1990-91 A&M Roster

Player	Pos.	Ht.	Wt.
Anderson, Shedrick (Jr.-Tr)	F	6-8	265
Bartholomew, Steve (Walkon)	F	6-8	265
Blake, Cody (So.-1L)	G	6-5	180
Brink, Mac (Walkon)	G	6-4	185
Brown, Issac (Jr.-Tr)	G	6-1	165
Cook, Greg (Walkon)	G	6-1	170
Finley, Chris (So.-1L)	C	6-10	235
Henderson, Chuck (Walkon)	G	6-2	170
Lewis, Rashone (Jr.-Tr)	F	6-5	215
Linder, Brian (Walkon)	G	6-3	185
Marrero, Carlos (Jr.-1L)	F	6-10	220
Martin, David (Walkon)	G	5-11	155
Suber, Lynn (Sr.-2L)	G	6-2	175
Terry, Darrin (Jr.-Tr)	G	6-6	210
Thompson, Brooks (So.-1L)	G	6-4	185
Ware, Anthony (Jr.-Tr)	F	6-7	215

Aggies

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takes care of business. When I got the job, Lynn was really struggling academically. He has just made a complete turnaround. Now he's on track to graduate. He's done well off the floor."

Thompson, who played shooting guard last year, will take over the point guard position left by the vacancy of Tony Milton, an All-SWC selection last year.

But things have changed for the Aggies in one year. Gone are last season's turbulence and problems. Shelby Metcalf, who had coached the Aggies for 27 years, was fired midway through the season and replaced by John Thornton, who finished the year on an interim basis.

Thornton, who played for Metcalf in the 1970s at A&M, was considered for the full-time position after the season. But Davis, who had led Idaho to a 50-12 record and back-to-back NCAA Tournament appearances, got the job.

"I think last year's turbulence is out of their systems," Davis said. "I don't think they think about it anymore. They will be looking forward to this year. Our success or no success will not have anything to do with what they went through last spring."

Suber said the team's biggest mental problem may not be what happened last year (only six players are back from that team), but what's happened this year before the season has even started.

"With all the things that have happened this year, this will be a struggling season," Suber said. "This is Coach Davis' first year, and he's trying to put the program together. It's going to be a little struggle, but we're willing to work with him, and hopefully we can make this year come out pretty good."

That will be a tall order. The Aggies lost 75-80 percent of their scoring and 90 percent of their rebounding from 1989, Davis said. The biggest loss may be Harris. Davis now must look to transfers and little-used Chris Finley to shore up the middle.

Junior forward transfer Shedrick Anderson may end up seeing most of the action at center. His 6-8 height is small for the position, but his 265-pound frame should be enough to move people around in the pivot.

"Shedrick has been a real big surprise for us," Davis said. "He came in at 280 pounds, but he's lost the weight. He just comes to play everyday. That's what we need — an inside guy to do that. He's got to play a lot of minutes for us, but he's got to get himself in better condition. He's lost the weight but his stamina is still not what is supposed to be."

Being in good condition is a must to play in Davis' system. He favored an uptempo running style at Idaho. But for Davis, everything starts with defense.

"I lean more toward defense," he said. "At Idaho, we led the league in scoring the last two years, but did a lot of that through defense — pressing, creating turnovers and getting fast break situations through the defense. Our defense will balance our offensive attack."

That offensive attack will be concentrated at the guard position, where Suber and Thompson will be the main weapons of Davis' attack. Thompson and junior transfer Isaac Brown will share the point position. Junior transfers Rashone Lewis and Anderson will share the post positions. Junior transfer Darrin Terry is listed as a guard, but has the size (6-6, 210) to switch to power forward when needed.

"The thing we're worried about right now is developing a toughness and a hardness about our team," Davis said. "That's the way I've gone in every year as a head coach — putting those demands on guys."

SWC

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Credit's center position.

"I think they are the best SWC team I've ever seen," Baylor coach Gene Iba said. "I'm not saying they're better than Akeem Olajuwon, but they're 12 deep, and that's the best ever. They don't have an individual better than Akeem, but their team is as capable of doing as much or more."

Do the Razorbacks have any question marks? Hardly. Richardson is in the enviable position of having the freedom of not worrying too much about who to redshirt and who not to redshirt. Aside from its SWC schedule, Arkansas must play Kansas State, Missouri, Alabama-Birmingham and UNLV — another team that should challenge the Hogs for the No. 1 spot in the country.

Baylor (16-14, 7-9 in the SWC). Coach Gene Iba was SWC Coach of the Year last year, but may have to pull some more rabbits out of his hat to produce an inside game. Without one, the Bears are put in a precarious position.

Guard David Wesley and center Alex Holcombe return from last year's team that tied for fifth in the SWC. However, Wesley missed 12 games last season with a stress fracture in his leg. Iba must hope young forwards Willie Sublett and Herb Baker, who have been showing signs of promise in preseason drills, come through. Let's not forget that the Bears were one of only two conference teams that beat the Razorbacks last year ...

Houston (25-8, 13-3 in the SWC). The Cougars were expected to be right in the thick of the conferenc race. But forward Carl Herrera left two years early. Then Craig Upchurch ruptured a disc in his back, and will be out for the season.

Still, the Cougars have enough talent to challenge the Razorbacks and Longhorns, who they beat three times last year. Senior Darrell Mickens and sophomore Derrick Smith should step in well, and the Cougars could become a major SWC threat if they find a chemistry.

"I think we'll be as good as last year, with a solid chance to be better if some things happen for us," Coach Pat Foster said.

Good things will have to come Foster's way if the Cougars are to place higher than third in the SWC.

