Sports

Campbell axed as Oilers' coach after 8-22 record

'HOUSTON — Hugh Campbell, whose promise of an explosive Hous-ton Oilers offense never materialized, was fired as head coach Monday and defensive coordinator Jerry Glanville was named as his interim replace-

The annoucement by General Manager Ladd Herzeg, which followed the Oilers' 35-14 loss to the New York Giants, climaxed a feud that had sim-mered since the end of last season when Herzeg criticized the Oilers' of-

fense as being unimaginative.

Sunday's loss dropped Houston to a 5-9 record and assured the Oilers of their fifth consecutive losing season.

Herzeg said he made the move with two games remaining in the season because of the Oilers' offensive inconsistency and speculation surrounding Campbell's job status.

"This action as taken at this time because we've lost four of our last five games," Herzeg said in a statement. "This, coupled with immense speculation concerning Hugh's job status,



Hugh Campbell

lation concerning Hugh's job status, which has become a major distraction to our players, is the reason it was felt the move was in the best in-tersts of the football team."

Campbell, who compiled an 8-22 record in his two seasons with the Oilers, was not immediately available

Glanville, who formerly served as defensive coordinator of the Atlanta Falcons and a defensive coach for the Buffalo Bills, joined the Oilers last season. He becomes the club's 13th head coach in its 26-year his-

You come into something like this with mixed emotions because of the way you got the job," Glanville

said. "But you can't hit a home run unless you take the bat, so I took the

Glanville said he would be interested in being the head coach next sea-

"I asked Ladd when he made the offer what the considerations were for next year," he said. "He told me I would be considered. I don't know how

Strongly."

Glanville said he would make some changes over the final two games,

"I don't see that we have a big attitude problem," Glanville said. "We've lost some concentration on defense, which is totally my responsibility. But now we've had enough distractions and it's time to get on with the season."

Glanville worked with a defensive unit that was considered the Oilers' chief weakness at the start of the season. Using an aggressive, gambling style, the defense improved drastically throughout the season and figured heavily in the team's five victories.

"The high point of the season so far has been the aggressive style of our defense," Herzeg said. "The defense has nearly doubled its take aways (turnovers) from 1984, and this has been a major contributor to our won-

A&M cagers to host PanAm Metcalf says Aggies still struggling with injuries



The A&M men cagers and center Jimmie Gilbert (30) host Pan American tonight at 7:30 and Praire View Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

By CHAREAN WILLIAMS

Assistant Sports Editor After two road games, the Texas A&M men's basketball team returns home with wounded pride

— and wounded bodies.

The Aggies were beaten men-tally, physically and on the scoreboard last Thursday against Lamar in Houston and Saturday night in Tennessee.

The losses dropped the Aggies to 2-3 and sent them limping into G. Rollie White Coliseum for back-to-back games against Pan American (Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.) and Prairie View (Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.) 7:30 p.m.).

"We have been struggling," A&M Coach Shelby Metcalf said. "We haven't played up to our po-tential yet. All of the players want to win, so the effort has been good. We might have let up a little in intensity, so we'll go back to the basics.'

And part of the reason for the Aggies are struggling is basically

simple — injuries.

A&M was already without guard Gary Lewis and center David Thompson, who are out indefinitely with broken hands, before taking to the road.

Against Tennessee, starting forward Mike Clifford dove for a loose ball and slipped into the scorer's table, pinching a nerve in his neck and shoulder, and starting forward Winston Crite reinjured his ankle.

"David Thompson will be X-rayed again this week," Metcalf said. "He can't have any contact for another week. Gary Lewis will be X-rayed for the first time Thursday. Mike didn't practice vesterday or today, but he will play. A lesser person probably wouldn't, but Mike is tough. Winston reinjured his ankle, but he will also play. So, it's not as bad as it first appeared.

The injuries came at an inopportune time. We just need to get healthy, If we stay healthy, happy and out of foul trouble, we'll be

alright."

A&M can begin to do just that when it hosts Pan American

when it hosts Pan American Tuesday.

The Broncos, who are 3-2, are led by 6-foot-9 center Charles "Junior" Ray who is averaging 10.6 points per game, and forward Tom Fiepke who is averaging 10.4. Pan Am's renowed "Band Aid Backcourt" of Johnson & Johnson, as in Joe and Kevin, has given teams fits all season.

"They are big," Metcalf said.
"Their guards are 6-4. Their forwards average 6-6 and their center is 6-9. They also have good depth. We beat them at their place last year, but we played a very good ball game. It will be a difficult ball game for us again."

A&M will counter with guard

Don Marbury who has averaged 27.8 points and 4.2 rebounds thus far. Marbury scored 28 and 31 points in the losses to Lamar and Tennessee. Crite leads the team in rebounding at nine per game and is third in scoring at 12.6.

The Ags won't get any breaks to rest up this week.

After the affair with Pan Am, they'll suit up and play again Wednesday against Prairie View, which has yet to win a game this

"I haven't seen Prairie View play," Metcalf said. "We'll probably get a film of them tomorrow. They've definitely improved. They played SMU last week and it was close at the half. They're not as good as Pan Am, but we're struggling. All the ball games will be tough until we get something going.

And Metcalf still has a positive

"If anything has come out of this, we've gotten Paul Crawford some playing time," he said.

"It will all fall together. It just wasn't the way we wrote the

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