

Riley, Teagle come off career highs

Baylor next for Aggies

by Frank L. Christlieb
Sports Editor

Guy Lewis obviously had seen enough of the Texas A&M basketball team after watching his Houston Cougars lose 95-77 to the Aggies Monday night in G. Rolie White Coliseum.

The UH coach's brisk stride toward Texas A&M coach Shelby Metcalf, as well as the following hasty handshake and silent congratulation on the Aggies' victory, showed that Lewis and the Cougars had nothing to smile about. The loss, UH's fifth in the last six games, dropped the pre-season favorite Cougars into a sixth-place tie with Rice University and Baylor University. All three teams have 3-5 Southwest Conference records.

On the other hand, Metcalf and the Aggies, who were picked to finish fifth or sixth in the SWC, have moved into a first-place tie with the University of Arkansas. While each team has a 6-2 conference record, the Razorbacks have a 15-3 overall

record and the Aggies are 13-5 for the season.

Tonight, the Aggies play Baylor at 7:30 in Waco's Heart O' Texas Coliseum. The Bears lost 83-80 Monday night to Texas Christian University, giving them a 10-8 season record along with their sixth-place mark.

Junior forward Claude Riley's 38-point, 18-rebound outburst enabled Texas A&M to defeat the Cougars for the sixth time in the last seven tries. In Saturday's 71-69 overtime victory over the University of Texas, Riley scored the winning points on a jumper with five seconds remaining in the game.

Metcalf won his 300th career game with the Aggies' defeat of UT, and following the Houston game, the 19-year Texas A&M coach received a plaque from Dr. Charles H. Samson, chairman of the Texas A&M Athletic Council and vice president for planning.

"I just want to say that I've been very fortunate," Metcalf said after being recognized for victory No. 300. "I've worked with the greatest young men anywhere."

A normally unemotional Metcalf admitted after the game that the presentation was a memorable event for him.

"I usually don't get too excited about those things, but I have to admit I was pretty excited about that," Metcalf laughed.

Metcalf said although the Cougars had been picked to finish high in the conference, Lewis hadn't tried to build up his team's reputation before the season.

"I've never heard Guy Lewis say (that the Cougars would win the conference)," Metcalf said. "You guys decided they had a lot of talent, but the chemistry has to be there."

Metcalf said that in order to keep winning, the Aggies must continue playing with the inten-

sity they've shown during the past few games.

"There are a lot of good teams and a lot of good players, but there are no ties in basketball," Metcalf said. "When all the games are played, half of them are going to be wins and half of them are going to be losses, but there won't be any ties."

Riley said he felt that the Aggies' defense played an important role in the victory, during which Texas A&M shot 57 percent from the field.

"We're just going to have to keep on playing solid defense," Riley said.

Jan. 9, Texas A&M survived a last-second shot by Baylor forward Joe Copeland to defeat the Bears 47-46 in the coliseum. Baylor and Texas A&M split their two games during the 1980-81 season, with the Bears winning 53-44 in Waco and the Aggies winning here 84-59.

The Aggies' starting lineup tonight will be Riley and Woods, along with guards Tyren Naulls, Reggie Roberts and Milton Woodley. While Naulls finished the UH game with 13 points, Woodley had an Aggie season-high 13 assists. Freshman guard Gary Lewis handed out seven assists.

Starting for Baylor should be Copeland and Terry Teagle at the forward positions, Ozell Hall at center and Jay Shakir and Craig Kaiser at the guard slots.

Teagle scored a career-high 37 points in the Bears' home loss Monday to TCU.

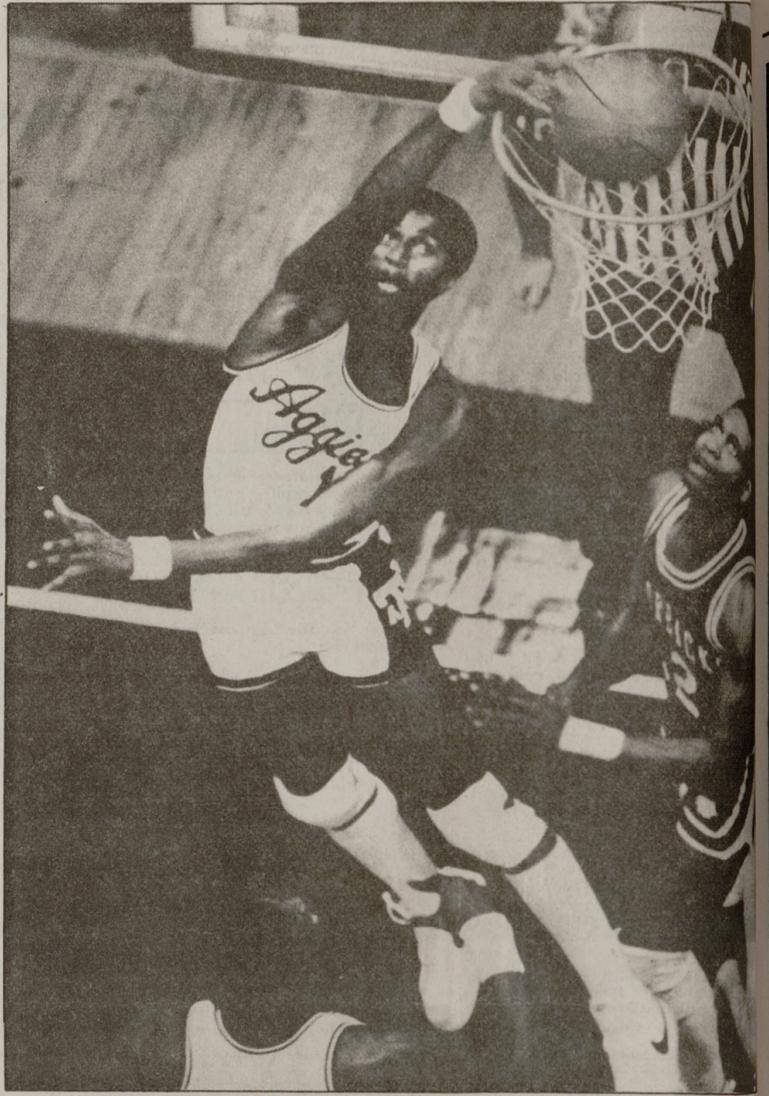
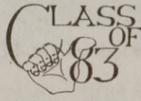


photo by C. Michel

Arkansas forward Keith Peterson (42) and post Scott Hastings can't do anything to stop Texas A&M's Claude Riley from scoring a dunk, although the Razorbacks defeated the Aggies 64-63 Jan. 26. Riley

finished with career-high totals of 38 points and 18 rebounds in Texas A&M's 95-77 victory Monday over the Houston Cougars. The Aggies meet the Baylor Bears in Waco's Heart O' Texas Coliseum tonight at 7:30 p.m.

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United Press International
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