

Texas A&M

The Battalion Sports

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staff photo by Frank L. Christlieb

Shan McDonald, shown here against Evansville, digs in to deliver a pitch.

The Aggie Ladies are currently on a week-long swing through California.

Softball team rained out

The Texas A&M softball team's double-header against United States International University was rained out Monday, as the Aggies continue their week-long swing through California.

Texas A&M, which began the trip by dropping a double-header to the Cal State-Fullerton Titans on Sunday, is scheduled to meet the University of San Diego today at 2 p.m.

The Aggies, currently ranked No. 2 in the nation, were shut out twice by the

Titans, 1-0 and 3-0. Cal State-Fullerton is ranked No. 3.

Despite a one-hitter by Lori Stoll in the first game, a costly error by right fielder Linda Lancaster spelled disaster for the Aggies. Lancaster lost control of a ball hit to right and allowed the runner to score.

Shan McDonald started the second game, but left early after developing a sore shoulder. Stoll came in with the score 1-0, and after walking the lead-off batter in the third, Cal State's Sue Lewis homered to up the score to 3-0.

Following the San Diego contest, the Aggies will meet Cal Poly-Pomona Wednesday for a single game. After that it's back to Fullerton for the Pony Invitational tournament, Friday through Sunday.

The Aggies, now 8-4, left for California after competing in the Sooner Invitational Tournament in Norman, Okla., where they won three of four games. Texas A&M defeated Ohio State, Illinois State and Missouri before losing in the finals to Oklahoma State.

Metcalf's contract-renewal ends rumors of dismissal

by John Wagner
Sports Editor
Texas A&M basketball coach Shelby Metcalf — after weeks of speculation about his future as

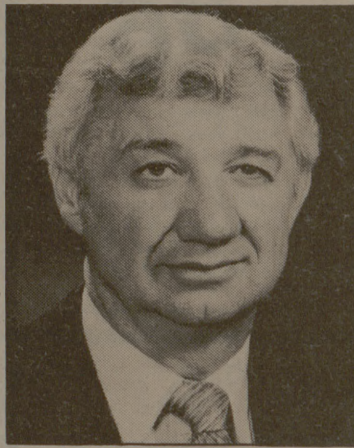
Analysis

head coach — was given a new three-year roll-over contract Monday.

Athletic Director Jackie Sherrill, saying he is "pleased with the progress, record and leadership of our basketball program," announced the decision.

The contract, which begins with the new fiscal year, has been approved by Texas A&M President Frank E. Vandiver and Athletic Council chairman Dr. Tom Adair.

Rumors about Metcalf's status as basketball coach began surfacing as early as the middle



Shelby Metcalf gets vote of confidence, new contract

of the 1982-83 season when the Aggies — after struggling through a pre-conference schedule that included trips to Alas-

ka, Montana, Connecticut, West Virginia, Louisiana and Indiana — began having problems.

When sophomore guard Gary Lewis quit the team and senior forward Claude Riley came down with what was reported to be mononucleosis, the Aggies seemed to be in an incurable slump.

And when a Dallas newspaper reported that Metcalf and Associate Athletic Director Charles Thornton were at odds, the rumors increased. After defeating TCU in G. Rollie White Coliseum in February, Metcalf let reporters know he could no longer discuss the situation. That, several media people said after the game, was a sure sign something was going on.

Thornton and Sherrill were suspiciously quiet during this time, denying nothing, but confirming nothing, either. The rumors kept coming, especially

during the Southwest Conference post-season tournament, when, after the Aggies were upset by TCU, many people wrote Metcalf off for good.

The Battalion declined to run any stories saying Metcalf was in trouble — after all, rumors are not truths, they are rumors. Saying a man's job is in trouble is one thing — spreading it all through a newspaper is another.

