

sports

# Ags thrash Horns in G. Rollie

By MIKE BURRICHTER  
Sports Editor

A couple of students brought a banner to the basketball game at G. Rollie White Coliseum Saturday. It read: "Beat the Hell out of tu, and Reggie Copeland."

Texas basketball coach Abe Lemons said the Aggies must have thought the whole Texas team was made up of Reggie Copelands.

The Aggies, still maddened by the memory of their loss at Arkansas, blasted the Longhorns 84-61 Saturday to keep pace with the Razorbacks in the race for the SWC basketball crown. Not since 1959, when a team coached by Bob Rogers beat them 83-29, had the Aggs whipped the Horns so easily.

Copeland was the referee in Fayetteville Tuesday night who called a charging foul on Dave Goff at the final buzzer. U.S. Reed sank the shot and threw to give the Hogs a 45-44 victory and a share of the league title.

"It was great from the standpoint of bouncing back from the Arkansas loss," Aggie coach Shelby Metcalf said. "The team did a great job of kicking themselves up."

Vernon Smith scored 19 points and the Aggs stopped the Longhorn break and dominated the boards lead at the half, 48-36.

"They were sagging back on Rudy, leaving me open to take those shots," said Smith, who hit on 9 of 11 shots from the floor in the first half. "I felt really good today so when I started hitting them I just kept shooting."

"Vernon is a lot of fun to watch when he gets that shooting rhythm with the ball," Metcalf said.

The Aggs shot 64 percent in the first half and 59 percent for the game. The Horns shot 40 percent for the game. The Longhorns also had their problems at the foul line, missing 10 of 27 free throw attempts.

"Our guys were dead, what else is new," Lemons said. "Just e. To get up the stats and they'll tell the story. We missed a whole bunch of half-court shots."

The Longhorns, having won five of their last seven games, came into the game given a fair chance to upset the Aggies. But the only lead they could get was Saturday when LaSalle's Tony Lawton had a three-point play to give the Horns a 3-2 lead with less than a minute gone in the game.

With the Aggies leading 23-20 at the end of the first half, Smith hit a 23-footer from the top of the key. The Longhorns were never in the game after that as Smith and the rest of the team started popping in baskets from all over the court. Metcalf also turned to his bench for help, sending in Tyrone Ladson, Steve Sylestine and Claude Riley to keep the Aggie tempo high. Lemons said he had nowhere to go in terms of bench strength.

"Their bench strength was a difference in the first half, at least in the margin of their lead although it was still a poor performance for us," Lemons said.

Smith and David Britton entered the locker room before the game in maroon and white tuxedos in a ploy to pick up the team's spirits.

"The team was still kind of down at practice Friday," Smith said. "Me, David and two trainers saw these tuxes the other night. We wanted to put some spirit into the team so we wore them to game."

It must have worked. Metcalf said he was surprised to see the team play so well after a slow week at practice.

"Wednesday we were really hurt," Metcalf said. "Thursday we picked it up a little and Friday we picked it up by that much more. I wouldn't have wanted to play anyone until today."

After his hot first half, the Longhorns guarded Smith more closely. He missed all five of his shots in the second half but still lead the Aggs with 21 points. Court jester David Britton, whose spectacular Julius Erving-style dunk in the second half was one of the game's highlights, scored 20. Rudy Woods had 15 points and Rynn Wright added 12. Woods, Smith, Wright and Britton combined for 27 rebounds, two more than the entire Texas team. The Aggs pulled down 40 rebounds in all. Ron Baxter lead all scorers with 22 points. The only other Longhorn in double figures was John Danks, who had 11.

The victory gave the Aggs a conference record of 12-2 and tied them with Arkansas. Their overall record is now 20-7. The Horns fell to 8-6 in the conference and 15-9 overall. The Aggies play TCU next in a televised game at G. Rollie White Tuesday night.



Texas A&M's Rynn Wright goes up for two against the University of Texas Longhorns in Saturday afternoon's game in G. Rollie White. The Aggies won 84-61. Photo by Brian Blalock. Staff photo by Lynn Blanco.

# Ags defeat Hogs, take indoor crown

United Press International  
FORT WORTH — The 1980 Southwest Conference indoor track and field championships Friday night delivered a taste of things to come.

Youngsters such as SMU's Michael Carter, Texas' Herkie Walls and Arkansas' Stanley Redwine demonstrated that they had would probably be producing some heroics during the next few years.

There were quite a few surprises Friday night, not the least of which was Texas A&M's victory in the team race over defending champion Arkansas. The Aggies won the meet for the first time in its seven-year history, piling up 103 points to Arkansas' 95.

Another surprise came in the 60-yard dash where Walls shot from the blocks with a fantastic start and ran the fifth fastest indoor 60 in history — a time of 6.09.

Walls nipped Texas A&M's Curtis Dickey, a world-class sprinter who had hopes of making the U.S. Olympic team this year before the American boycott was threatened.

The Razorbacks lost precious points in the middle distances — having to settle for a second place in

the 440-yard dash when Baylor's Zeke Jefferson upset Arkansas' Pat Mitchell.

Redwine, a freshman from Dallas, won the 600-yard dash for the Hogs, but Arkansas failed to pick up as many points as it had hoped in the 1,000-yard run or in the 3-mile run.

But there was no surprise in the shot put, where Carter made his debut in a SWC championship. Carter had been improving steadily during the indoor season and he improved again Friday night, throwing the shot 67-0¾.

That was the best effort in the world this year.

"My goal has been to improve," said Carter, "and that's what I've done. I'm glad I got the record (his toss shattered the SWC indoor mark by more than four feet), but it was more important to have improved on my earlier best this year."

Two weeks before Carter had thrown recorded a 66-11 effort in Louisville, Ky.

Texas A&M's individual victories came from Randy Hall in the pole vault (16-6), Don Jones in the high jump (7-1¾) and Mike Glaspie in the 60-yard hurdles (7.30).



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## Roundup

United Press International  
Arkansas, which had to hold off the markedly improved Rice Owls in Houston, 77-73, and Texas A&M's 12-2 league records with two games left to go in the regular season.

Arkansas visits SMU Monday night and hosts Texas Tech next Saturday afternoon in its two final games while Texas A&M is at home against last-place TCU Tuesday night and visits the troublesome Houston Cougars Friday night.

The three road teams for the tournament's first round were finalized for the weekend. TCU (2-12), Rice (1) and Baylor (5-10) will be the visitors on Feb. 25.

Baylor lost its chance for a home-court advantage when it dropped a 55 decision at home to Houston Saturday night.

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