

BYU dons No. 1 after big upsets

Hickey's coaching debut a success

Aggies win opener, 74-64

United Press International

NEW YORK — Brigham Young University, reaching college football's top spot for the first time in the school's history, was selected the nation's No. 1 team by the UPI Board of Coaches Monday.

The 11-0 Cougars, despite claims of a soft schedule, received 30 of a possible 40 first-place votes and 581 total points to vault two places in the ratings. Oklahoma State had two first-place votes and 509 points to finish second and Oklahoma received two top selections to finish next with 495 points.

Two of the 42 coaches on the UPI panel did not vote this week.

The Cowboys and Sooners meet for the Big Eight title next weekend.

In addition to the top three teams, Texas (3), Florida (2) and Washington (1) collected first-place votes.

BYU, the only major undefeated college football team, ran its winning streak to 22 games — the nation's longest — with Saturday's 24-17 victory over Utah. The Holiday Bowl-bound Cougars became the sixth No. 1 team this year after last week's top two teams, Nebraska and South Carolina, were upset.

Should BYU win the national championship it would mark the first time in 18 years the nation's No. 1 team has not played in a major bowl. Notre Dame won the title in 1966 and at that time did not elect to play in bowls. The national championship was then awarded before bowl games.

The Cornhuskers lost to Oklahoma 17-7 to fall to eighth while the Gamecocks were shocked 38-21 by Navy and landed in the ninth slot. Texas moved from ninth to fourth with a convincing victory over Texas Christian.

Rounding out the Top 10, it was: No. 5 Washington, No. 6 Ohio State, No. 7 Florida and No. 11 Boston College.

Completing the Top 20 were: No. 11 Auburn, Miami and Southern California at No. 12, No. 14 Southern Methodist, No. 15 Florida State, No. 16 Texas Christian, No. 17 Vir-

Top 20

The United Press International Board of Coaches Top 20 college football ratings, with first-place votes and records in parentheses (total points based on 15 points for first place, 14 for second, etc.):

1. BYU (30) (11-0) 581
2. Oklahoma State (2) (9-1) 509
3. Oklahoma (2) (8-1-1) 495
4. Texas (3) (7-1-1) 417
5. Washington (1) (10-1) 394
6. Ohio State (9-2) 359
7. Florida (2) (8-1-1) 339
8. Nebraska (9-2) 330
9. South Carolina (9-1) 296
10. Boston College (7-2) 254
11. Auburn (8-3) 126
12. (tie) Miami (8-3) 121
12. (tie) USC (8-2) 121
14. SMU (7-2) 120
15. Florida State (7-2-1) 88
16. TCU (8-2) 77
17. Virginia (7-1-2) 35
18. LSU (7-2-1) 30
19. Maryland (7-3) 20
20. Wisconsin (7-3-1) 12

Note: By agreement with the American Football Coaches Association, teams on NCAA or conference probation are ineligible for the Top 20 and national championship consideration by the UPI Board of Coaches. The teams currently on probation are Arizona, Clemson, Illinois and Kansas.

ginia, No. 18 LSU, No. 19 Maryland and No. 20 Wisconsin.

Nebraska fell from No. 1 for the second time this year. The Cornhuskers held the top spots for three weeks before losing 17-9 to Syracuse. Auburn, the preseason No. 1, fell in the Kickoff Classic 20-18 to Miami, to set a pattern of frustration at the top.

Miami was No. 1 for one week, Texas for two and Washington for four.

By CHAREAN WILLIAMS
Sports Writer

The Texas A&M women's basketball team, with a new coach and a new outlook, opened its season with an easy 74-64 win over Abilene Christian Monday night.

Lynn Hickey, who came to A&M from Kansas State, was pleased with her first win as the Aggies' head coach.

"I am pleased with the win," Hickey said. "We had so many mistakes though. Without the mistakes, we would have probably had 20 more points. We need to work on our rebounding. We just started standing around and let the smaller athletes, not as good as us, control the boards. We did win and that's the important thing."

Senior Jenni Edgar led the Ags with 18 points and six assists. Edgar said, considering it was the first game, she played well.

