

Ag hoopsters start season Sunday

Former Seton Hall star Gaze leads Australian Olympic team

By Clay Rasmussen
Of The Battalion Staff

"Any team that beats Arizona and Arizona State is an outstanding team," Metcalf said. "Gaze was a great three-point shooter at Seton

Aggie Basketball

- **Site:** G. Rollie White Coliseum
- **Matchup:** Texas A&M Aggies host the Australian Olympic Team in an exhibition game Sunday afternoon. Plenty of tickets are available.
- **Tipoff:** Sunday at 3 p.m.
- **Records:** A&M (0-0), Australian Olympic Team (4-3)
- **TV/Radio:** The game will not be televised; No radio broadcast is planned

Hall and will be exciting to watch." The Australians are 4-3 on their U.S. tour and have games remaining against the University of Oklahoma

and the University of Texas before they bring their seasoned defense to College Station.

"Because of their experience, they can change their defense while the ball is in play," Metcalf said. "That's something that is very difficult to do."

Metcalf will be relying on the experience of four returning starters and an offensive scheme that he introduced midway through last year.

With the new offense, the Aggies were 7-1 in Southwest Conference play, losing only to Houston.

Senior guards Tony Milton and David Williams, along with junior guard Freddie Ricks and senior forward Ray Little will provide the Aggies with with some of the returning talent they'll need to compete with the Aussies.

Metcalf is also hoping for a strong showing from his group of newcomers to provide depth to the Aggie's

game.

Forward Dave Petersen, brother of Golden State Warrior Jim Petersen, is a strong rebounder and Metcalf expects him to see a lot of action early.

"I like Petersen's athletic ability and attitude," Metcalf said. "Besides, I'm a big believer in heredity."

The Aggies' home opener will feature a "Meet the Players" session in which A&M coach Shelby Metcalf and his players will be available for autographs and pictures on the playing floor after the game.

Children under 12 will be admitted to the game free if accompanied by a parent or guardian. Tickets for the 1989-90 season are as follows:

- \$8 for reserved and bleacher seats on the westside
- \$6 for reserved bench seats on the northside
- \$4 for general admission seats



Photo by Frederick D. Joe

Senior guard Tony Milton leads the Aggies against the Australian Olympic Team Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m.

Ware should be frontrunner for Heisman for obvious reasons

The college football season is winding down, and so is the race for the Heisman Trophy.

Regardless of who picks up the trophy in New York's Downtown Athletic Club December 2, it's been a great season for Southwest Conference athletes. The SWC started 1989 with three Heisman hopefuls, Texas A&M's Darren Lewis and Houston's Andre Ware were favorites, while Texas Tech's James Grey was an outside shot.

Grey has had a solid season, leading the SWC in rushing with 1,177 yards and 12 touchdowns. However, the lack of national media attention on Tech has all but eliminated Grey from the list of contenders.

Lewis came into the season as a preseason favorite for the coveted trophy. However, he gained only 55 yards against Louisiana State and 52 against Washington in back-to-back nationally televised games.

These poor performances in the national spotlight quickly dropped Lewis' trophy chances, but it wasn't all his fault. With all the attention focused upon him, other

Alan Lehmann Sports Writer

teams keyed on Lewis, opening up other facets of A&M's offense, but keeping his totals down.

Still, Lewis' efforts haven't been wasted, he's led the Aggies in their Cotton Bowl chase, and is currently second in the SWC in rushing touchdowns (11) and third in rushing with 870 yards. Only a junior this season, Lewis will no doubt be a Heisman front-runner next season.

The SWC's best hope for its first Heisman trophy since Earl Campbell (the 1977 winner) is Houston quarterback Andre Ware.

According to an article in the *Houston Chronicle*, an informal poll of Heisman balloters tabbed Ware as the leader in the race.

Ware has certainly provided the stats of a Heisman champion this season passing for 3,824 yards and 40 touchdowns in nine

games, even though he has played in the fourth quarter only twice this season.

He's broken so many SWC records this season that I'll only mention his NCAA marks. He's passed for 400 or more yards six times this season. He's also set the records for most yards passing in a quarter (340 vs. SMU), half (517 vs. SMU) and most touchdown passes in a quarter (5 vs. SMU).

With two games remaining, Ware is within reach of some of bigger marks. He needs seven more touchdown passes to tie the season mark, and 890 more yards of total offense to break the NCAA record.

How can Ware not get the Heisman with numbers like these?

Here's how:
• No national television exposure.
Heisman voters are spread all over the nation, and few have an opportunity to see players outside their region, unless they can catch the games on TV. With Houston on probation, Ware's only TV exposure has been news highlights and tape-delays of regional games at midnight on Home

Sports Entertainment.

