

Cyclones 'Prophet

Nix Bill'

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Editor

FORT COLLINS, Dec. 20.—Bill Strannigan isn't a very good salesman.

True, his seasonal employment as basketball coach at Iowa State doesn't require too much talent along salesmanship lines. But few among the local group which heard his prediction "we'll be

lucky to finish sixth (in the Big Seven conference race)" would buy that after watching his current Cyclones breeze by Colorado A. & M., 72-60, here Monday night.

But the dapper tutor gets another chance to prove—or disprove, if you would—his prophecy when he brings his team to Denver to meet Hoyt Brawner's Pioneers Wednesday night at the D. U. Fieldhouse.

Little Gary Thompson, the 5-

foot 8-inch home-grown (Roland, Ia.) product, was Strannigan's key agent in the victory, totaling 24 points by nearly every conceivable method and twice personally putting the damper on determined Aggie rallies.

The first came after A. & M.'s most serious threat midway in the first half when Aggies' Stan Albert and Boyd Grant shot their mates into a 17-16 margin with 10:45 played. This was the only time A. & M. managed to lead.

I-STATE AHEAD TO STAY

Thompson immediately put Iowa State ahead to stay after Grant's long one-hander had fetched the Aggie edge. First, he hit a driving layup after teammate Arnie Gaarde's neat theft and followed with two more quick fielders to put Iowa State ahead, 22-18, with 14:45 played.

Then, in the second half, his mates helped erect a more comfortable 8-point edge with 8:30 played only to have Aggies' Dick Gregory reduce it with three quick points. Thompson canned two free throws, a layup, a jump shot and a second layup in that order to double A. & M.'s output and give Iowa State a 54-45 edge with 12:15 played.

After that it was just a matter of the final margin as John Crawford, a hustling 6-foot 5-inch New York sophomore, and veterans Chuck Vogt, Lyle Frahm and Jerry Sandbulte joined in the scoring.

CAN'T CHECK LONG SHOTS