

Aggies Fall To TCU, 67-64

By GARY SHERER
 "There has to be a winner and a loser."

The TCU Horned Frogs and the Aggies were well aware of this last night in a 67-64 TCU win at G. Rollie White Coliseum. From the opening buzzer to the final second the two teams traded baskets in the battle for the winner's position. At the end, the Aggies had to take second-best after seemingly taking control in the final minutes of the game.

In a game of this type, it is difficult to pinpoint a trend as is the case most of the time. TCU won the game on a tremendous comeback in the last three minutes of play. That should be the end of it, but there is a bunch of those ever-evident "ifs" to contend with before the story of this game is over.

If No. 1—If the Aggies could have been more consistent at the foul line.

If No. 2—If the Aggies could have contended with the TCU full-court press.

If No. 3—If TCU had elected to stall when they got the lead.

If No. 4—This is the most important; if John Underwood hadn't stepped out of bounds with 12 seconds left.

Of course there will be second-guessing on this game for a while and these series of "ifs" are evidence of that. The fact still remains for Aggie fans. The Aggies lost another thriller at home.

"We knew what we were going to do, but they put a lot of pressure on us," Coach Shelby Metcalf said after the game. He also made mention that the pressure the Aggies put on themselves was perhaps a bigger factor than the TCU pressure. The Aggie mentor had great praise for his team in defeat and said they now have to look to the next game and not linger on the ones that have been played.

Underwood deserved better fate than what he received. On an in-bounds pass with 12 seconds left and the Aggies down by one he put an errant foot out of bounds and the shrill referee's whistle was heard over the screaming 3,000 onlookers.

The 6'3" junior transfer student from Honey Grove had played a heads-up game to this point and had kept the Aggie

cause alive with his clutch performance. Besides being the high point man for the Maroon and White, he was the man the Aggies looked to when the big play was needed.

After Underwood's fateful step the rest of the game was very hectic and heart-breaking for the Aggie partisans. TCU took the ball out and stalled for seven seconds at which time they called time-out. The Frogs brought the ball in play and Sonny Benefield fouled TCU's Carey Sloan.

The 6-0 junior from Houston proved to be the wrong man to foul. Sloan coolly walked to the charity stripe and sank two free throws and the Aggie chances with them. The two shots made Sloan eight for eight at the foul line but the final two were the most important.

The Aggies had taken a 51-50 lead at the 9:21 mark of the second half for the first time since they led 11-10 early in the first 20 minutes.

Six minutes later the score was 60-54 with the Aggies in the driver's seat. This looked like the end for TCU but it wasn't as far as the Frogs' Mickey McCarty was concerned.

The 6-5 junior from Pasadena hit on a short jump shot to make it 60-56. After Jess Evans' two foul shots made it 60-58, McCarty cut in front of an Aggie in-bounds pass and scored on a layup and was fouled by a surprised Ronnie Peret.

McCarty sank the ensuing foul shot and the scoreboard read 61-60, TCU. In 11 seconds, a six point Aggie lead had switched to a one-point TCU margin.

With Aggie hopes down, the

logical man to call on was Underwood. He answered the call and dumped in four foul shots that were sandwiched around a pretty layup by TCU's Wayne Kreis to pull the Aggies to the lead once again, 64-63.

As Underwood was the logical

choice for the Aggie heroics, TCU called on (you guessed it) McCarty to pull the Frogs back to the front with a short jump shot from the left side.

Two A&M time-outs followed this shot and the stage was set for the final hectic 12 seconds.



THERE IT IS
 Aggie Center Ronnie Peret (44) seems to be the only one who sees the basketball as the Aggies' Terry Trippet (50) and TCU's James Cash (right) seem to be looking elsewhere. The action took place in Tuesday night's 67-64 TCU win.

Baylor And Tech Winners

WACO, Tex. (AP) — Baylor clamped a man-to-man defense on cold-shooting Arkansas in the second half Tuesday night and thrashed the Razorbacks 65-53 in a Southwest Conference basketball game on the red-hot shooting of Jimmy Turner.

Baylor shot at a 57 per cent average from the field, compared to Arkansas' 44 per cent.

Baylor and Arkansas both stand 1-2 in SWC play.

LUBBOCK, Tex. (AP) — Big Vernon Paul poured in 22 points Tuesday night to lead Texas Tech to a 91-69 Southwest Con-

ference basketball victory over Rice. The victory snapped a 10-game losing streak for the Red Raiders.

Billy Doty was high point man for the Owls with 18. Both Tech and Rice now stand 1-2 in SWC play.

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Aggie Fish Go From Cold To Hot As They Edge Polliwogs 67-63

By JERRY GRISHAM

The Aggie Fish played a cold, cold first half, and then came back with a hot second half to beat the TCU Polliwogs 67-63 for their second straight Southwest Conference basketball win Tuesday night in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

A&M hit six field goals out of 31 attempts in the first half for a less than spectacular 19.4 percentage. The Wogs connected on 11 of 36 from the floor for 30.6 per cent.

The Fish hit on 16 of 21 from the charity line to stay within hailing distance of the Wogs who could only put away nine of 17 free ones. Half time found the Aggies trailing by only three points, 31-28.

In the second half the Fish jumped into the lead and pulled

out to a 11 point lead which lasted all of 45 seconds until the Wogs began opening up their offense.

With 4:09 remaining in the game the Wogs pulled to within two points of the young Farmers, but the Aggies' Mike Heitman and Oliver Biggers hit the big ones to maintain the Aggie lead.

The second half statistics went entirely to the Fish as they hit 54.2 per cent from the floor while the Wogs managed to up their shooting percentage to 37.1.

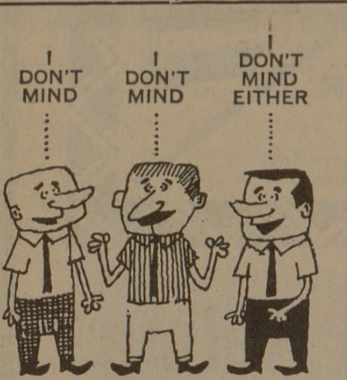
High point for the Aggies was Heitman with 21 points. Jeff Harp of the Polliwogs was the game's top scorer with 24.

Next home game for the Fish will be Jan. 17 against the University of Texas Shorthorns.



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 Fri., Jan. 13 - 8:00-12:00 p. m., Dr. Bill Luker, Business Administration, on "Business and Conscience."
 Sat., Jan. 14 - 8:00-12:00 p. m., Experimental Films: "A Movie" and "Paul Tomkowitz Streetcar Switchman."

NEXT WEEK
 Fri., Jan. 20 - 8:00-12:00 p. m., Asst. District Attorney Bill Vance on "Law Conscience."
 Sat., Jan. 21 - 8:00-12:00 p. m., Experimental Films: "Object Lesson," "The Maze." Also a possible live extra: The Fallout Theatre production of "Edward Albee's Zoo Story."

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