

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 25, 1989

## Lady Ags cruise

By Tom Kehoe

SPORTS WRITER

Led by Donna Roper and Lisa Jordan, the Texas A&M Lady Aggies shot down the University of Houston Lady Cougars 73-61.

The game was back and forth until a furious press by A&M led to 21-run for the Lady Aggies.

Coach Lynn Hickey said the conference win was a big one for her club.

"It was very big. What made it even more important was that Houston played well," Hickey said.

Roper led all scorers in the game with 24 points. The senior guard hit from all spots on the floor using long jumpers and drives in the paint to lead the Lady Aggies.

Jordan, a senior center, scored the majority of her points from down low. Jordan used turnaround jumpers in the paint and free throws to contribute to the win.

Houston opened the game with a furious press and didn't relent the entire game. But the Lady Aggies handled it well and countered with a determined press of their own to frustrate Houston into the costly turnovers that eventually gave A&M the game.

Hickey said her team really began to get it together after an official timeout to repair the scoreboard.

"The kids got together during that timeout and said 'Hey we're so close. Don't let a game like this take us out of the run from really doing something this year,'" she said.

Hickey noted the play of freshman guard Sheri Dillard, who came off the bench, as the one who really put the spark into the press.

With the turnovers coming off of the tough backcourt defense, freshman guard Latanya Irving sunk three consecutive buckets and a free-throw to push the lead for the Lady Aggies to 59-50.

After that there was no looking back for A&M.

The lead was extended to as many as fifteen before Houston came with two bucket off of offensive rebounds to bring the Aggie advantage back to twelve.

The closing 90 seconds was a series of Houston attempts at wild three-point shots and the Lady Aggies and Cougars taking turns from the free throw line.

Hickey said the large crowd was a great asset throughout the game and made the important conference win even more special.

The Lady Aggies next game will be at 1 p.m. Saturday at G. Rollie White Coliseum against Texas Tech.

## Struggling Aggies to battle Cougars

By Jerry Bolz

ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

A pair of teams battling to gain Southwest Conference respectability meet tonight when the Houston Cougars visit the Aggies at 7:30 in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

### Texas A&M v Houston

• **What:** The Texas A&M Aggies (8-9; 1-4 in the SWC) host Houston (10-7; 2-3) in Southwest Conference action.

• **When:** Tipoff is at 7:30 p.m.

• **Where:** G. Rollie White Coliseum.

• **Radio/TV:** The game can be heard on KTAM-AM 1240 with Chuck Cooperstein handling the play-by-play and Duke Keith on color commentary.

Both teams are coming off of exciting games over the weekend.

A&M, 8-9 overall and 1-4 in the SWC, lost 79-77 to Rice Saturday, and Houston beat SMU 84-

83 in overtime. The victory put Houston at 2-3 in conference and 10-7 overall.

The Aggies have lost seven of their last eight this season.

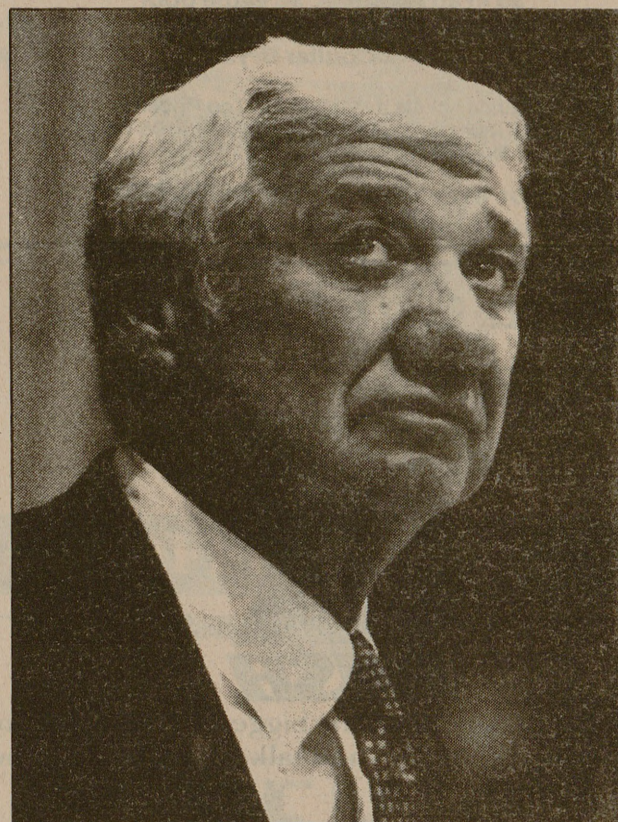
"Since the TCU game (A&M lost at home) we just can't get over the hump," Metcalf said. "The guys have adapted. I know they want to win and I know they hope we can get something going."