"I felt pretty good," Edgar said. "We've still got a lot of work to do on our fundamentals, but I think we'll improve with each game."

The Ags took a quick 4-2 lead and never looked back, leading 41-26 at halftime. However, in the second half the Wildcats (1-1) caught the Ags taking a cat nap and closed the gap to 10 points.

"We kept throwing it away," Hickey said. "They had everything to go for in the second half. We were just middle-of-the-road. We've got to be a first and second half team."

Senior forward Janet Duckham, who had 13 points and nine rebounds, agreed with Hickey.

"In the second half, they just out-rebounded us," Duckham said. "We just made too many mistakes, but those are little things that we can easily improve."

ACU's Claudia Schleyer, who led NCAA Division II in scoring last year, was a one person wrecking crew. Schleyer had a game-high 26 points, before fouling out late in the game.

"Claudia's a good ball player," ACU Head Coach Burl McCoy said. "She still has some things she can

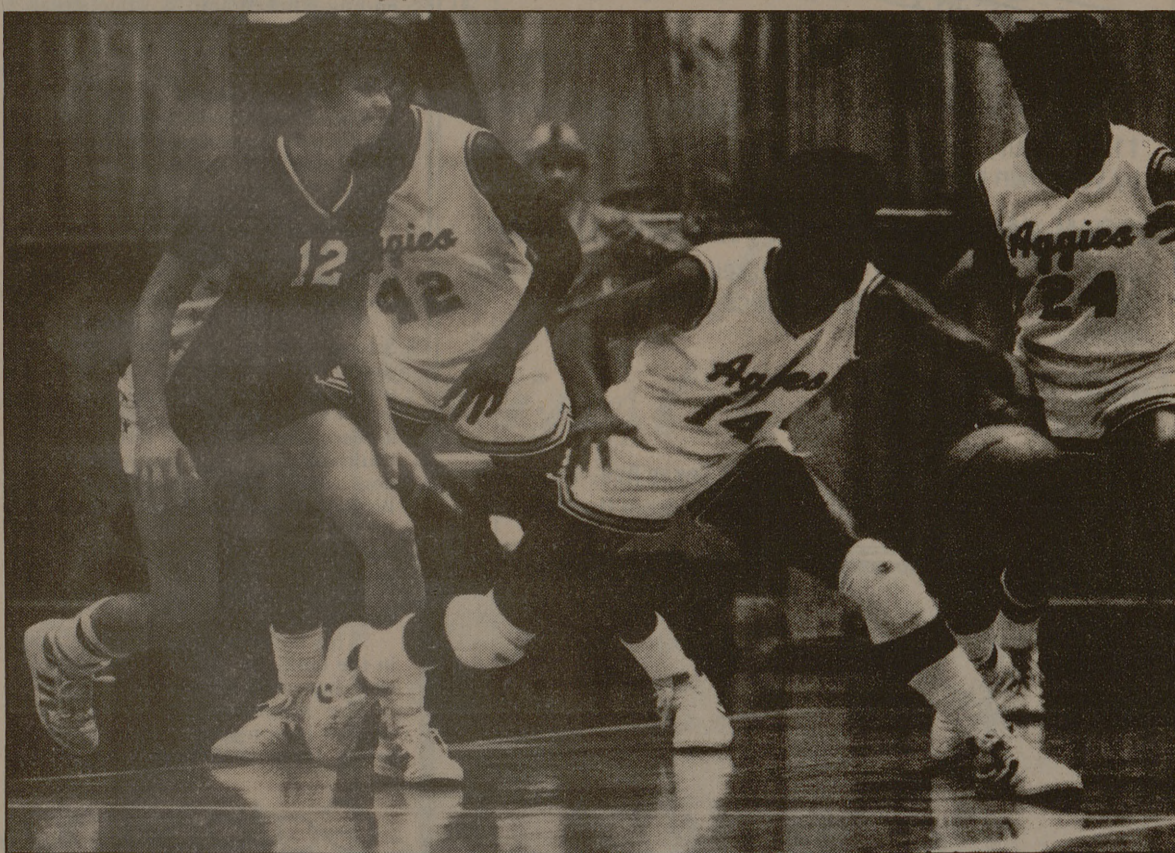


Photo by DEAN SAITO

Texas A&M forward Lisa Langston (14) and guard Mary Ann Swearngin (24) scramble to

get a loose ball during the Aggies' 74-64 season opening victory over Abilene Christian.

work on. Early in the game, she was faltering."

