

Texas A&M

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All grins

Aggies' start a pleasant surprise for Metcalf

by John Wagner

Battalion Staff
The Texas Aggies' 3-1 start may not have Akeem the Dream shaking in his oversized sneakers, but it's been all grins for Texas A&M coach Shelby Metcalf.

A&M's play has surprised preseason critics, many of whom said the young Aggies would be lucky to even recognize a basketball this season, let alone play with one.

The Aggies may be young, but they're not that young.

A&M's wins over Texas Lutheran, Prairie View A&M and Southwestern have been less than impressive, sometimes downright sloppy. In fact, the Aggies' best game was one they lost, a 75-65 defeat at the hands of ninth-ranked LSU. But they got the job done in the other three, and Metcalf says it's just a matter of time before the team jells.

"We've come a long way, considering we've only played four games," Metcalf said. "Our young players will continue to improve as they become more comfortable in our system."

Comfortable? Several already seem to have made themselves at home.

Freshman Mike Clifford, a 6-6 forward from Round Rock, started for the first time Monday against Southwestern, and he finished the game with nine points, nine rebounds, 10 assists and two blocked shots. A&M's leading scorer in that game was sophomore Doug Lee, who had 16. Another freshman, guard Todd Holloway, had 12 points and five assists.

In fact, every point scored this season, save for junior Darnell Williams' 18, has come from a freshman or a sophomore. Not bad for a team that's still getting to know each other.

The Aggies' biggest problem seems to be patience. Sometimes, they just don't have any.

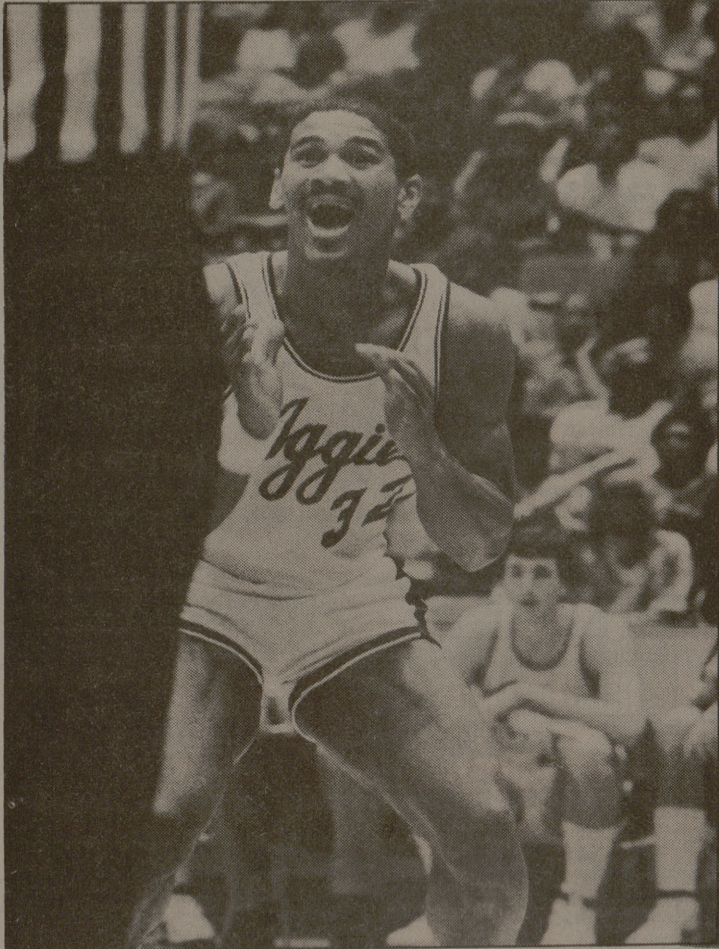
After falling behind at halftime 32-31 against Southwestern, Metcalf gave the Aggies two words of friendly advice — slow down.

