A&M competed against t.u. Arlington. Despite being short several gymnasts, A&M place second in overall standings, behind t.u., with Pan Am third, and UTA fourth.

Individual achievements were as follows:

Ray Moltz — 4th on P-Bars* and 5th in All Around.
James Higgins — 4th on Floor Ex*.
Mark Hartwell — 3rd on Floor Ex*; 2nd on Rings; and 1st on Vault.
Rick Zapate — 6th on Pommel Horse

Pat Callihan — 1st Floor Ex*, 2nd on Pommel Horse; 4th on Vault; 6th on P-Bars*; and 6th on High Bar.

Recognition must also be given to **Mary Garza** (despite his encounter with a deranged set of P-Bars), **Jim Focht**, **Lee Burcham**, and **Jeff Hill** whose performances helped the overall team total. Congratulations also go to Gymnast of the Meet, **Pat Callihan**.

A&M will compete against t.u. and Texas Tech in Austin on February 9.
*(P-Bars = Parallel Bars; Flor Ex = Floor Exercise)
Submitted by Gymnastics Club



A crowd gathers anxious to see who will have the highest score in the free throw contest.

You Know It's A Good Day When —

- A good Ag found the watch you lost playing flickerball.
- The other team is also short some players.
- Your team comes from behind in the first half to win by a point.
- Your horseshoe partner has some experience, when you don't.

Acknowledgments

This ad is sponsored by your local McDonald's Restaurant at University Drive and Manor East Mall. Stories by Michelle Wolstein, Pictures by Rose Delano.

TENNIS TALK

What happened to you?

Jones has been practicing fieldgoal kicking again!

FOR THE RECORD

The freethrow contest broke several records this year. 173 entries and 63 teams were recorded during sign ups in the IM Office. Last year's total was 160 entries and 39 teams.

Vicki Coburn, of the Best kept Secrets, broke the women's record for shots in a row with 19 breaking Beverly Baum's 1977 record of 18 which she made for BSU's team.

Other freethrow records still on the books include Bob Kelley's 46 consecutive scores in 1975 for the PE Grads. The PE Grads of 1975 also hold the men's team record of 56.

The 1978 Tang Gang team holds the women's and corec team records with 48 and 52 points consecutively.

Entries Closing:
Slow Pitch Tuesday, Feb. 5
Horseshoe Doubles Tuesday, Feb. 5