

## Baseball

Ags vs. Hardin Simmons  
at Olsen Field  
Friday 3 p.m.; Saturday 1 p.m.

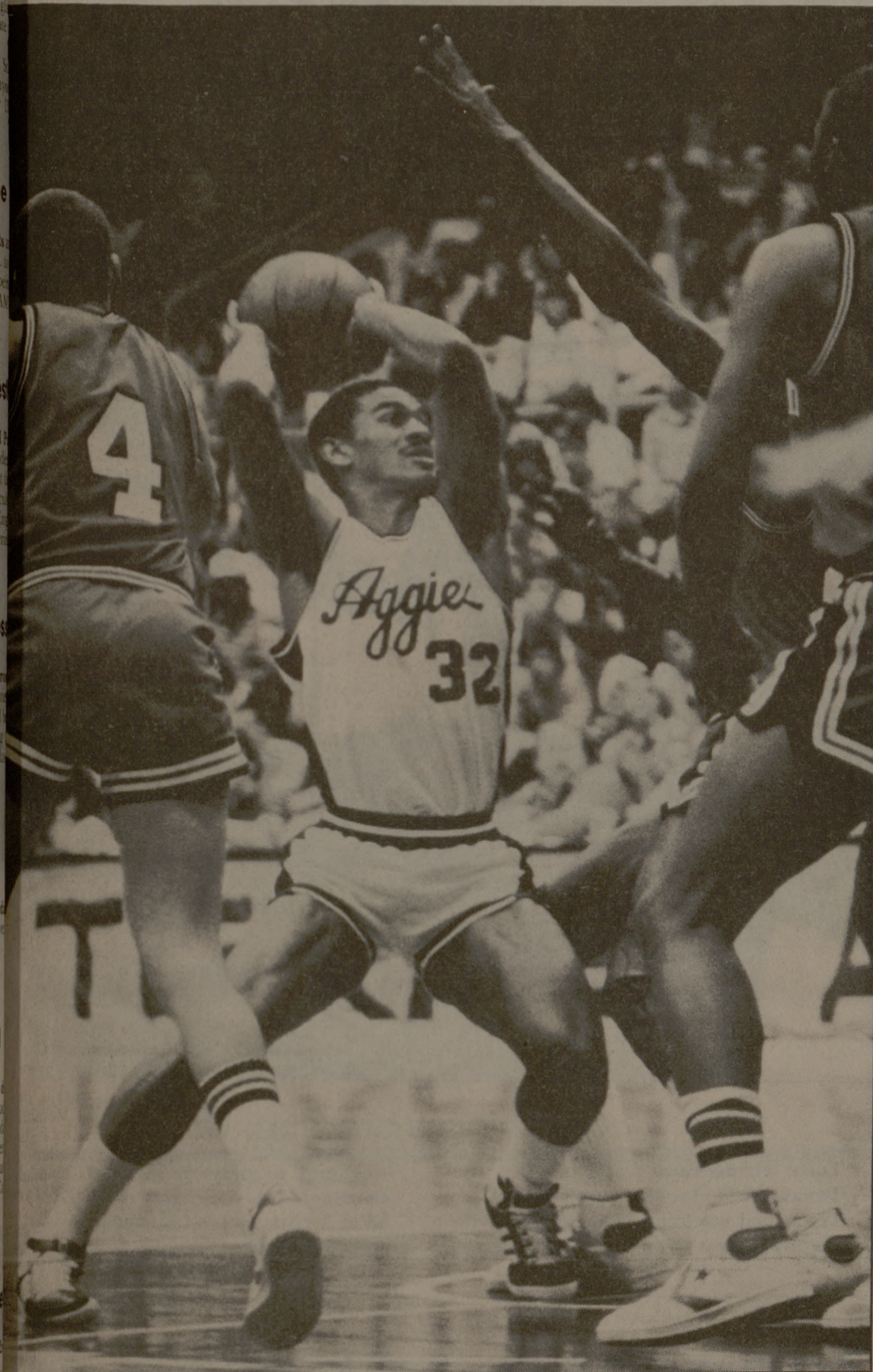


Photo by BILL HUGHES

## Tech ends Aggie season

By BOB CASTER  
Sports Writer

The Texas Tech Red Raiders left G. Rollie White Coliseum with their 10th Southwest Conference win Thursday night, beating the Texas Aggies 62-53, and denying A&M their final chance to pull together a break-even record.