"He just said we could win the game if we were patient and shot the shots we practiced shooting," Holloway said after A&M's 71-66 win over the Pirates. "We were rushing, forcing our shots, and doing a lot of 'crazy stuff,' as Coach calls it."

Despite their youth and lack of height, the Aggies have out rebounded their opponent in all four games this season, and center Jimmie Gilbert is the main reason. The sophomore from Huntsville leads the Aggies in that category, averaging over 12 a game. Clifford, after seeing limited action in the first two games, has pulled down 21 in the last two games.

The Aggies don't play again until Saturday, when they take on Oral Roberts in Tulsa, Okla. The Titans are led by the Acres brothers, center Mark and forward Jeff, and are coached by, yes, that's right, Mark and Jeff's dad, Dick.

"The Acres brothers are the best brother combination working in basketball today," Metcalf said. "In fact, they



Texas A&M's Kenny Brown claps his hands at the official's call during A&M's loss to LSU Saturday. The Aggies play Oral Roberts Saturday in Tulsa, Okla.

may be working on a dynasty up there. It's still early, but Metcalf

may have a little dynasty of his own — once his freshmen and sophomores grow up.

Husker trio leads All-America team

United Press International

NEW YORK — Heisman Trophy winner Mike Rozier is one of three players from top-ranked Nebraska's record-setting offense named Wednesday to the UPI All-America first team.

Rozier, a senior I-back, is joined by two teammates, wide receiver Irving Fryar and guard Dean Steinkuhler, from the highest scoring offense in college history. Rozier led the nation with 2,148 yards and an NCAA record 29 rushing touchdowns, in large part because of the blocking of Steinkuhler, a 6-foot-3, 270-pound senior.

Rozier is also one of five repeaters from the 1982 team along with tight end Gordon Hudson of Brigham Young, Oklahoma defensive tackle Rick Bryan, Arizona linebacker Ricky Hunley and Georgia defensive back Terry Hoage.

Georgia and Brigham Young are the only other schools beside Nebraska to have more than one player on the first unit. Brigham Young, the country's top team in total offense, placed Hudson and quarterback Steve Young while Georgia was represented by Hoage and defensive end Fred Gilbert.

Auburn running back Bo Jackson is the only sophomore on the team. Pittsburgh offensive tackle Bill Fralic, Clemson middle guard William Perry and Texas defensive back Jerry Gray are juniors.

Rounding out the offense are Missouri tackle Conrad Goode, guard Stefan Humphries of Michigan, Southern California center Tony Slaton and running back Greg Allen of Florida State. Kansas' Bruce Kallmeyer is the kicker.

Completing the defense are end Ron Faurot of Arkansas, Tennessee tackle Reggie White, linebackers Wilber Marshall of Florida and Carl Banks of Michigan State and Southern Methodist defensive back Russell Carter. Wyoming's Jack Weil is the punter.

Young passed for 3,906 yards and 33 touchdowns this season, setting NCAA records for most yards total offense (395.1 per game), most completions (306) and highest completion percentage (71.3). Also among his 13 NCAA records is highest career completion percentage (65.8). Young was the Heisman runner-up.

Jackson gained 1,213 yards and scored 14 TDs to lead the

Southeastern Conference in both categories. Allen gained 1,134 yards and scored 13 TDs while averaging 5.7 yards per carry for the Seminoles.

Fryar, one of the most explosive players in the nation, caught 40 passes for 780 yards (19.5 yards per catch) and eight TDs for a Cornhuskers team which threw so rarely that its quarterback didn't have enough attempts to qualify among the NCAA leaders. Fryar added 318 yards and 2 TDs rushing and 113 on punt returns to rank 39th nationally in all-purpose yardage. Hudson caught 44 passes for 596 yards and six TDs despite sitting out the final three games with a knee injury.

Steinkuhler was nominated for both the Outland and Lombardi Trophies given to the nation's top lineman. Fralic, Humphries, Slaton, White and Bryan are also candidates for both awards.

