

Sutton, Razorbacks face Aggies tonight

by John Bramblett

Battalion Staff
Eddie Sutton brings his magic show, the University of Arkansas basketball team, to G. Rollie White Coliseum tonight for a 7:35 tip-off with the Texas Aggies.

Ranked 14th in the nation and holding down third place in the Southwest Conference, the

Razorbacks came from behind to defeat Houston 68-67 Saturday in Barnhill Arena.

Sutton pulled a cat out of the hat with the hand of 6-10 center Scott Hastings, who hit a 20-foot jump shot with eight seconds left in the game. The senior, who has led the Razorbacks in scoring the past two years, will probably be picked high in the NBA draft.

The Razorbacks, who are 13-2 for the season and 4-2 in the SWC, arrive holding a 74-47 series lead over the Aggies. However, in College Station, the Hogs lead the series by only 29-28. Sutton holds a 10-4 record against Texas A&M, but he's 3-4 in the coliseum.

Texas A&M has posted an 11-4 season record and a second-place 4-1 SWC record. The next three games, in which the Aggies play Arkansas, Texas and Houston, will be the most crucial of the season.

During Sutton's eight seasons at Arkansas, three games with the Aggies have been decided by one point, one by two points and one game went into overtime. Last year's 65-61 victory is the Razorbacks' biggest win in College Station since their eight-point victory in 1957.

Part of Texas A&M's recent success can be attributed to its proficient free-throw shooting in Southwest Conference action. The Aggies are hitting 76 percent of their shots from the line, including a 22 for 26 performance Saturday night at Rice.

Claude Riley continues to lead the Aggies in scoring and

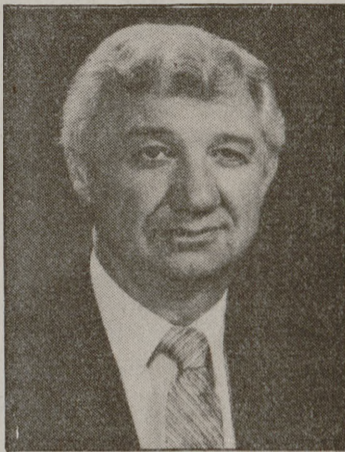
rebounding. The "Crockett Rocket" is averaging 15.3 points and 10.2 rebounds a game. The starting guards, Tyren Naulls and Reggie Roberts, are averaging 11.6 and 11.5 points a game.

Averaging 9.8 points and seven rebounds a game is center Rudy Woods, while forward Roy Jones has averaged seven points and 4.3 rebounds a contest.

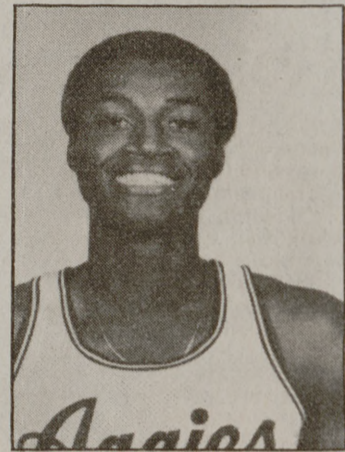
However, Jones is out for the year due to a knee injury he sustained against Rice. Texas A&M team physician Dr. Duane Lagan said Jones tore ligaments in his right knee.

"Roy suffered extensive damage to the medial collateral ligaments of his right knee midway through the second half," Lagan said. Jones was examined in Dallas Monday and was scheduled to undergo surgery this morning at Dallas' Baylor Hospital.

His loss will be a definite setback for the Aggies, since he was playing better than at any point in his collegiate career. He scored a career-high 18 points last Tuesday in the Aggies' 81-55 rout of SMU in Dallas. Jones is also the only starter whose conference scoring average, 9.6,



Shelby Metcalf



Claude Riley

is higher than his season average.

Aggie coach Shelby Metcalf will probably start tonight's game with a three-guard lineup consisting of Naulls, Roberts and freshman Gary Lewis. Lewis

has averaged 6.7 points and 22 minutes of playing time during each outing.

Metcalf said he's pleased with the Aggies' road victories over SMU and Rice.

"Since Texas Tech the Aggies lost to 68-47 weeks ago, we've done things in the games that worked on in practice," said. "We haven't had practice. We're moving well and not taking a shot."

The visitors are high by the play of Hastings Brown and junior Darnell Ker. The all-SWC center averaging 19.9 points and 10.2 rebounds a game. As the most prolific scorer in back history, Hastings is averaging 1.5 points each attempt a field goal.

Brown averages 10.4 game and has hit 62 percent his shots from the field. He is averaging 13.7 points.

In last year's first Arkansas began an 11 conference winning streak a 52-47 win in Fayetteville.

Seattle routs New York as Williams scores 25

United Press International
NEW YORK — Seattle Coach Lenny Wilkens admits his team has a tendency to stand around and watch All-Star guard Gus Williams perform with the basketball. You can add the New York Knicks to the list of spectators.

