

# Fish Meet Owlets Tonight In Varsity Prelim Match

By JOHN PLATZER

With a win a necessity to remain in the thick of the Southwest Conference freshman basketball race, the Aggie Fish host the Rice Owlets tonight in a preliminary to the varsity game.

The Fish will be out to revenge a 63-58 loss to Rice in Houston just one week ago. In that game the Fish started cold and fell behind 24-12 in the first nine minutes and could never make up the difference.

BILL COOKSEY must have dressed in a phone booth prior to the Fish game against the Texas Terlings Saturday as he put together his finest effort of the year in leading A&M to an 80-73 victory.

The win broke a two game losing skid for the Fish and gave them a 3-2 conference record and a 5-3 season mark. Texas' freshmen are now 2-3 in conference and 5-4 on the year.

The first half provided the real showcase for Cooksey as he was all but unstoppable. He hit on 12 of 17 shots from the floor for a remarkable 71 per cent in the half as he scored 25 points to give A&M a 48-36 advantage.

TEXAS SCORED the first and last two points in the contest but in between it was all A&M and Cooksey.

A twenty foot jumper by Cooksey wiped out the Texas 1-0 lead, and he was off and winging. He scored the Fish first six points as they jumped to a 17-9 lead in the first six minutes.

A Roddy McAlpine jumper with 1:23 left in the initial half gave the Fish their largest lead in the period at 45-32.

For the half, Cooksey hit on nine shots of twenty feet or more and two other of fifteen feet.

THE FISH started fast again in the second half and built up

their biggest lead of the game at 64-47 on a jumper by Tommy Bain with 12:21 remaining.

The Yearlings then began to chip away at the lead but two free shots by McAlpine with 43 seconds left gave Jim Culpepper's cagers a 78-70 advantage and put the game on ice.

For the game Cooksey led all scorers with 33 points (it had erroneously been reported that he scored 36) on 15 of 25 from the floor and 3 of 6 from the foul line.

This was the most points scored by an Aggie Fish in two years as Mike Heitmann, also a Houston Sam Houston product, scored last season's single game high of 30 for the Fish against Wharton.

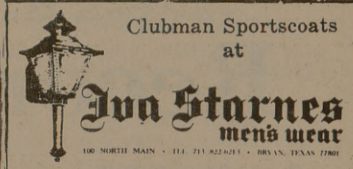
CHUCK SMITH backed up Cooksey with 16 markers followed by McAlpine with 11 for A&M. Sam Bradley, a substitute guard, led the Yearling's scoring with 24.

Steve Niles, the Fish's 6-11 center, led the home team to a 53-48 edge in rebounds with 18 while Cooksey contributed 12.

A&M hit on 34 of 72 for 47.2 per cent for the contest while Texas made good on 32 of 79 for a 40.5 mark.

BIG GUNS in the Owlets' attack are Darrell Halloran, Gary Reist, Tom Myer, Marty Tendler and Terry Timmerman. Timmerman, a 6-7 forward from Houston Austin, is the brother of former Aggie cager Tim Timmerman.

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# Tigers Test Cubs In 10AAA Contest

By JOHN PLATZER

Brenham's Cubs, a team which earned the respect of Consolidated coach Jack Churchill the last time the squads played, will attempt to derail the Tigers tonight in College Station.

Consolidated is currently deadlocked with Conroe in the district 10 AAA top spot with a 9-1 district mark.

Wins by the Tigers in their last two regular season games against Brenham and La Grange would give Consolidated a first place tie at the least and set up a district playoff. A loss in either of the games, on the other hand, would mean the Tigers would have to rely on Conroe dropping one of their remaining contests to set up a playoff.

Churchill's high respect of the Cubs comes from the close call Consolidated had in Brenham earlier in the season.

"They are a real improved club from the first of the year," he said. "They really scrap and get after it."

"Last time they played us close and we just did get out with a 67-58 win."

The Brenham player who impresses Churchill the most is 5-9 guard Tommie Sullivan.

"He is a real fine player, the type who could score 30 points in any one night," the Consolidated coach said.

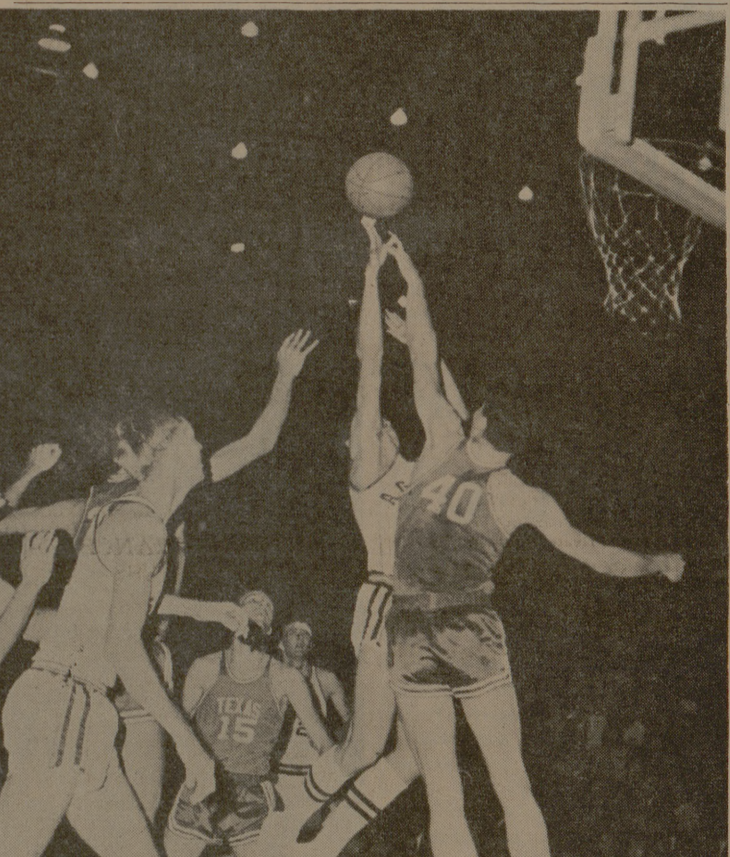
Other Cub starters are a pair of 6-2 Moore boys, John and Raymond, along with 5-11 Robert Felden and 6-0 Jimmy Dreyer.