No. 2 Texas had five players on the second team and No. 5 Illinois had three on the second unit.

Texas placed guard Doug Dawson, center Mike Ruether, linebacker Jeff Leding, defensive back Mossy Cade and punter John Teltschick. The Illini had offensive tackle Jim Juriga, defensive tackle Don Thorp and defensive back Craig Swoope.

The rest of the second team offense is quarterback Doug Flutie and wide receiver Brian Brennan of Boston College, tight end Paul Bergmann of UCLA, tackle Brian Blados of North Carolina, guard Terry Long of East Carolina, running backs Napoleon McCallum of Navy, Allen Pinkett of Notre Dame and Keith Byars of Ohio State and kicker Paul Woodside of West Virginia.

Rounding out the second team defense are ends Kevin Murphy of Oklahoma and Donnie Humphrey of Auburn, tackle William Fuller of North Carolina, middle guard Michael Carter of Southern Methodist, linebackers Ron Rivera of California and Jay Brophy of Miami (Fla.) and defensive back Don Rogers of UCLA.

Mosely ready for Cowboys

WASHINGTON — If it comes down to the final seconds Sunday with Dallas leading by two points and Washington at the Cowboys' 23, hearts in Texas Stadium will skip a beat.

All the hearts, that is, except kicker Mark Moseley's. Moseley would love it.

"That's exactly the situation I thrive on," Moseley said Wednesday as the Redskins began preparations for their visit to Dallas. "I like to be put in that position because I'm confident I can do the job."

The NFC East title and the home-field advantage for the NFC portion of the playoffs will be on the line Sunday, although the winner must also win the final game of the season to hold that edge. It all adds up to a Moseley type of day.

Moseley, the only "toe kicker" left in pro football, leads the

NFL with 147 points, a record for kicked points. He also leads in field goals with 31 and extra points with 54.

For consistency, Moseley, in his 31-44 field goal year, has hit 24 of 29 inside 40 yards. He has hit 13 of his last 16 attempts with the misses coming from 40, 43 and 56 yards. He has made nine of his last 10 inside 40 yards.

That wasn't the case earlier in the season. In fact, the Redskins, 12-2, can point to a pair of Moseley misses as major factors in the two losses. He missed from 31 yards with 9:24 to play in the season-opening 31-30 loss to the Cowboys and from 37 yards on the final play of the 48-47 loss at Green Bay.

"What's almost as bad is that I made some kicks early when I didn't really hit the ball well," said Moseley. "It bothered me to the point that I was going on the field worrying and trying not to

miss a kick rather than concentrating on making it.

"Finally, I read an article by a psychologist who had worked with a pole vaulter. The vaulter was having problems and always saw himself knocking the bar off. The doctor told him to concentrate on listening for the pole hitting in the box.

"It got me thinking, I remembering that on my best kicks, I could hear that real solid thump of my toe hitting the ball. I started concentrating in practice and carried it into games, listening for that solid sound. It worked and my attitude now is that I'm going to make every kick," Moseley said.

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Bucks nip Rockets, 103-101

MILWAUKEE — Sidney Moncrief hit a pair of free throws and a jumper in the final 64 seconds Wednesday night to give the Milwaukee Bucks a 103-101 victory over the Houston Rockets and extend their winning streak to six games.

The jumper capped a close fourth period which saw neither team assume a lead of more than four points. Junior Bridgeman's basket tied the score at 98 and after Allen Leavell gave the Rockets their final lead at 100-98, Moncrief hit two foul shots and the jumper in the final seconds.

The Bucks thought the game ended after Milwaukee's Terry Teagle intentionally missed the second of his two free throws and went to the locker room. But referees Jesse Hall and Ken Meier ruled that one second remained and called the Bucks out on the court. Leavell's jumper at the buzzer missed.

Milwaukee, which raised its home record to 9-0, was led by Moncrief and Bridgeman with 20 points each. Lewis Lloyd led the Rockets with 26 points while Ralph Sampson added 23.

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