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'93-94 CAMPUS DIRECTORY

A&M men's basketball team jams into opening practice

By Michael Plumer

THE BATTALION

On Saturday morning, it began. The Texas A&M basketball team opened practice at G. Rollie White Coliseum in front of about 250 people, and also among the new season's high expectations and hopes. The Aggies have been pegged to finish in the upper echelon by observers of the Southwest Conference based on a strong recruiting class.

Three freshman, point guards Anthony Burks and Jimmy Smith and forward Chris Pulliams and two hearded junior college transfers, forwards Joe Wilbert and Roy Wills will provide the Aggies with something that has not been possible the past three years.

Depth. A&M head coach Tony Barone said it did not take long for him to see that the new Aggies will have an impact on the '93-'94 season.

"I was extremely pleased with the newcomers," Barone said. "They will make an instant impact on the court. They will fit nicely with our veterans who have been here."

"Right now, there is a huge difference between the veterans and the newcomers but give them time." The two leading returnees are senior point guard David Edwards and junior forward Damon Johnson. Johnson said he is excited about the possibilities of the team.

"I think people should look out for us because we have a whole new mentality," Johnson said. "We worked too hard over the offseason to let that go by the boards."

"We are trying for the championship." Edwards echoed his teammate's sentiments.

"It feels good to get started because we have been waiting so long for this moment," Edwards said. "We will play hard, and we have added a couple of wrinkles because of the new guys we've got. They will be ready."

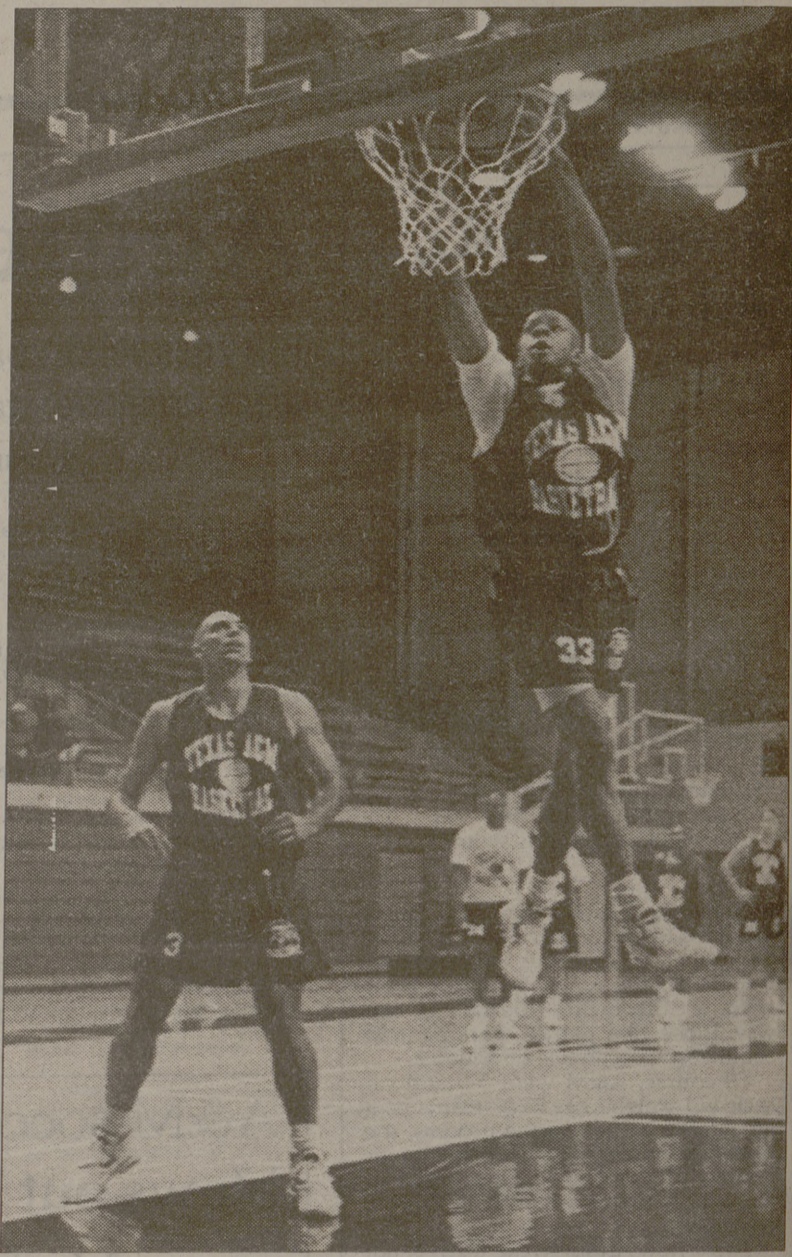
A&M has been picked to finish second in the SWC only to the University of Texas, and last Thursday at the SWC media day in Houston, Edwards was asked to comment on Texas' playing style. He said he would like to play in the kind of run-n-gun offense the Longhorns feature.