The Tigers got past the Cypress-Fairbanks Bobcats in impressive fashion at home Friday night with a 76-60 triumph.

Before the Bobcats could tally in the contest the Tigers had a 6-0 lead and then coasted. They had built the margin to 19-8 at the end of the first quarter and to 38-21 at the halftime break.

One of the key factors in the first half was the defensive job Consolidated did on Lee Chase, the Cy-Fair scoring ace. Chase entered the game with a 15.7 scoring average but had only one point at halftime.

After increasing the lead to 58-37 in the third quarter, Consolidated relaxed in the final eight minutes and were outscored



TWO FOR THE AGGIES

Billy Bob Barnett goes over the taller Gary Overbeck (40) for a first half basket in Saturday night's 117-105 Aggie win over Texas. Harry Bostic (left) of the Aggies and Texas' Billy Arnold (15) look on. (Photo by Mike Wright)

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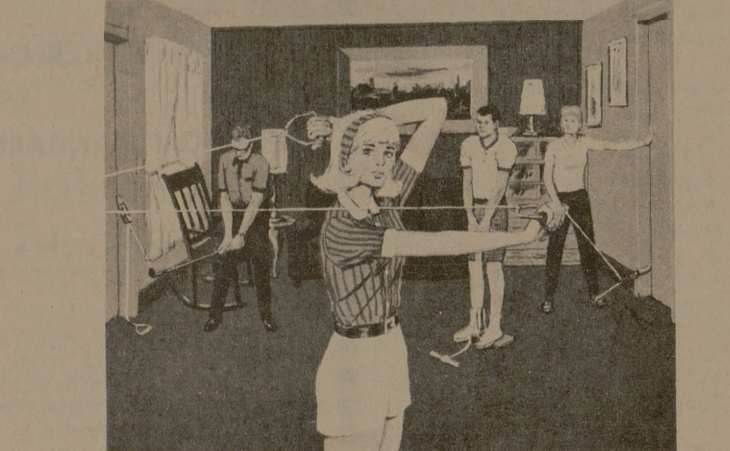
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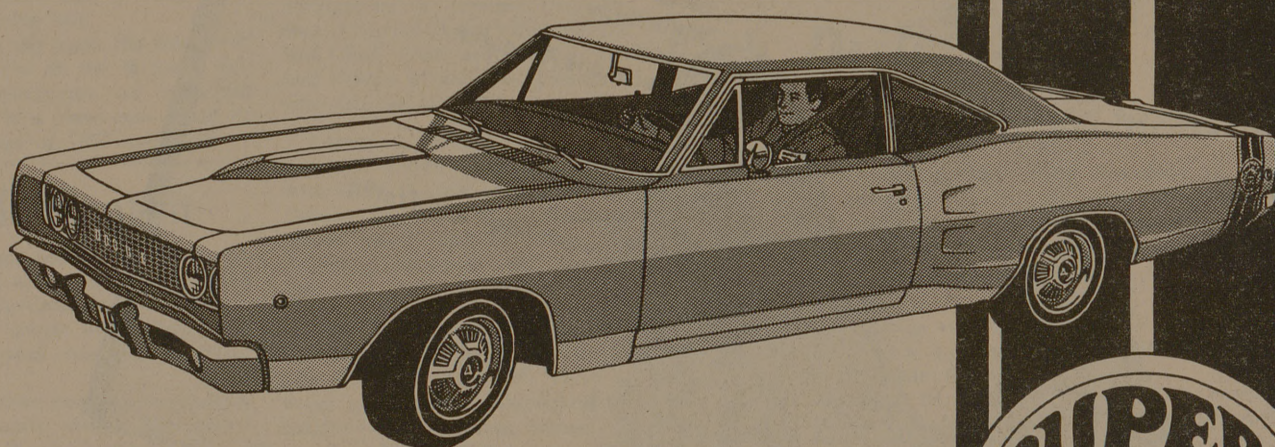
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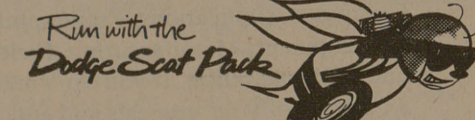
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