"We tried to keep pressure on her," Edgar said. "She got loose a lot of times tonight. We knew she was a good player. Basically, she's their team."

A&M forward Lisa Langston scored 15 points, but committed eight turnovers, said she saw some things the Ags need to work on in practice.

"As far as myself, I went back to old habits," Langston said. "I need to work on dribbling. We're just getting used to playing with each other.

There wasn't a lot of talking tonight. We're going to have to work on that."

Duckham also saw areas in which the Ags can improve before their next game against Sam Houston in Huntsville, Nov. 26.

"We need to communicate with each other better," Duckham said. "The forwards need to work on getting open and we need to work on rebounding. We didn't play a bad game. For the first game, we did a good job. Some of our bigger people didn't play well, but that'll come."

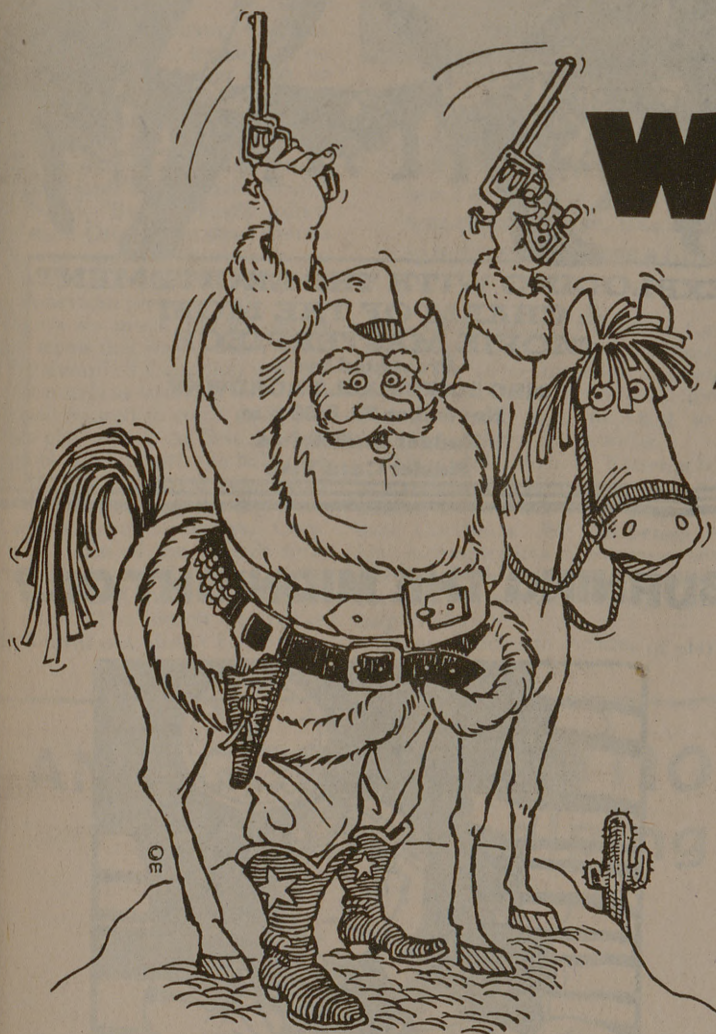
Duckham stressed that the Aggies

play as a team, not as individuals.

"Basketball is a team game," Duckham said. "We have eight people sitting on the bench who are just as valuable as the five starters. The team makes individuals look good."

Hickey said she wanted to play as many players as possible.

"We wanted to try and give everyone a chance," Hickey said. "We probably lost a little momentum by doing that, but you've got to take a chance and get them in the game."



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