

Fab Five's hop to NBA stuffs college game

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Sportswriter

They were regarded as one of the best college basketball freshman classes of all time, and they were all on the same team. They were Chris Webber, Juwan Howard, Jalen Rose, Jimmy King and Ray Jackson, and they took the college basketball scene by storm in the winter of 1991.

Head coach Steve Fisher broke every law in "the book" by starting five freshmen from start to finish, and that finish was a trip all the way to the NCAA Championship game in April 1992.

The Fab Five unfortunately ran into a superior team loaded with talent in future Olympian Christian Laettner, plus Bobby Hurley and Grant Hill.

The fact that the Wolverines' Cinderella story fell just a little short did not dampen the spirits of Michigan's players or those of their ardent worshippers in the media. "Dynasty" and "legacy" were the two words most frequently mentioned in reference to the next three years that the five wonder boys would have together.

So, what happened? It is two years later, and the Fab Five has been reduced to the Texas Two, namely King and Jackson.

On successive days this week, Michigan's stock as a powerhouse dropped considerably as first Howard, then Rose opted for the big, big bucks that come

See Fab Five/ Page 6

A&M track teams make run at title



Nick Rodnieki/The Battalion
Ty Sevin attempts his second javelin throw during A&M's final home meet.

Aggies hope to foil UT's chances at SWC crown

By Stewart Doreen
The Battalion

The Texas A&M track and field teams will travel to Houston this weekend for the Southwest Conference Championships at Rice University on Saturday and Sunday.

The men's team will go into the meet looking to prevent University of Texas from taking their second-straight outdoor title.

"The guys have seemed to focus in the last week at the task at hand," head coach Ted Nelson.

The Aggies are looking to avenge last year's meet where they suffered costly injuries that prevented them from taking home their first title since 1981.

"I felt like we should have won the meet last year," Nelson said.

The Aggies will rely on their long distance runners to carry the load when it comes to point production.

Scott Garvin is the favorite in the 1,500-meters after his performances Texas Relays. Garvin will also run the 5,000-meters along with Ross Stooksberry, who could also be seen in the men's 10,000-meters.

"There is not a kid in the state that can run with Scott (Garvin)," assistant coach

Ed Marcinkiewicz said. "The distance guys are going to be a key for us to win conference."

Donnie Bodron, Jason Reed and Brian Piper will take on the conference's best in the 3,000-meter steeplechase in what could amount to big points for the Aggies. Nelson also points at the decathlon as a key for the Aggies.

Currently, NCAA provisional qualifier Richard Harrison, Heath Brewer and Travis Maher are the top three in the conference

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- Ed Marcinkiewicz,
A&M's assistant track coach

and will be needed to defeat the top three from Texas.

"The decathlon is a big event, and the number one key to the meet along with our distance runners," Nelson said.

There will be many other events that will feature the Aggie's best going after conference titles.

Curt Young and Larry Wade will lead the hurdle crew into a battle for two of the conference's best fields that includes Texas' hurdler and sprinter Marcus Stokes.

Wade and Young will both run the 110-meter hurdles, while young and A&M's All-

American hurdler Richard Murphy will be needed to come back from injury to score in the men's 400-meter hurdles.

If the Aggies have an event locked up, it might be in the men's javelin.

Ty Sevin, NCAA qualifier with the nation second longest throw, Carlos Pantin, Fernando Palmomo and Ryan Theriault have four of the conference's top five marks in an event that will help the Aggie's bid for the title.

The Aggies will also count on their depth in the jumping events.

Tim Bryant, last year's second place finisher in the long jump, and Kendrick Smith, holder of the fourth best triple jump in conference, are the Aggies best shots for points. Phillip Madkins could also contribute in both events.

The Aggie sprinters, in what is annually the team's strong point, will depend on the come back of Danny McCray who has missed many weeks of running due to his commitment to spring football.

McCray will run the anchor leg of the 4X100 and 4X400-meter relays will also run the 200-meters, an event where he holds the fastest time in the nation.

Mike Miller and Stacy Zamzow will be the Aggie's threat in the men's 800-meters.

Miller, the outspoken leader of the Aggies National Championship 4X400 relay team, will bring his trademark kick to the race where he ran the third fastest time in the conference last week at the Texas A&M Invitational.

Aggie baseball faces Baylor Bears, tough odds to make tournament

By Drew Diener
The Battalion

The Texas A&M baseball team embarks on a three-game series with Baylor tonight at Olsen Field at 7.

With a 3-9 record in the Southwest Conference and a 28-18 overall mark, the Aggies are in seventh place entering this week-end's series.

Baylor (2-10 in the SWC and

20-25-1 overall) is in eighth place.

Only the top four teams qualify for the SWC tournament at the end of the season. The tournament winner is assured of a berth in the ensuing NCAA Tournament.

The Aggies have not missed the SWC Tournament since 1990, when they finished the regular season with a record of 43-17.

A&M head coach Mark Johnson said for the Aggies to remain in the conference race, a sweep of Baylor this weekend is vital.

"It's up to mathematical geniuses to figure (how the Aggies can keep from being eliminated)," Johnson said.

Junior lefthander Trey Moore (4-4, 4.62 ERA) will get the nod at starting pitcher for the Aggies tonight. Moore has not earned a

win since April 1 when he worked six innings in the Aggies 15-9 defeat of the University of Houston.

The Bears will send senior righthander Brent Bearden (6-6, 3.61) to the mound.

The Texarkana native earned a victory last week against the University of Texas. He also beat Texas Tech earlier this season with a two-hit shutout.

After the game tonight, the two teams will travel to Waco Saturday to complete the series in a doubleheader scheduled to begin at 4 p.m.

If the Aggies can manage a sweep this weekend, Johnson said there is still a chance that his team will be competing in the SWC Tournament.

"No one is running away with the conference," Johnson said.

The dictionary has at least three definitions for "value." So do we.



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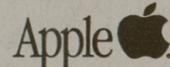


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