

# Oklahoma Aggies Beat Wichita, 59-51

By BEN PHLEGAR

NEW YORK—(AP)—The Oklahoma A&M Cowboys are making certain they won't be left on the sidelines when the Western Regional NCAA basketball tournament opens on their home court in Stillwater next month.

They took their biggest stride so far towards the Missouri Valley conference title—and its automatic NCAA invitation—last night by clipping Wichita 59-51 in a fierce struggle. The victory was the Aggies' fourth without a loss in league play and put the second black mark against the Wheatshockers' conference hopes. Wichita has lost only three times in 22 starts, but two of the defeats have come against Missouri Valley foes.

Wichita made it tough all the way for the Oklahomans and led twice until the final three minutes. Layups by Clayton Carter and V. R. Darnhouse helped decide the issue in favor of the Aggies.

Cleo Littleton of the losers was high man with 24 points against 21 by Bob Mattick of A&M.

The Aggies, ranked fifth in the latest Associated Press poll, now have an 18-1 record.

Kentucky and Western Kentucky, along with Duquesne the nation's only remaining unbeaten teams, both extended their streaks last night. Kentucky, No. 1 in the coun-

try, trampled Georgia 106-55 for its 120th consecutive home victory with Frank Ramsey scoring 29 points. Kentucky has won 15 games this season.

Western found Stetson of Florida unexpectedly tough but triumphed 81-63 for No. 21, equaling the school's longest winning streak. Tom Marshall scored 17 points in the final quarter to assure the verdict.

Eight-ranking Duke was held to its lowest total of the season by North Carolina in winning 63-47.

Furman's Frank Selyv increased his own all-time major college basketball scoring record to 1,946 points with a 42-point display in New York as his team defeated Manhattan 92-80. Selyv broke the all-time Madison Square Garden record for foul shooting as he sank 16 of 19 and his total was high for the current season.

Defense-minded Maryland held Washington and Lee to seven field goals in scoring a 51-25 decision, one of the lowest one-team totals in a major college game this season.

In other action, Oklahoma City returned home after a disastrous road trip and showed the home folks a winning style, 69-54, against Creighton. West Virginia whipped New York University 92-80, Denver upset Utah State 65-60 and Dayton defeated Memphis 66-59.

# Tigers Close District Season

A & M Consolidated high school closes out its district 25-A basketball season in Sealy.

Entering the contest with a 4-1 district record, the Tigers will keep a good chance for the title if they come out on top. Bellville has a 2-1 record with three games left.

Tiger coach Jim Bevans probably will start his usual lineup of Bobby Jackson, Pinky Cooner, Fred Anderson, J. B. Carroll and David Bonnen. Jackson scored 21 points in Tuesday's 51-26 defeat of Waller.

Consolidated, which has a 16-2 record, was undefeated until the finals of the Navasota invitational tournament several weeks ago. The Tigers lost that contest to Klein and then lost, 48-41, to Bellville last Friday night.

The B team will play a preliminary game before the A team.

# Freshmen Play Allen Tonight; Ags Try for First SWC Win Again

A&M's Fish and varsity cage squads both see their next action on foreign courts, the Fish engaging Allen Academy in Bryan tonight and the varsity meeting SMU at Dallas Saturday night.

Head coach John Floyd's charges have yet to win a conference game this season, while SMU now resides in fourth place in SWC standings. The Aggies' last defeat came at the hands of Arkansas last Monday night in Fayetteville, 80-55. It was a double defeat for the Farmers that night as the Fish dropped a 71-60 contest, their second defeat in seven starts, to Lon Morris in Jacksonville.

Last week SMU was firmly settled in the conference race's third place slot. Pre-season predictions had figured the Mustangs to finish in one of the top three positions,

probably with Texas and Rice. However, a rousing upset last week by comeback-determined TCU toppled the Methodists into fourth place while the Frogs moved into the number three slot.

The Aggies have come close to victory on several occasions, but only in one instance have they come out on top of the score this season. That was in an early season clash with Trinity university when the Cadets bested their competition by 10 points. Later A&M came within one point of downing arch rival Texas, but the clock ran out before they could score the winning goal.

During the past four seasons,

A&M has never beaten SMU on the Dallas court. Even A&M's 1950-51 SWC champions were unable to break the Ponies on their home ground.

Barring any last minute alterations, the starting five will probably be either Joe Boring or Pat McCrory and Joe Hardgrove at guards, John Fortenberry and James Addison at forwards, and Roy Martin at center.

Next home action for both the varsity and freshman squads will be against the Rice Owls and Owlets here next Tuesday night.

Remaining games for the varsity include, following the SMU and Rice games, SMU here Feb. 13, Texas in Austin Feb. 16, TCU in Fort Worth Feb. 20, Arkansas here Feb. 22, Houston here Feb. 24 and Baylor in Waco March 1.

# Swimmers Win 52-32

A&M's varsity swimming team last night outscored Northwestern Louisiana State, 52-32, in Natchitoches, La.

On their trip through the South, the Cadets previously had won from Georgia Tech and Emory university and lost to Florida State and the University of Florida.

# CAR GUARD STOLEN

DALLAS, Tex. (AP)—R. V. Spilner left his collie dog, Trix, to guard his parked car against prowlers. When he returned an hour later he told police, his cigarette lighter was gone and so was Trix.

# Philly, Konstanty Set Contract Holdout Pace

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 5—(AP)—Outfielder Dave Philley has returned three unsigned contracts to the Philadelphia Athletics, and the Philadelphia Phillies have received two rejects from Pitcher Jim Konstanty.

The only bright news on the Philadelphia baseball scene was a telephone call from First Baseman Eddie Waitkus that he was satisfied with the second-contract Phillies' owner Bob Carpenter mailed him.

Waitkus, a sparkling glove man, hit .291 in 81 games with the Phillies in 1953. He shared the first basing duties with Earl Torgeson. In the last few weeks of September, Waitkus "jumped" the club and was suspended without pay by Carpenter. He and owner Carpenter

since have made up and the first-sacker was welcomed into the fold by the club.

Philley had his finest major league season in 1953, hitting .303 for the Athletics in 157 games. The Paris, Texas, native drove home 59 runs and was one of the American League's top fielding center-fielders despite numerous injuries. Earl Mack, vice president, admits that Philley deserves a raise, but the amount is in dispute between the boss and player.

Philley informs from Texas that he'd just as soon stay home and wrangle steers as sign for the increase now offered him by the Athletics. "I don't want to be hard nose about this," said the 32-year-old outfielder. "I guess the A's are hurting for money, but a man has to look out for himself."

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