

TOP-NOTCH TRANSFER

When help is needed, Ken Norman is ready for Aggies.

Cougars Drop 73-65 Defeat On Rusty Ags

BY JIM BUTLER
Battalion Sports Editor

The Aggie cagers returned from the land of the bouncing backboards with their fifth loss as the University of Houston Cougars tagged them with a 73-65 loss at Sam Houston Coliseum.

As has happened often in the past, the little men were A&M's nemesis. Cougar guards Chet Oliver and Jack Margenthaler led their team in scoring with 17 and 15 points respectively, consistently hitting on long outside shots over the Aggies' zone defense.

FOR THE OPENING 10 minutes, it looked like a typical UH-A&M with the score tied five times and the lead changing hands five times. UH's fine sophomore Richard Apolskis dropped in a driving layup to give Houston a 15-14 lead they never lost.

Houston's final two points in the first half were a perfect example of a team that was just caught on the wrong night. Donnie Schverak, sporting a cast on his shooting hand from above the wrist to his fingertips, sank a 20-foot set shot to give UH a 39-30 intermission margin.

THE CADETS KEPT pace with the hard-pressing Coogs during the second half, but could not overtake them. With John Beasley clearing the boards and combining with Ken Norman on the offensive end, the Aggies closed the gap to two points, 49-47 midway in the final period, but couldn't catch up.

Beasley was top scorer for the Maroon with 17 points and led all rebounders with 11. Oliver had 17 for UH while Margenthaler had 15.

A WELL-GUARDED Bennie Lenox had 11 points for the Aggies, 10 coming in the first half.

Aggie Coach Shelby Metcalf credited the Houston defense with making the difference in the game. Metcalf felt the Aggies' press was effective at times. The Aggies normally employ a zone defense but went into a man-to-man with a little over half of the second period to play.

"I can see now we're going to have to work hard to get ready for Rice," Metcalf added. The Aggies play Rice in Houston Saturday night.

Cougars Use Spell On 7 UH Cagers

HOUSTON (AP) — Guy Lewis, basketball coach at the University of Houston, was puzzling over this question Wednesday:

Did the fact seven of his players were hypnotized before the game help his Cougars defeat Texas A&M 73-65 Tuesday night?

The Cougars, surprisingly aggressive, won their eighth straight game by defeating the favored Southwest Conference leaders. A&M had defeated Houston by three points in December.

"IF HYPNOTISM is a thing that can help a boy realize his potential, then it is a wonderful thing," Lewis said Wednesday.

Lewis, a strong believer that mental attitude is a major factor in performance, said he had wanted to make a test a long while.

Hypnotist Arthur Ellen was agreeable, so Lewis had seven

of his players report at his home Tuesday afternoon without telling them why they were to be there.

One by one, Ellen put the players under hypnosis and talked to each individually, telling them to cast out any anxiety that might infringe on basketball ability.

LEWIS ALSO talked to each player.

"Against A&M, I want you to play as I know you are capable of playing," he told the seven. "If you do, you'll win the game."

Lewis said Wednesday he believes the experiment helped even though the box score indicates that two players who were not hypnotized deserve much credit for the victory.

Chester Oliver led Houston scoring with 17 points. Jack Margenthaler scored 15 and limited Bennie Lenox, the Aggie star, to only one point in the second half.



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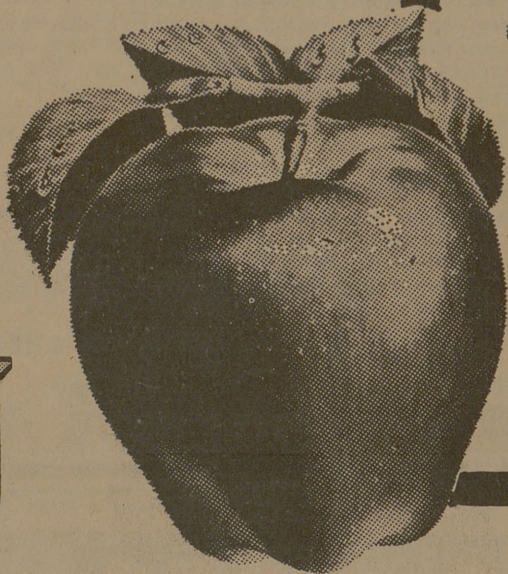
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