Notre Dame quarterback Tony Rice is one example of a star who has been made by television. Over half of the Fighting Irish's games have been on national television this season, and it's kept him in the Heisman race even though his numbers aren't nearly as impressive as Ware's.

Ware is simply a piece of the Houston offensive machine.

Some people say that Ware's numbers are more of a product of the Cougars' potent Run-and-Shoot offense than his ability, and cite multi-purpose quarterbacks like Rice and West Virginia's Major Harris.

In the *Chronicle* article, Gary Long of the *Miami Herald* said, "Andre is a tough call. He's obviously a great player, but he's also the product of a system. Ware has been great in the system, but several guys could make it work."

Houston coach Jack Pardee, a former All-Pro linebacker said that Ware deserves the award.

"He's done things no other quarterback

has ever done," Pardee said in the *Chronicle*. "I've been around the greatest quarterbacks in the game, and Andre has the right touch. You can't just plug in anybody and get that kind of output."

Probation. Some Heisman voters surveyed said that they wouldn't vote for any player on a team under probation. Steve Kornacki of the *Detroit Free Press* said that he could not vote for a player on a team under probation.

It's a weak argument, because Herschel Walker's Georgia team was on probation when he won the Heisman in 1982. What about last year when Oklahoma State was placed on probation two weeks after Barry Sanders won the Heisman?

Let's face it, whether you like Ware or not, he should have the Heisman. He's got the best numbers in the country, and he's only a junior.

He shouldn't be punished for Houston's probation, because he was in junior high and high school when the infractions occurred.



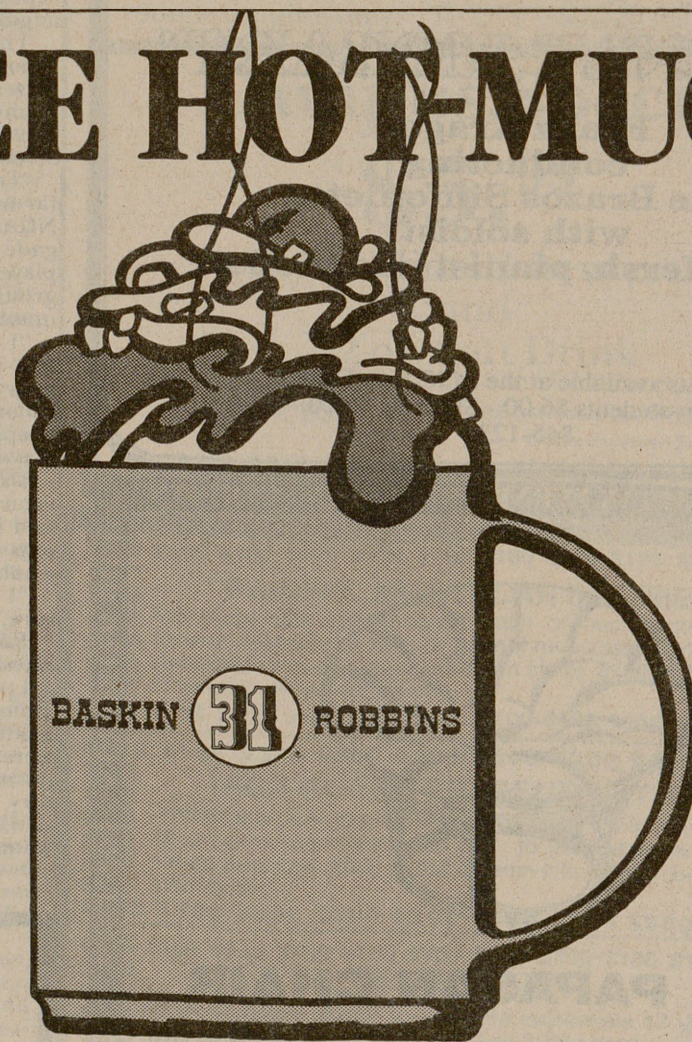
Italian Fashion for Adults

SALE
THANKSGIVING SALE!
UP to 60% OFF Entire Stock
Nov. 18-26

POST OAK MALL

764-0978

FREE HOT-MUG



Purchase a Hot Fudge Sundae
or any other Ice Cream or Yogurt Sundae
and take home a HOT-MUG FREE.

BASKIN **31** ROBBINS
Express Drive-thru

BASKIN **31** ROBBINS
Treats

603 Villa Maria
Manor East Mall
Bryan, Texas

601 University Dr.
Northgate
College Station, TX