In retrospect, it seems we were correct in believing that Sherrill would extend Metcalf's contract. Metcalf, who was rumored to have called himself "the new Tom Wilson", was anxious to settle the matter. And with recruiting underway, the Athletic Department realized it was necessary to end the rumors and publicly support the basketball program here at Texas A&M.

It couldn't have come at a better time.

'New-look' Aggies face Gophers today in evening double-header

by John P. Lopez
Battalion Staff

One man can make a world of difference on the baseball field.

Reggie Jackson almost single-handedly won the world series for the New York Yankees in 1977. Joe Morgan carried the load in 1980 for the Houston Astros and Ricky Henderson made the 1982 Oakland A's one of the most volatile base-stealing threats in the big leagues.

But what about the 1983 edition of the Texas A&M baseball team? The Aggies are off to one of their fastest starts in several years, losing only five of their first 23 starts and breaking into the national Top 20 at No. 17. What's more impressive is that

most so-called baseball "experts" predicted Texas A&M would barely play .500 ball.

Who's responsible for Texas A&M's good fortunes?

As usual, the Aggies are the exception to the rule — two men are responsible. They both wear maroon and white uniforms, but they're not players.

Head coach Tom Chandler and newly acquired assistant Mark Johnson are the two culprits that tore the pre-season predictions to shreds. The consensus among the players is that both coaches have their strong points — Chandler has seen just about everything in his 25 years at the helm of the Aggies and Johnson's strong suit is his

gambling attitude on the base-paths.

The two coaches complement each other so well the Texas A&M baseball team could almost be called the "Master's and Johnson's" of the South.

But regardless of what you call the Aggies, statistics speak for themselves. And Chandler and Johnson are largely responsible for the almost 80 percent winning percentage posted by Texas A&M this year.

That winning percentage will be tested today when Texas A&M takes on the Minnesota Golden Gophers in a double-header beginning at 5:30 p.m. at Olsen Field.

Chandler said Johnson is de-

initely a welcome addition to the team.

"He's just done a remarkable job," Chandler said. "I can't think of a better addition to the team. Our philosophies are about the same and we're really getting a lot accomplished on the field."

Chandler must have great confidence in Johnson since the Aggie head coach handed over the chore of coaching third base — a job Chandler has handled for years. Johnson, who has helped coach both Arizona and Mississippi State to the College World Series, said he's up for the challenge of coaching third.

The Texas A&M University Chapter



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Phi Kappa Phi at Texas A&M University provides a dimension of academic excellence unlike any other campus endeavor. Its members embrace the percept that recognizing and honoring individuals of academic excellence and noble character are privileges to be cherished and that those acts serve to encourage others to set high goals in their scholarly pursuits.

Selected junior, senior and graduate students and faculty members who have demonstrated superior scholarship and character will soon receive invitations to join the Texas A&M Chapter of Phi Kappa Phi. New members will be initiated, the outstanding junior from each college will be recognized, a \$750 scholarship will be presented and the Chapter's nominee for a \$4,500 national Phi Kappa Phi fellowship will be named at a banquet on May 3, 1983.

Check your mail carefully to see if you are one of the few chosen from your academic discipline for membership in this honor society.

Let the love of learning rule mankind.

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STUDENT ORGANIZATION ALLOCATIONS WORKSHOPS

Tuesday March 22, 1983	3:45-5:00 p.m. Room 226 MSC
Wednesday March 23, 1983	3:45-5:00 p.m. Room 226 MSC
Wednesday March 23, 1983	5:15-6:30 p.m. Room 226 MSC

All eligible student organizations planning to request Student Organization Allocations for the 1983-84 academic year must plan to send a representative to one of these workshops. This representative should be the individual who will make the actual request. Please plan to attend this important workshop; procedures for this year's requests will be explained. The deadline for all requests is 4 p.m. Thursday, March 31, 1983 in the Student Finance Center, Room 217 MSC. Please call 845-1114 or 845-1133 for more information.

NO REQUEST WILL BE ACCEPTED AFTER THE DEADLINE!