

# Sports

## Play Arkansas Tuesday

### Ags have 'largest say' in race

United Press International  
The Texas A&M Aggies (remember them?) have long since been eliminated from the South-west Conference title race which they were forecast to dominate.

But suddenly the Aggies, wiped out early by a string of poor performances, find themselves as the team that can have the largest say in which of the two teams left in the SWC chase actually winds up

winning the title. The SWC season officially enters the stretch drive this week with Houston and Arkansas dead even at the top — thanks to the Razorbacks 70-55 drubbing of the Cougars in Fayetteville last Saturday.

Each has four games left to play and it so happens that both of them must make the trip to College Station to tackle the Aggies.

Arkansas will be first in, going to G. Rollie White Coliseum on Tuesday night with a seven-game winning streak and momentum in hand. The Razorbacks showing against the Cougars Saturday makes them the current favorite to capture the SWC's post-season tournament in San Antonio next month.

Houston will go to College Station for the final regular season game of the year on Feb. 28.

Waiting for the Razorbacks Tuesday evening will be a team that has undergone more personality changes than Dr. Jeckyl ever contemplated.

First Texas A&M was the team to beat, then it was the mystery team, then it was the team with scholastic problems, then it was the team with discipline problems and now it is back where it started — beating people with regularity and doing so with comparative ease.

"If we had been playing like this all along we would be in a lot better shape," said Aggies' coach Shelby Metcalf after his team won its fourth straight last Saturday night, a 71-56 decision over the Rice Owls. Rice had whipped A&M in College Station earlier this season, 54-50.

"They don't look like the same

team as the one we played before," said Rice coach Mike Schuler.

While Arkansas is trying to quiet the Aggies, Houston will make a trip to TCU (5-8), considered to be a much easier adventure.

And as the Cougars and Razorbacks are conducting a two-team fight for first place, five other teams are competing for third place — which carries with it a bye past the first round of the SWC's post-season tournament and an automatic trip to the second round in San Antonio.

Texas Tech and Baylor emerged in a tie for third place at 7-6 after the Raiders held off the Bears in Lubbock last Saturday night, 56-53. But Rice (6-6) is still close, as are Texas A&M and Texas (both 5-7).

Almost every game played in the league this week could have a bearing on the fight for third place, as well as the scramble for the home-court advantage in the opening round of the tourney on March 2.

TCU and SMU will almost certainly have to play on the road March 2, but some other team will have to make a trip as well and that is a misfortune to be avoided if at all possible.

Other than the Tuesday night games that send Arkansas to Texas A&M and Houston to TCU, Baylor will be at home against Texas and SMU will visit Rice.

Saturday's regionally televised game will have Texas A&M going to the Super Drum for a meeting with Texas while Rice will be at Arkansas, Baylor traveling to Houston and SMU hosting Texas Tech in Reunion Arena.

### Almost isn't enough as A&M Ladies lose

By RICHARD OLIVER  
Sports Editor

Four times is not a charm — but it almost is.

The Texas A&M women's basketball team played the Texas Tech Red Raiders for the fourth time this season Saturday, and the practice almost made perfect as Tech squeezed out a 71-70 victory.

The loss eliminated the Ags from the state playoffs.

A Kelley Sullivan shot with time running out tantalizingly crept around on the rim before falling out, giving the Raiders the win in Lubbock.

After a miserable first half which saw Texas A&M shoot a putrid 29 percent from the floor and fall behind at the intermission, 43-31, the women came alive, even taking the lead for a time in the second half.

The Aggie Ladies are now 7-19 on the season.

Sullivan, who ended up with 24 points, led the late Aggie charge,

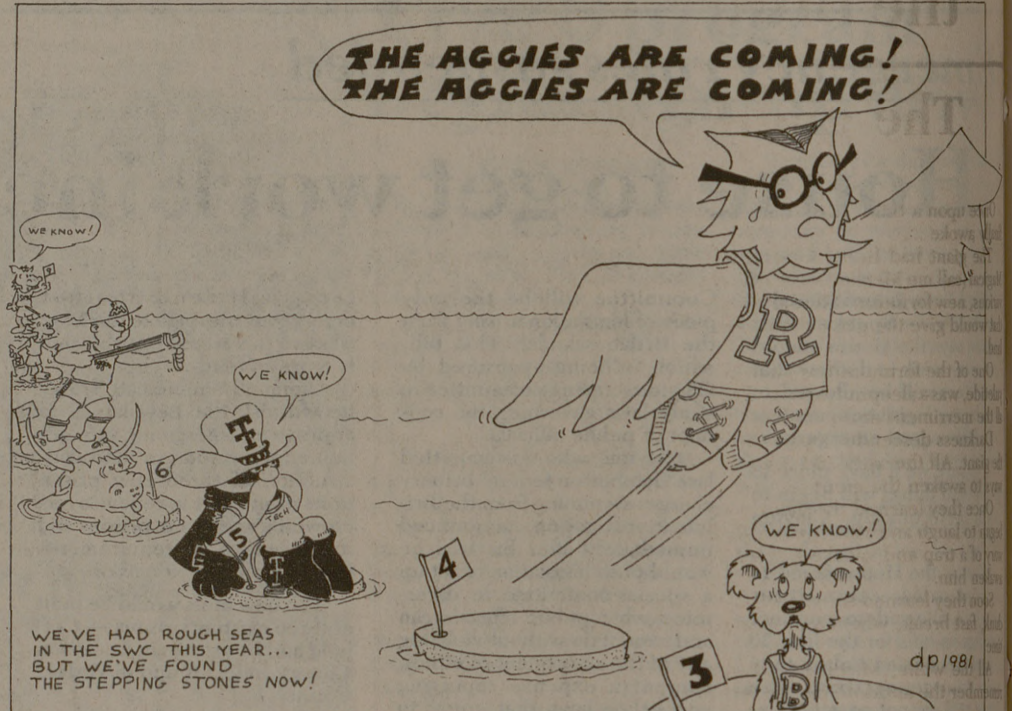
Tammy Crafton



with some help from Tammy Crafton (10 points). Texas Tech, ranked sixth in the tournament, was paced by Carolyn Thompson's 27 points; Tammy Anderson and Gwen McRae hit 11.