Monday night, Williams scored 25 points in the Sonics' 113-99 rout of the New York Knicks.

"We weren't a good team last year because we didn't have Gus," Wilkens said. "But he makes us run."

Seven Sonic players scored in double figures in keying Seattle's 10th victory in its games. New York has lost of its last 10 contests.

Outscoring the shopping 32-22 in the third quarter, the blew the game open. Lonnie Shelton hitting five goals and Bill Handzlik four.

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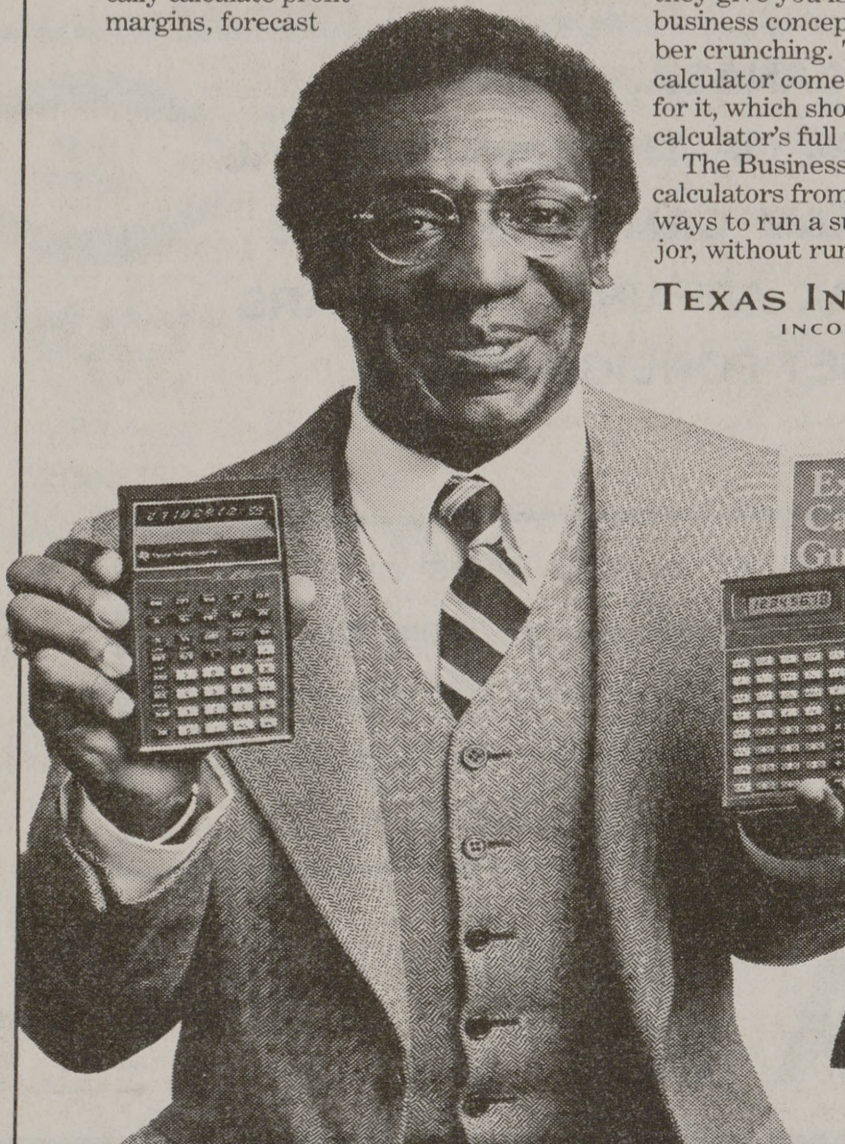
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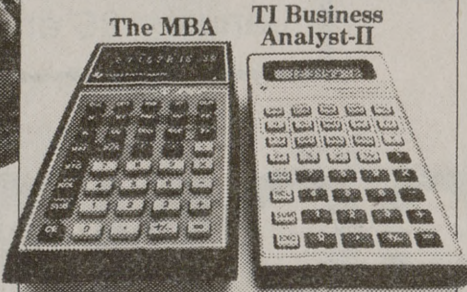


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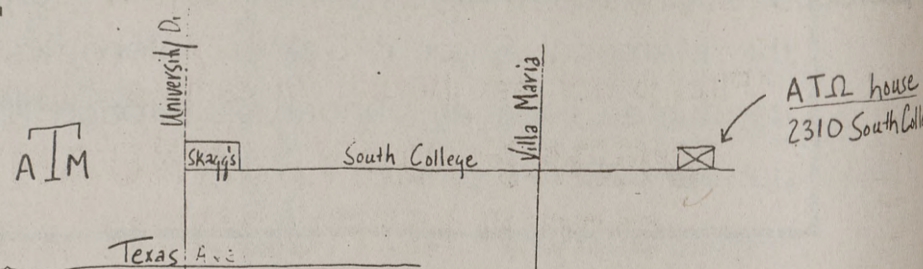
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