Aggie Lady Michell Tatum, shown against Texas Tech, is

expected to start at post again this season for coach Cherri Rapp.

A junior affair

Experienced lineup gives Ladies confidence

by Mary Laura McNair

Motivation. That's what the chance to compete in a conference meant to women's basketball coach Cherri Rapp and her

The 1982 season marked the first year in which women's basketball was offered in the Southwest Conference, and Rapp says

it came just in time.

"Playing in the SWC was a lot better," Rapp said. "It gave us a goal — something to work for. Just the fact (we have a) conference tournament that qualifies you for nationals made it a little

more exciting."

Rapp made a couple of changes in her 1981-82 squad and the result helped raise a 9-20 record to 11-16.

"Switching Lynette Joiner from forward to guard and switching Jenni Edgar from guard to forward really helped our program," Rapp said. "Jenni is a much better rebounder and Lynette is a better outside." and Lynette is a better outside shooter.

The switch helped Edgar, a 5-8 forward from Dallas Bryan Adams, make second team all-SWC. But despite the steadying prescence of Edgar, last season was an up and down one for most of the Aggie Ladies.

"I think Jenni (Edgar) was probably the most process."

probably the most consistent player we had," Rapp said. "Lisa Langston had a good year but she was injured so much that she really didn't show how she could

knee surgery during Christmas. "The other starter will be She really didn't quite come either Ann (Trinka) or Janet back off of that and Janet just (Duckham)," Rapp said. "It will didn't play as well after Christ-mas as she did before."

An experienced group of re-

Sports Fest may

AUSTIN — City officials say that within a few days they will apply to the U.S. Olympic Committee to host either the 1986 or 1987 National Sports Festival.

The annual festival attracts about 3,500 athletes and from 1900 1000 to 2000 to 2000 1000 to 2000 to 2000 1000 to 2000 1000 to 2000 1000 to 2000 to 2000 1000 to 2000 to 2

200,000 to 300,000 spectators for nearly two weeks of events

ranging from equestrian competition to track and field.

"This could possibly be the biggest thing to come to Austin," said Leonard Ehrler, head of the city's parks. "We have been told it could bring nearly \$1 billion to the city."

of Texas had expressed interest in bringing the games to Austin. The deadline to apply for the 1985 through 1987 games is Sept. 1.

he said, and a decision on the site selection is expected by Jan. 1.

Austin Mayor Ron Mullen also expressed his support for the

plan and said San Antonio Mayor Henry Cisnersos was receptive to

the idea of holding some events in that city.

Ehrler said both the Chamber of Commerce and the University

come to Austin



Coach Cherri Rapp says experience is key to '83

turning starters has Rapp confident about the 1983 season. Only two players off last year's team were seniors — and that means experience and familiarity should be an Aggie trademark in 1983. Most of her players will be upper classmen who already have one or two years of playing experience.

"I'm excited about next season," says Rapp. "These junior players have been playing since they were freshmen. Usually freshmen sit on the bench, but they all played. They've got a headstart.

The Aggie Ladies will likely start an almost all junior lineup play.

"I think Michell Tatum and Janet (Duckham) both had a good first half of the year but Michell was injured and had knee surgery during Christmas."

"The other starter will be the only sophomore to break into the starting five.

depend on how well they per-

form during pre-season play." Both Trinka and Duckham



Lisa Langston should be only sophomore to start

are juniors, also.

The Ladies open their preconference schedule Nov. 18
against Hardin-Simmons in Abilene. Non-conference home games during the fall include St. Mary's on Nov. 28, Lamar on Nov. 30 and Dartmouth on Dec.

Rapp said the Ladies have a good chance to come out close to the top in the conference, but as usual, the Texas Lady Longhorns will be the favorites. Texas will be the toughest,

Rapp said. "They have been the past few years and they will probably be nationally ranked



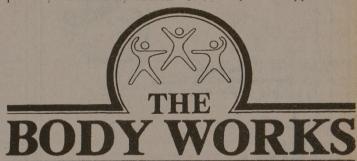
Romy Gandy returns to her point guard position

again this year.'

Rapp says a good preconference showing may make people more aware of the team.

"I think a lot of people don't realize that the women play as well as they do," Rapp said. "We have some exciting players. I think Lisa Langston is one of the most exciting players to watch because she jumps so high and is

People usually come out a lit-tle early for the men's game so they get a chance to watch us play," explains Rapp.



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nd closes 7,000 miles away in

okyo, Japan. The Houston Cougars will we a part in both the begin-Ingand end — playing the Rice wis in the season opener and king on the two-time defendg champion SMU Mustangs in okyo's Mirage Bowl on Nov.

In between the conference hysteries that could make this

pen in years. "Each year you think the race uldn't possibly be any more fficult than it was the year besaid Baylor coach Grant aff. "I've felt that way every ar I've been in the conference.

nd I feel that way again. Thursday night's meeting be-ween Rice and Houston will be second game involving mar college teams played in the untry this season and will natch the earliest starting date

SWC history. Penn State and Nebraska will ck off the season Monday ght in East Rutherford, N.J. Next Saturday the SMU Musngs will put the nation's gest current unbeaten streak 6 games) on the line when they ertain Louisville and Texas A&M will embark on its second season under Jackie Sherrill by osting the California Golden

after the hurrimash in Houston, the Southwest Conference will open its
the football season this week in
the same location.

In what amounts to a global
ursion, the three-month
trampaign opens Thursday
in a town still feeling the
sees 7,000

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