On the court, the Aggies took control, outshooting the Raiders, 28-23, but the difference came on the free throw line. Texas Tech was 25 of 34, and the Ags were 14 of 26.

The Aggies will play Nebraska and Abilene Christian at home Feb. 27 and 28.



### TAMU has good weekend

Here is a rundown of some weekend Texas A&M sports action:

**GYMNASTICS TEAM** — The Texas A&M gymnastics team lost a dual meet to a tough University of Texas team in Austin Saturday. The Aggies finished the meet with 148.7 total points to the 176.15 points by the Longhorns.

Texas A&M was paced by the efforts of Ray Moltz, who finished fourth in the all-around competition with 42.15 points out of a possible 60. Jurgen Achterman was named the gymnast of the meet, a title bestowed upon the most improved gymnast.

Top A&M finishers were: **Floor Exercise:** Mark Hartwell-1st place, Ray Moltz-4th, **Pommel Horse:** Ray Moltz-3rd, **Rings:** Mark Hartwell-1st, Ray Moltz-6th, **Vault:** Mark Hartwell-2nd, Ray Moltz-6th, **Parallel Bars:** Ray Moltz-3rd, David Semon-5th, **Horizontal Bars:** Ray Moltz-3rd, David Semon-5th.

**RIFLE TEAM** — The Texas A&M rifle team defeated TCU rifle team Saturday in a small-bore competition in preparation for this weekend's sectional competition.

The A&M team shot a total of 2,183 to the TCU team score of 2,132.

The Aggies were once again led by Mike Winzeler who shot 566 out of 600. John Heye shot 535, Thad Everhart hit 531 and Glenn

Park collected 551.

The team took three other team members along for experience — Harvey Haney, Renee Ruth and Kurt Nauck. The trio shot 507, 493 and 541 respectively.

Saturday and Sunday the Aggies will be in Fort Worth to participate in a sectional tournament. In the sectionals, teams will shoot small-bore and air rifle rounds to try and qualify for national competition in April.

**FENCING** — Three Texas A&M fencers competing in the Junior Olympics — August Skopik, Denise Ehrlich and Larry Sharp — were eliminated in the first round Saturday in Cleveland, Ohio.

Skopik and Sharp competed in the men's 20-and-under foil, and Ehrlich competed in women's 20-and-under foil.

**MEN'S LACROSSE** — The Aggies took two home victories this weekend to increase their regular season record to 3-0.

One win came over Texas Tech, the team many consider to be the Aggies toughest competition in this area of the country.

Saturday, the Ags beat Baylor, 23-10, as Al Adler scored six goals and had one assist. Guy Groesbauer also added six goals. Rich Cody, Tony Scazzaro and Ken Foulz had two each.

Against Tech Sunday in front of 250 spectators on the drill field, Texas A&M squeaked out a 13-8 win.

"We did a real good job," said team member Duke Whelan. In that game, Adler had three goals with one assist. Groesbauer also added three and had

four assists. Scazzaro had two goals, Foulz three goals and two assists.

Saturday, the Aggies will face the tough San Antonio Lacrosse Club.

Texas A&M swept through the fall scrimmage schedule undefeated, and thus has not lost since last year.

**MEN'S VOLLEYBALL** — The Texas A&M men's volleyball team swept through the sixth annual Texas A&M Valentine's Day Invitational Saturday without losing a game to take home the championship for the second straight year.

The men devastated their opponents, winning 10 straight games and easily capturing their pool.

In the finals, the Aggies defeated the Dallas YMCA Club, considered to be their toughest foe, 15-10, 15-2. In the second game, the team was up 12-0 before Dallas scored.

The Houston Stars won the women's AA competition, 7-15, 15-12, 15-6, over 1776 (from San Antonio). The Texas A&M women's volleyball team didn't make out of its pool.

The men's team will be in action again this weekend when it travels to the University of Texas-Arlington for the Dallas YMCA Tournament.

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### Baseball action begins

United Press International  
LUBBOCK — Relief pitcher Matt Bean stopped an eighth-inning New Mexico rally to preserve an 8-5 college baseball victory for Texas Tech Sunday.

The Red Raiders had an 8-1 lead going into the inning but UNM had scored four runs in the eighth when Bean came in.

The victory pushed Tech's record to 3-1, and New Mexico dropped to 1-3.

Rusty Loughlin had two RBI on two hits to lead the Raiders, and Dee Law and Steve Roper had two hits apiece. Tommy Francis, Larry Harrison and Ben Bregman each had two hits to lead the New Mexico attack.

Tech won three of the four-game series with New Mexico, which opened the baseball season for both teams. Tech captured a double-header Friday while New Mexico won Saturday's game.

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