But Edwards said his answer was taken out of context when he meant to say he admired the Longhorns' program.

"Coming out of high school, and if I knew about Texas' style of play, of course I'd be interested in them because I averaged 41 points in high school," Edwards said. "I love it here at A&M. I bleed maroon and white. I love playing for Coach Barone."

Edwards, the former transfer from Georgetown, said that the added depth at A&M will cause a scramble for positions and playing time.

"The thing about this year is we don't have a guaranteed starting five," Edwards said. "But as long as we win, nobody can be mad. It is a team game."



Mary Macmanus/THE BATTALION
 Texas A&M senior forward Brett Murry (3) watches freshman forward Chris Pulliams (33) send it home during the Aggies Saturday practice.

Plumer

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"We don't deserve the SWC championship playing this way," Teichelman said.

This football program has moved to the point where domination is expected. That is a far cry from 15 years ago when first downs were cheered.

A&M is by far a superior team in a weak conference. The talent edge the Aggies hold is immeasurable. How many teams have a third-string tailback who leads the nation in kickoff returns?

There are still hurdles left for A&M, three on the schedule and one off. Today, A&M will make an initial presentation to the

NCAA concerning any institutional involvement in the "No-work-for-pay" affair.

Just perfect. When this team is trying to get it together for a November run, the NCAA pops up. A&M has a week off, and it can not come at a better time because the Louisville Cardinals come to town on November 13.

That game provides the Aggies another chance to show that they can play with the big boys. A&M failed in its last chance.

"If this had been Louisville, it would have been another Oklahoma," A&M head coach R.C. Slocum said.

That has got to be a gruesome thought for A&M fans. Imagine getting beat 44-14 at Kyle Field.

I expect to see a Missouri-type of intensity against Louisville. The score might not be 73-0 but

this team realizes it has something to prove.

In fact, it might not be a surprise to see junior running back Greg Hill inserted back into the starting lineup. This is not a knock against Rodney Thomas, but Hill has exploded since his return from his NCAA suspension. Witness his 130 yards rushing against the Mustangs.

After Louisville, A&M plays a much-improving Texas Christian team in Ft. Worth. And then, Texas comes calling.

A&M will be big favorites in all three games, and the Aggies should enter the Cotton Bowl at 10-1. Right now, the Aggies are running with the big dogs on a national basis.

But, if things don't "improve," they could be back on the porch.

Soccer

Continued from Page 5

athletic ability between the two clubs."

Lady Longhorns head coach Eric Zobrist said that the Lady Aggies outmatched them.

"It is always tough if you come to A&M," he said. "But today A&M was stronger and they just stuck it to us."

The Lady Aggies placed Rebe Okler, Hlista and Lady Aggies freshman goalie Sunny McConnel on the All-Tournament team. Rebe was chosen defensive MVP and Okler was chosen offensive MVP.

A&M beat New Mexico 3-0 on Friday.

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ISLAMIC AWARENESS WEEK
 at Texas A&M Univ. (November 1 - 5)
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Major activities:
 Monday : Video Program, showing *The Book Of Signs* at 7 pm in Blocker Rm. 150
 Tuesday : Video Program, showing *Lecture: Islam in Focus* at 7 pm, Blocker 150
 Wednesday : *Lecture: The Role of Women & Family Structure in Islam.* at 7pm-10pm in Blocker Rm. 158.
 Thursday : *Panel / Talk Show: American Muslim Experiences.* by Br. Brad Neil, Br. David, Sr. Debra Arangua, etc. at 7pm - 10pm in Blocker Rm. 102.
 Friday : *Islamic Culture Day*, presenting: booties of Muslim countries, Muslim dresses, and Muslim food fair. at 2:30 pm - 6pm at flag room MSC.
Continuous Activities: Tuesday - Friday:
 -- Muslim World Exhibit at the flag room MSC
 -- Information Table at the hallway MSC
Refreshment Served

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