The Socialists are Coming!

Political Awareness Day Tuesday March 11, 9:00am-4:00pm

Memorial Student Center

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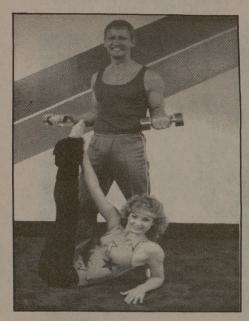
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A&M's Gilbert no longer TANK in shadow of SWC's best NIBA

By CHAREAN WILLIAMS
Assistant Sports Editor

Standing 6-foot-9, one wouldn't expect Texas A&M center Jimmie Gilbert to stand in anyone's shadow.

But that's the way it's been for most of Gilbert's four-year career

with the Aggies.

In the Southwest Conference, he was a "no-name" amongst the Akeem Olajuwons, Joe Kleines and Jon Koncaks. Even on his own team, Gilbert played second fiddle to guards Kenny Brown and Don Mar-

bury.

"The lack of publicity never bothered me," Gilbert said. "Those were some outstanding players in the league. I have just been trying to contribute all these years."

The Huntsville High School product averaged 7.0 points and 6.3 re-

uct averaged 7.0 points and 6.3 re-bounds a game in his first three years at A&M. But Gilbert got more publicity for his lack of aggressiveness, poor shooting touch and "brick" free throws.

This season, however, Gilbert has moved out of the shadows and into the limelight. He's having the best offensive season of his career.

'I think I've improved a lot (since last year)," Gilbert said. "It's been a team effort. I gotten the ball a lot more and, when I've been open, I've done something with it.

"This season, we're lacking that one great outside shooter like we had in Kenny Brown last year.

(A&M guard) Mike Clifford is more of a passer. That gives us more of an opportunity to get the ball inside."

Gilbert's 12.9 scoring average and 7.9 rehypothers average and 7.9 rehypothers.

7.2 rebounding average were good enough to earn him second-team All-SWC honors.

"This has been my best year at school," Gilbert said. "I was surprised and happy to be selected (to the All-SWC team). It's quite a

the All-SWC team). It's quite a honor to be picked one of the Top 10 players in the league."

The Aggies, who tied for the SWC Championship with TCU and Texas, say they couldn't have done it without Gilbert, whose 771 career rebounds put him just 13 short of the fifth-place spot on A&M's all-time rebounding list.

"He has been the key for us all year," A&M Coach Shelby Metcalf said. "This year, Jimmie has shown what kind of player he really is. He has had a great year and he helped

has had a great year and he helped

us have a great year."

The Aggies will try to make Gilbert's final season an even better one at the SWC Postseason Classic this weekend in Dallas.

"I feel we have a real good chance to win it," Gilbert said. "We have to play three consistent games and play to the best of our abilities for 40 minutes in each game.

"We thought we could have won the conference outright. We had some problems in the second half and didn't do it. Now we'd like to prove we are the best team in the lea-

A&M (18-10, 12-4) takes a fourgame win streak into its opening

Ge Photo by ANTHONY S. CAS.

A&M's Jimmie Gilbert (left) appears to have made a name for him self in Southwest Conference basketball circles after four years.

The Aggies ripped the Razor-backs, 93-76, in their final regularseason game last Saturday as Gilbert

eight rebounds.

"You can never underestimate
Arkansas," Gilbert said. "They have
some good players and they have the ability to play as well as anyone in the

Sacramento Kings). They have quickness, the shooters, the bounders. They just don't have experience yet.

Wester

And Gilbert is dreaming abou possibilities of winning the tournament and the autor NCAA bid that goes along withit

"The Final Four," Gill "The final Four," Gill "I don't think they're a bottom nodded, "that's what I'd like. We round game against Arkansas (13-14, 5-11), Friday at 6:08 p.m. in Reunion Arena.

"I don't think they're a bottom nodded, that surface and they're hurting without kleine (who is now with the NBA's case we miss it."

Minnesotans

Nuggets zap Rockets

Associated Press

DENVER - Bill Hanzlik hit 17 of 18 free throws while scoring 21 points, and Alex English had 25 points and Calvin Natt 21, leading the Denver Nuggets to a 128-115

NBA victory over the Houston Rockets Tuesday night.

The victory pulled the Nuggets within one game of the first-place Rockets in the NBA's Midwest Divi-

The game was tied 28-28 with 1:27 left in the first period before a 10-0 spurt led by Danny Schayes put Denver ahead to stay.

Denver ahead to stay.

The Nuggets increased their margin to 21 points on two occasions in the second period before settling for a 76-61 halftime advantage.

The Rockets made no serious threat in the third period and Denver went into the final quarter with a 100 87 lead. Houston rallied

with a 100-87 lead. Houston rallied midway through the fourth quarter, getting to within 112-104.

Hanzlik then scored six straight

points, the last one a free throw after Sampson, who had 26 points and 12 rebounds, was ejected for a flagrant

NBA Roundup

Other Tuesday Scores:

(home team in capitals)

NEW YORK 119

Washington 83

ATLANTA 128 Philadelphia 121

DETROIT 120 New Jersey 103

Boston 106 CHICAGO 94

Cleveland at

L.A. Clippers (late)

San Antonio at GOLDEN STATE (late)

Utah at SACRAMENTO (late)

Indiana at PORTLAND (late)

make pitch to **NBA** franchise

Associated Press

NEW YORK — Accompani former NBA great George Mand Minnesota Gov. Rudy Perpatro Minnesota Gov. Rudy Perpatro Minneapolis-St. Paul busse men gave the league a \$1000 check Tuesday as a down pages of the page of on a possible expansion franch replace the Lakers who left 26)

Commissioner David Stern accepted the check and a pre-nary application, said that while Minnesotans have a strong case, not likely the league will expand fore the 1987-88 season, and ift probably by only one franchise.

Stern said the league also had ceived expansion interest for Charlotte, N.C; Toronto; St. Loronto; St

sas City.

"We hope we will be No. 1."

Mikan, who played on five No. 1."

championship teams in his set. years with the Minneapolis Las from 1948 through 1956.

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