Forward Donald Thompson and guard Tony Milton are the only Aggies to start all 17 Aggies games this season. They should get the call against Houston along with David Williams, Lynn Suber and Doug Dennis.

Suber, a sophomore guard, has become a mainstay in A&M's lineup lately and comes into the Cougar game averaging 10.5 points per game, including a team-leading 16.2 average in conference games.

Houston Coach Pat Foster's squad is led by senior Richard Hollis and six-foot-eight sophomore Craig Upchurch.

The Cougars lead the overall series 38-25. The last time A&M beat the Cougars was in the first meeting of the 1986-1987 season in College Station.



**The Silver Fox**

Photo by Jay Janner

A&M basketball coach Shelby Metcalf looks concerned during A&M's 62-53 victory over the Baylor Bears Jan. 14. The Aggies are 32-8 in their last 40 home games. A&M hosts Houston tonight at G. Rollie White Coliseum. Tipoff is scheduled for 7:30.

## Metcalf, slumping Aggies trying to turn lost season around

Part One of Two

By Doug Walker

SPORTS EDITOR

These are tough times for Shelby Metcalf.

Nearing the halfway point of the Southwest Conference schedule, the winningest basketball coach in SWC history finds his team struggling to stay out of the cellar of the league standings.

He's changed his team's offense and tried to mold a team while relying on transfer players to step in immediately and take on a leadership role. It's taken a toll on Metcalf as well as Donald Thompson, the team's captain and leading scorer.

Metcalf's Texas Aggies, after racing to a

6-1 start, are suffering from a loss of confidence caused by a ten-game slump during which they have only won twice.

Heading into tonight's game against Houston (7:30 p.m. at G. Rollie White Coliseum) the Aggies find themselves in an eighth place tie with the Rice Owls.

In talking to Metcalf it becomes clear that even though he's not satisfied with the season so far, he remains optimistic about this year's team and the future of the A&M basketball program.

After all, the Aggies were picked to finish eighth in the conference by sportswriters prior to the season. However, Metcalf doesn't like that prediction and expects to do better.

"We're rebuilding," Metcalf said Monday. "But I think we're really ready to break out."

After regularly qualifying for post-season

tournaments in the early 1980s, the A&M program has been on a slide since winning a tri-championship in 1986 and Metcalf has one thing to say to those who may be thinking of rushing his retirement—Don't be too hasty.

"I want to get back on top. It's a heck of a lot more fun on top. I want to give A&M the kind of team it deserves."

He has placed more emphasis on high school recruiting recently and plans to bring some taller, bulkier players to A&M in the next two years. However, his main concern right now is turning around this season and laying a foundation for a renaissance of A&M basketball in the next two years.

Metcalf feels this week's homestand against Houston and Texas Tech is a crucial stretch in that plan.

In what is becoming a common occur-

rence for the Aggies, the Owls edged the Aggies 79-77 last weekend in Houston. In a game typical of their hard luck the Aggies have had recently the Owls, statically the SWC's worst free throwing team, converted 17 of 19 free throws to win the game.

Perhaps a confidence crisis was the difference.

"Confidence builds aggressiveness and success builds confidence," he said. "This team needs to score out of its defense and we've been a little tentative since we played Vegas (Nevada-Las Vegas) and Oklahoma."

A&M started the year creating points off of their defense as the Aggies played aggressive on both ends of the court. Success builds confidence and the Aggies were gaining confidence with each passing game.