Kenny Brown, hitting what have become his trademark outside jump shots, and Winston Crite, working under the bucket, kept the Aggies close to the Red Raiders during a first half that ended in a 23-23 tie. Brown led the Aggies in scoring with 15 points while Crite had 13, nine of which came in the second half.

But with 8:51 left in the second half came the play that put Tech on top for the rest of the night. That play was an alley-

oop pass from Tony Benford to junior forward Vince Taylor which he promptly stuffed into the basket, practically up to his elbows.

"On the alley-oop play, I just looked up and the ball was there," Taylor said after the game. "We ran that some last year but that was the first time this year. It was a big play but it wasn't the only play that made a difference."

Even so, it was an important play — one that forced the Aggies to play catch-up ball late in the first half. And the Aggies couldn't catch up.

The Aggies' head coach Shelby Metcalf tried to analyze the breakdown after the loss.

"If we win, it's because we've got great players," he said. "If we lose it's because I'm a lousy coach. I've always told the guys

"you take the wins, I'll take the losses."

But Metcalf said he felt the Aggies' biggest problem was encountered at the free-throw line. A&M hit only 19 of 33 free shots for 57.6 percent.

"Basically we lost at the free throw line," Metcalf said. "This late in the season, it's disappointing to miss that many free throws, it all goes back to the mental aspects of the game."

But maybe the Aggies' biggest problem of all was just not being prepared.

"They're good," Brown said. "I just don't think we were up enough tonight — we just didn't play hard enough to win."

Both Metcalf and his players said they had not had good practices going into the Tech game and that much of the problem may have been there.

The Aggies remained in fifth place in the SWC standings, regardless of Thursday's outcome.

"I knew before the game we had problems," Metcalf said. "The guys weren't ready to play and if they don't play hard for 40 minutes, we don't have a chance. We've got to play hard all the time and we didn't do that tonight."

"We're the smallest team in the conference and we've got to play hard. We give away height at key positions and we have to play with a lot of intensity to make up for that."

With the regular season behind them now, the Aggies turn to the first round of the SWC playoffs where they will face the winner of Saturday's TCU-Texas match-up.

## SMU leads SWC swimming

United Press International

AUSTIN — Southern Methodist, buoyed by record performances from Richard Prado and Chuck Panthier, took the first-day lead over Texas in the Southwest Conference Swimming and Diving Championships.

As expected, the meet is a battle between SMU and Texas. The Mustangs led after eight events with a score of 260½ while Texas held a 237. Arkansas trailed in third with 116½.

At the end of six events Texas A&M was in fourth place with 44 points.

In the opening event, Panthier set a conference meet record in the 50-yard butterfly with a time of 21.85 to beat teammates Mike Short, John Spaulding and Bart Ebbinghaus in the Mustang sweep of the first four places.

Texas A&M's Chris O'Neil finished a disappointing sixth in the 50-fly.

Prado later set a conference meet record in the 200-yard individual medley with a time of 1:46.96, more than a second faster than the previous mark of 1:48.19 by Bill Stafford of Texas.

SMU also claimed firsts in the 50-yard backstroke with Mook Rhodenbaugh's

22.80 and in the 500-yard freestyle with Cory Robinson's 4:24.32.

Texas took a first in the 50-yard breaststroke with a 25.48 from Stuart Smith.

Siong Ang Peng of Houston broke the Texas-SMU lock on firsts in the final event Thursday with a 19.77 to win the 50-yard freestyle.

On the battle with Texas, Panthier said, "We have as good a chance at beating them as they do of beating us. But it will be close. It will probably come down to the last couple of events, on the last day. The key for us is the relays."

Kenny Brown led the Aggies with 15 points, as A&M lost to Texas Tech 62-53. The Aggies are in fifth place in

the SWC and will play in College Station Tuesday against the loser of Saturday's Texas-TCU game.

Aggies run in Laredo this weekend

LAREDO — The Texas A&M Aggies will defend their title beginning Friday at the 2nd annual Border Olympics, additionally the first major outdoor track and field meet in the southwest.

More than 1,200 athletes will compete in five divisions with the bulk of the finals set for Saturday.

Seven of the nine Southwest Conference members will take part in the university division, including North Texas and Lamar. Among the missing, however, will be the SWC indoor champion Arkansas Razorbacks.

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