

SWAC

Grambling: A brand-new coach and outlook

By ROSCOE NANCE Review Staff Writer

GRAMBLING Coach Bob Hopkins steps into a storybook setting as he returns to his alma mater.

Even though they were 14-21 last season and finished a disappointing sixth in the Southwestern Athletic Conference, the Tigers are picked to win the championship in '86-87; what's more, with four starters returning, they have the talent to do it.

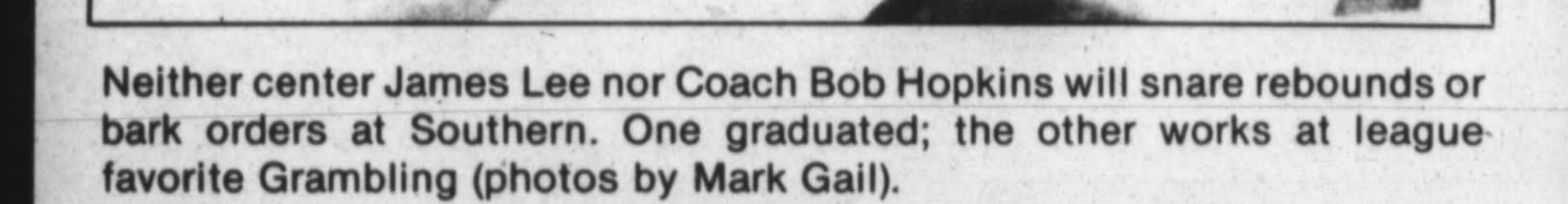
"I'd much rather finish up there than be picked up there," said Hopkins, who replaced Fred Hobdy after 26 years. "We have a young club. We have a lot of young talent, but we don't have the big man to dominate the middle that you need to win in this

The young talent Hopkins was referring to includes forward Charles Price, who was third in scoring (18 points a game), rebounding (8.9) and blocked shots (1.2).

Another forward, Terrell Wesley, was No.8 in scoring (14.7) and guard

A CHANGING OF THE GUARD





Clarence Tanner was No.3 in assists down years the past few seasons, ex-(4.9). All are sophomores. The fourth pect no less. returning starter is junior guard Reuben Charles.

will be a contender in the conference. said Hopkins. "There's no pressure. Hopkins has won championships at You can always do the best you can in Alcorn, Xavier (La.) and Southern any situation. The only pressure is the University. His Southern team tied pressure you put on yourself." Alcorn for the championship last Grambling plays a killer nonseason and won the conference tournament in 1985.

Grambling followers, after some

"It's a good feeling and a real challenge to come back and coach It's a good bet that GRAMBLING where I played college basketball,"

conference schedule that includes Georgetown, Arkansas and Utah Please See Page 23

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