Rice (11-17, 5-11 in the SWC). With sophomore center Brent Scott (1989 SWC Freshman of the Year) in the middle, Coach Scott Thompson may be tempted to let the 6-9 center touch the ball every time. But that's where the Owls got grounded last season, and Thompson will have to find an outside game if Rice is to improve on its seventh-place finish last year.

The Owls averaged 42.3 percent from the field last year.

"We've got a lot of guys that can shoot," Thompson said. "We need some guys who can put it in the basket. We played some great games last year, but we just couldn't make the plays down the stretch of the close games. This year, we need players to mature and make those big plays."

Southern Methodist (10-18, 5-11 in the SWC). College woes will continue in Dallas. SMU's football team was reborn from the death penalty last year, and its basketball team looked dead most of the time as well.

Things won't get much better in 1990. Coach John Shumate must overcome the Mustangs' lack of experience to provide any SWC surprises. Guard Roderick Hampton is the team's only experienced senior, and he'll miss the season opener because he participated in an unsanctioned off-season tournament.

Texas (24-9, 12-4 in the SWC). Coach Tom Penders took his running game all the way to the NCAA Final Eight in an improbable Tournament run last year. However, he lost Travis Mays and Lance Blanks to the NBA first-round draft.

That leaves the vaunted "BMW" backcourt of 1989 on its last wheel in 1990. Senior Joey Wright returns to lead the Longhorns, and last year's spot players Locksley Collie and Guillermo Myers might become this year's stars.

The Longhorns have the talent to beat the Razorbacks, but their best shot would be to play them in March. Penders has made a name for himself for guiding underdog teams far into the NCAA Tournament, first with Rhode Island and now with Texas.

Put them in second place for the SWC. But don't count them out when March Madness rolls around.

Texas A&M (14-17, 7-9 in the SWC). First-year coach Kermit Davis Jr. was 50-12 in his two seasons at Idaho, and has a reputation of turning a struggling program around quickly. Still, this could be a long season for Davis in College Station.

Point guard Tony Milton is gone, and sophomore Brooks Thompson (a guard last year) will take over directing the Aggie attack. Guard Lynn Suber is the lone senior on the team.

"Sometimes when you've got the best players, you might not be ready to play a game but overall athletic ability just gets you through the game," Davis said. "Here, it's a fine line. We've got to be able to go and execute the details everyday, because if not we have a chance to get beat badly."

Texas Christian (16-13, 9-7 in the SWC). Forward Craig Sibley is gone, and with him went the Horned Frogs' inside game. Center Reggie Smith must pick up the slack, or it will be a rough season for Coach Moe Iba.

Their 16-13 record last season is a bit deceiving, even though they did beat the Razorbacks at home. TCU's non-conference schedule is loaded with patsies.

Texas Tech (5-22, 0-16 in the SWC). The Red Raiders have two big question marks. One, will Coach Gerald Myers make it to see his 21st season next year? The answer is probably. Myers received a four-year extention last year.

That leaves the second question. When will the Red Raiders win a conference game again? That might not be for a long time, which could influence Red Raider higher-ups to make a change, contract extension or no contract extension.

Texas Tech has plenty of holes —both inside and out. Forward Will Flemons was the SWC's top rebounder last year, but the Red Raiders have no center. They also have no point guard.

And unless Myers comes up with some answers soon, they also have no chance.

This story was compiled from staff and wire reports.

Transfers

Continued from page 6

ponent.

"Where I was at, everyday, day in and day out, we faced teams like Connecticut and Syracuse," Edwards said. "It was just constant pressure."

While a freshman at Georgetown, the point guard averaged 5.4 points and 4.8 assists, while making appearances in all 31 of the Hoyas' games. Edwards was a prolific scorer at his high school in New York City, where he averaged 41 points a contest.

Edwards has been regarded by some as the Aggies point guard of the future. The 5-11 guard says he could take or leave the honor.

"It's a lot of pressure," he said with concern. "I want people to look up at me as the point guard of the future, so I can get the respect, and when I come in next year I can just take over the job.

"People are going to expect a lot of things from me, and I hope I can fulfill the job."

Edwards won't have any trouble being motivated. After playing for John Thompson, he hasn't found much of a change in what Davis will ask of him. He says both coaches demand a lot of their players and push them to become better.

"I'm not mad at someone pushing me, because I know it will be better for me in the long run," he testifies.

Both players are adjusting to life at A&M. Aside from the change of climate that both are adapting to, they also must improve themselves off the court.

"Sometimes it's a tough transition year having to sit out a year without playing," Davis said.

"But I think they've done a good job and the main thing for those guys is to concentrate academically. They need to spend a lot of time and concentrate in those areas."

The coach says it will be a good year for the two talented players to get their feet on the ground.

Both Scott and Edwards are excited about the future of the team and the Southwest Conference.

Scott says he came to A&M after visiting Texas and Arkansas, two teams that almost played their way to an NCAA championship last year. But new coach Davis and a new arena swayed him to Aggieland.

Edwards is enthusiastic about the future of Aggie basketball. He says many teams are scared to schedule themselves to play A&M because they see the program is rebuilding with the recruitment of high-caliber players.

The future point guard says it won't take long for the Aggies to become a top 20 team.

"We've got one of the best coaches and young staffs in the country," Edwards explained. "All we need is a couple of players to fill in with me, Tony, and Artie (Griffin, a freshman from San Antonio, ineligible this year) sitting out. And with some good recruits, there's no telling what could happen."

Whether A&M takes off this year or waits until next season, David Edwards and Tony Scott will patiently be waiting in the wings.

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