

Light streams from end of Ags' basketball tunnel

All good things must come to an end, and fortunately for Texas A&M basketball fans, so must bad things.

This season has been anything but good, admittedly. But for 11 basketball players, their coaching staff, and the fans who have remained loyal to their hard-luck team, the end comes as a welcome relief.

The Aggies will end their season in the Southwest Conference Tournament this weekend barring any unforeseen circumstances.

Remember 1987? That year Shelby Metcalf's A&M squad won the SWC tournament after being the eighth seed.

What is most important now for the Aggies is putting this year behind them and looking at the future.

And there is a long list of things to look forward to.

One that stands out at the top of the list is Brooks Thompson.

Thompson has established himself as one of the top players in the conference this year with his ability to play at both ends of the court.

The 6-foot-4 guard often took the burden of winning on his shoulders while having to adjust to a new role under a new coach.

Thompson picked up the point guard position and became the team's leading scorer, and ended up in the better half of several other statistical categories. He has proved himself this year, and will be the threat most teams will look to stop next season.

Thompson's abilities could flourish next year because he will not have to shoulder the point guard position when David Edwards becomes eligible to play. Edwards is the 5-foot-11 guard who transferred to A&M from Georgetown last fall. His abilities have been relegated to practices while sitting out a season under NCAA transfer rules.

Edwards set a New York City single season scoring record in high school, before playing in all 31 games at Georgetown his freshman year.

What the feisty guard can bring to the Aggies is an aggressive mentality, while adding speed to an up-tempo gameplan A&M coach Kermit Davis has been waiting to implement.

The A&M team will lose experience when Lynn Suber and Freddie Ricks

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Scott Wudel
Sports Writer

No. 16 Ags take both ends of road twinbill

From Staff and Wire Reports

The Texas A&M baseball team demonstrated grace under pressure Tuesday in a doubleheader sweep of Lamar.

The Aggies used a barrage of two-out rallies to beat the Cardinals 8-1 and 7-6 in Beaumont.

A&M improves to 14-6 on the season and Lamar drops to 7-8. The Aggies will host Sam Houston State at Olsen Field tonight at 7 p.m.

Tied 1-1 in the seven-inning opener, A&M scored six runs after two were out in the sixth inning.

Catcher Blake Pyle reached on a leadoff single and moved to third two outs later. With two strikes on Brian Thomas, Cardinal starter Casey Smart (2-2) hit Thomas. Pyle scored on a double-steal to tie the game.

Leftfielder Mike Hickey walked and third baseman Travis Williams followed with an RBI single.

David Rollen walked and the inning continued as Jason Marshall singled home two more runs. Conrad Colby singled home Rollen, and Pyle singled home Marshall, as

the Ags batted around.

In the seventh inning, Colby added his second home run of the year for good measure as A&M cruised.

Marshall ended the contest 3-for-4 with two RBIs.

Freshman pitcher Kelly Wunsch (3-2) got the complete-game victory, scattering five hits and walking just one. He struck out three Cardinals.

"This was the best Kelly Wunsch has thrown all year," Aggie head coach Mark Johnson said.

Game two was a much closer affair.

Jeff Granger, who got the Aggie start, struck out the side in the first.

A&M then jumped out on top with a two-run second.

Marshall singled with one away, and Colby walked.

After Pyle grounded into a fielder's choice, rightfielder Dan Robinson singled Marshall home, and second baseman Sittichoke Huckuntod singled home Pyle.

But then the Aggie defense fell apart and

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A&M center fielder Brian Thomas slides into second base earlier in the season against Westmont College. Tuesday, Thomas had three singles and a key RBI.

Lady Ags face familiar foes in opening round

By Steve O'Brien
The Battalion

If the Lady Aggie basketball team is looking for a challenging game to kick-off the 1991 Southwest Conference Tournament, they'll find it.

For the third consecutive year, fifth-seeded A&M opens tournament play against fourth-seeded Houston.

Tip-off is tonight at 8 p.m. in SMU's Moody Coliseum.

The winner moves on to play the winner of the Arkansas-Baylor match-up Thursday at 8 p.m.

The Lady Ags carry an 8-8 conference mark to Dallas with an overall record of 14-13.

During the SWC regular season, Houston beat A&M 73-63 in College Station and 75-68 in Houston Saturday.

Lady Ag center Vanessa Edwards, who averages 7.0 points per game and leads the team in rebounding with 5.4 boards per game, did not play in Saturday's contest for personal reasons.

She is expected to play Wednesday night. Junior center Dena Russo, however, will be absent from the Lady Ags' roster.

Russo was forced to quit playing in February after reoccurring knee problems.

When Russo left the lineup she was second in scoring for the Lady Ags with 13.7 points per game, first in rebounds with 7.5 per game and second in blocks with 10 total.



Hill

A&M Sophomore Karey Janak has taken over the starting role for Russo and is averaging 6.8 points per games since stepping in February.

The Lady Ags have faced Houston five times in eight tournament appearances.

The Cougars have won three of the previous four match-ups including a 77-69 victory over A&M last year in quarterfinals action.

A&M seniors Wendy Jennings and Yvonne Hill will end their collegiate basketball careers this week.

Hill is in her second year of playing for A&M after transferring from Blinn Junior College.

Hill has led the Lady Ags in scoring both seasons she has played for A&M. Last year she averaged 12.4 points per game and leads A&M this year with 15.5 per game.

This year, Hill is first in steals with 51, second in rebounding with 4.9 per game, and is a two-time all-SWC second team selection. Hill has been the Lady Ags' leading scorer in 11 games this year.

Jennings, playing in her fourth season at A&M, is shooting 30.2 percent from three-point range and has played in 16 games this season.

As a junior, Jennings established a new Lady Ag record by attempting 21 three-pointers, making 59 of them.

In her sophomore season, Jennings turned in an unforgettable performance against Houston in the 1989 SWC tournament.

Jennings entered the game in the first half and canned 7-of-11 shots from the field including 4-of-7 from three-point land.

1991 WOMEN'S SWC TOURNAMENT

Wednesday, March 6 at Moody Coliseum Thursday, March 7 at Moody Coliseum Saturday, March 9, at Reunion Arena

No. 3 Texas Tech 12 p.m. **No. 6 SMU**

No. 2 Texas 2 p.m. **No. 7 Rice**

No. 1 Arkansas 6 p.m. **No. 8 Baylor**

No. 4 Houston 8 p.m. **No. 5 Texas A&M**

6:00 p.m. 1:30 p.m.

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