

# Ags Take 1st With Rice Win

By LARRY UPSHAW  
Battalion Sports Writer

The third miss was a charm for Big John Beasley, who used his long arms to pull the Aggies to a 92-85 win over the Rice Owls in Houston Saturday night.

The serene Rice campus felt the rumble of a full-fledged earthquake in Rice Gym. With 1:33 remaining in the contest, the Owls brought the ball downcourt with A&M leading by one point, 84-83. Off the rim flew one shot and heart failure commenced. A second miss and sweat glands gushed. The third shot bounded away and into the ozone stretched the long arm of Aggie law, Big John, who pulled down a rebound and was fouled for his trouble.

With the one-and-one situation prevailing, Beasleyaced both free throws and Ricebirds felt the extension to a 24-game losing streak which began last season. On the other side, Aggies bathed in the glory of a 2-0 conference record while sitting alone in first place.

A&M won but the Owls didn't just lie down and die. On the contrary, the Owls led by nine

points with 9:49 left in the game.

After Aggie guard Eddie Dominguez popped in the first two points on a jumper from the side of the key, the first half resembled a tennis match as the troops scrambled back and forth trading baskets. With center Randy Matson blocking Owl scoring ace Doug McKendrick away from the basket, the Aggies combined superior rebounding and free-throw prowess to construct a 49-40 halftime bulge. But the Owls changed scoring aces in mid-stream as guard Guy Lease hooped 10 points in the first five-and-

one-half minutes of the second half to tie the knot at 57-57. Aggie cagers then went three and one half minutes without a point as Rice used the zone press to pull nine points ahead.

From then on, Beasley moved into far right field on a do-or-die gamble.

"We put Beasley in the corner because they had two men guarding him," explained Coach Shelby Metcalf. "That way we had four on three."

This strategy worked like a royal flush, as the Owls began to make defensive mistakes. This

move gave the hustling Ags three straight layups and Southwest Conference victory No. 2.

Beasley and McKendrick, 1-2 respectively in conference scoring, squared off at ten paces for the expected scoring duel. Beasley won the first round when he knocked McKendrick's first shot out of the arena.

Aggie forward Dick Stringfellow added injury to insult when his layup with 13:43 left in the first half netted two points and left McKendrick covering the Rice Gym floor. Beasley won the duel with 26 points while Dick Rector

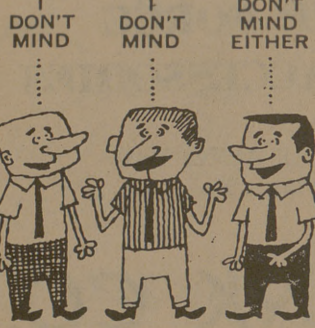
hit 15, Stringfellow and Terry Trippet sunk 13 each, Dominguez talled 12 and Tim Timmerman dropped in 11.

Lease hustled for 25 points to pace Rice. Stated Coach Metcalf, "That Lease is a good ball player. He's got all the credentials—size, speed and shooting ability." McKendrick canned 20 for the Owls,

followed by Bill Doty and Miller with 10 each.

"We changed around using McKendrick. Matson edged and then John Beasley covered him. John did a job fronting him (playing between the ball and the player) instead of the usual way

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## NCAA Places Sanctions On Houston Grid Teams

WASHINGTON (AP)—The National Collegiate Athletic Association placed the University of Houston on probation for three years Monday for "severe violations" involving out-of-season practice, recruiting and financial

aid to football players.

Only Auburn, Indiana and North Carolina State have been handed stiffer penalties by the NCAA Council. Auburn was disciplined twice for a total of five years, while Indiana and North Carolina State got four-year terms. The probation included all sports, where Houston's penalty covers only football.

The announcement of the council action came as the 60th annual NCAA convention opened here.

The probation for Houston bans the football team from all bowl participation and any game televised under NCAA jurisdiction.

Arthur J. Bergstrom, assistant to the NCAA executive director, said these were "severe violations."

In other actions, the NCAA Council terminated the probations voted last year to West Texas State for excessive financial aid and to Arkansas for recruiting violations.

The only mention of the NCAA's dispute with the Amateur Athletic Union came in a speech by NCAA President

Everett D. Barnes at the opening session.

## Cadets Face Razorbacks

The Aggies try to make it three-in-a-row Tuesday night when they meet the hot Arkansas Razorbacks in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

The Hogs are 1-1 in SWC play, having a 74-65 win over Tech to their credit and losing to TCU in Fort Worth 88-85. The Ags are in the lead of the young season with a 2-0 record with wins over SMU and Rice on their record. The Cadets are the only team in the SWC to win an away game, winning in Houston Saturday night.

Arkansas, picked by no one in the pre-season guessing game, made a strong showing in the pre-conference activity, winning six and losing only two. This included an impressive third place in the Sun Bowl Tournament with a 67-57 victory over Loyola (La.)

## Fish Drub Owlets

It's a big man's game say the Aggie Fish, who flew over the Rice Owlets Saturday night to score an 88-73 rout in Houston.

The skyscraping Fish, with starters averaging a mean 6-6 and 206 pounds, just muscled out the lesser Owlets to score an initial win in Southwest Conference freshman action after season-opening losses to junior college foes.

I was really surprised," exclaimed Fish Coach Jim Culpepper. "We hadn't played in a month so I really didn't know what to expect."

The surprise was quite pleasant teamwise, for the Fish out-rebounded Rice 48-32. They also displayed a fantastic 67.7 per cent accuracy from the field in the first half to erect a 49-31 lead at intermission. That average slumped to 41.3 per cent in the second half, but the Fish will proudly claim a healthy 55 per cent average overall.

"We slacked off a little in the second half," stated Culpepper, "but that's only natural—being so far ahead."

Some individual giants stepped forward to pace the Fish. Guard Billy Bob Barnett poured in points from all angles to tally 33 while snatching 14 rebounds. Guard Sonny Benefield displayed swiftness afoot to score 25. Forwards Ronny Peret and Gary Ditto bagged 10 points each.

Culpepper emptied the bench early and often with five scholarship and six non-scholarship cagers seeing action.

Owlet Mike Frizzell canned 21 points to lead the Rice quintet, while Johnny Coles hit for 16 as the Owlets posted a puny 41.2 per cent radio from the field.

The Fish will attempt to whip San Jacinto Junior College into submission Tuesday night preceding the Aggie-Arkansas contest. The tipoff is scheduled for 5:45.

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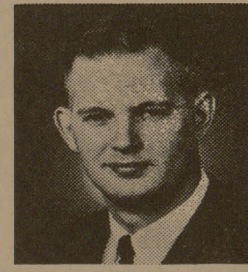
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