Although Metcalf had to build a team including six junior college transfers and only two seniors the Aggies seemed to be coming

together early on. A&M's prospects looked bright as the Christmas holidays approached. The Aggies were confident and positive.

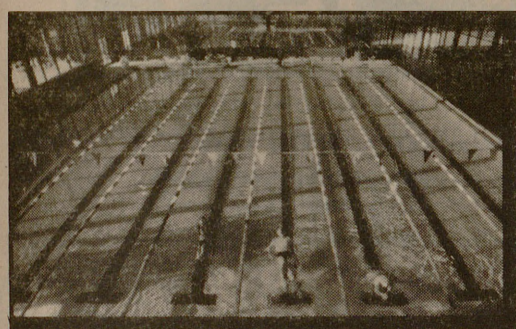
Keeping a positive outlook isn't easy to do when you play a schedule that includes successive games against Nevada-Las Vegas (ranked 13th in this week's Associated Press basketball poll) and Oklahoma (ranked fourth in the nation).

"Playin' Vegas and O.U. back to back really hurt us," Metcalf said. "It shattered our confidence but I don't think there's a team in our conference that wouldn't have come out scarred."

UNLV's Runnin' Rebels dealt more than a lopsided loss to the Aggies in the title game of the Runnin' Rebel Classic.

A&M suffered a 110-67 blowout loss in which turnovers accounted for most of the See Metcalf/Page 11

## Swimming And...



## ...A Whole lot more!

- Racquetball
- Aerobics
- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Tennis
- Indoor Pool
- Indoor Track
- Weights
- Water Aerobics
- Karate

**\$95** Student Semester Special

No monthly dues, no maintenance fees, no aerobic fees

Join before Jan. 31st and receive a free tanning package

## Aerofit

Club and Activities Center  
 1900 West Villa Maria  
 Bryan, TX 77801

## '88 Model Closeouts!

Quantities Limited-Hurry While Supplies Last!

Specialized Hardrock  
 ATB reg \$379<sup>95</sup> NOW \$324<sup>95</sup>

Specialized Rockhopper  
 ATB reg \$449<sup>95</sup> NOW \$399<sup>95</sup>

Raleigh Aluminum Flashpoint  
 reg \$359<sup>95</sup> NOW \$319<sup>95</sup>

Schwinn World 10-speed  
 reg \$217<sup>95</sup> NOW \$199<sup>95</sup>

### Accessories

Vetta Cycle Computer  
 reg \$34<sup>95</sup> NOW \$19<sup>95</sup>

Cannondale Mesh Back Leather gloves  
 reg \$19<sup>95</sup> pr NOW \$9<sup>95</sup> pr

Summit U Lock  
 extra long w/ carrying bracket  
 \$27<sup>95</sup>

Come in for other specials!

**AGGIELAND SCHWINN, INC.**

Not valid with other coupons

\* Your information Station for upcoming rides & events

315 Texas Ave S. 845-1946



COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS  
 907 Harvey Road  
 (Woodstone Shopping Center)  
 -WE DELIVER-

CALL 764-JUAN

**HAPPY HOUR**  
 Monday-Friday 11-7

**FREE TACO BAR**  
 Thursday-Friday 4-7

**FREE MUNCHIES**  
 Monday-Wednesday 4-7

99¢ Margaritas All Day

DON'T FORGET US AT LUNCH.  
 FASTEST SERVICE IN TOWN!

Late Night Happy Hour  
 Thursday-Friday 10pm -12pm  
 -Free Munchies-

# Tantalizing

## Safer Than Sunshine!

Get a jump on Spring Break with a rich, natural tan from College Station's state-of-the-art tanning salon. You can have that healthy, golden glow for a price that keeps your wallet in shape, too. Call today for an appointment.

Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m.-9 p.m.  
 Sat. 9 a.m.-6 p.m.

## Perfect Tan

Post Oak Square, Harvey Road  
 764-2771  
 Official Tanning Center of The  
 Miss Texas A&M Pageant