

Fish Edge Tyler 73-71 In OT

By JOHN PLATZER

With only nine seconds left in overtime, Bill Cooksey nursed in a 22 foot jump shot to bring the Tyler Apaches, number three ranked junior college team in the nation, down to earth 73-71 last night in G. Rollie White.

A&M Huddle Picks Officers

The Texas A&M Huddle chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes held new elections recently at the A&M All Faiths Chapel.

Elected to lead the chapter was the Student Senate president, footballer Jerry Campbell. Four vice presidents, representing four different sports were elected. They were: David George, swimming; Edd Hargett, football; John Heffner, track; and Ozzie Burke, handball.

Other positions in the chapter are: Jack Whitmore, secretary; Chris Conley, publicity chairman; and Jim Kazmierski, song leader.

The Huddle will be provided added leadership from Professor Arthur Smith as pastor leader and Barney Welch, layman leader.

COOKSEY had a chance to end the game in regulation time but his last second shot rolled around the rim and then out.

Tyler, which was 27-1 on the year and riding the crest of a 26 game win streak, played the game without the services of 6-3 freshman guard James "Poo" Welch who is fighting the flu. Welch is averaging 20 points a game and has been considered one of the leaders of the team.

San Jacinto Junior College, rated number one in the nation in their class, provided Tyler with their only other defeat. That loss was later made up when the Apaches beat San Jacinto in Tyler.

COACH Jim Culpepper's Fish won the game with balanced scoring as they placed four men in double figures. Cooksey and Chuck Smith led with 18 apiece followed by Roddy McAlpine with 13 and Danny Berry with 12.

Smith continued his hot shooting from the field, he had entered the game hitting at 63.6 per cent, connecting on 8 of 13 for the game.

Steve Niles once again paced the Aggies in rebounding with 12 while Cooksey followed with 10.

JIM BROOKS, the big 6-8 center who is one of only 10 junior college players in the nation to be invited to the Olympic try-outs, rammed home 38 points, 29 of them in the second half, to pace Tyler's offense. Bill Chatman contributed 13 and Jess Marshall had 11 for the Apaches.

Cooksey scored 14 of his points in the first half as the Fish threatened to make a runaway of the game but then had to hold on as Tyler came roaring back.

A jumper by Cooksey gave A&M a 2-0 opening lead which they constantly built upon in the contest's first 20 minutes.

THE LEAD was stretched to 14 points at 30-16 with 3:35 left in the half and then to 35-18 with 2:25 remaining. The half ended with the Fish on top 37-20.

Tyler played the first half like anything but the team they are rated to be as none of their players could find the range. They connected on 8 of 41 floor shots in the half for a horrid 19.5 per cent while the Fish hit on 17 of 37 for 45.9 per cent.

The Fish also out rebounded the Apaches in the half by a 32-23 margin.

The second half was a complete turn around of the first as Tyler dominated the backboards to rapidly get back into the game.

THEY knocked seven points off their deficit in the first three minutes of the second half and whittled the margin down to 53-48 with 8:23 remaining.

Tyler came within two for the first time since early in the contest at 54-52 with 6:47 left but the Fish then quickly surged back to a five point advantage.

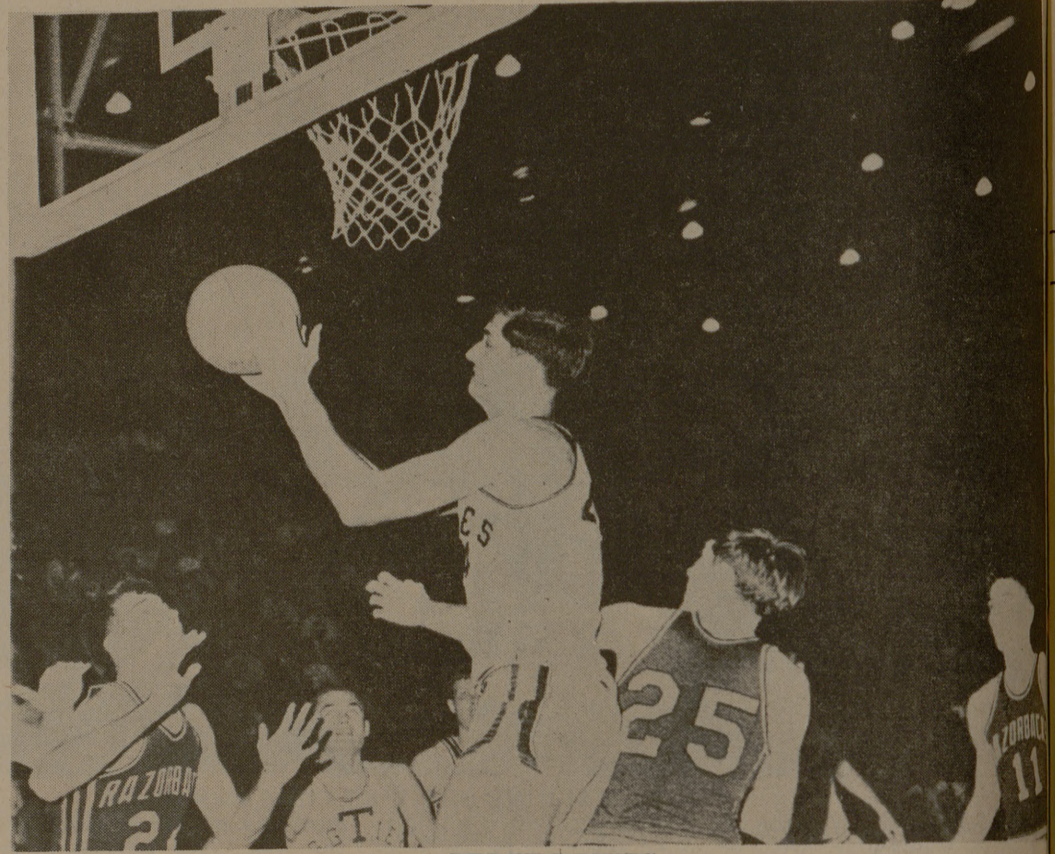
The 20 foot jumpers by Harvey Huffstetter knotted the game for the first time at 62-62 with 1:34 left and that's how the score read at the end of regulation time.

THE FISH jumped to a fast 69-64 lead in overtime but Tyler came battling back and a jumper by Brooks gave them their only lead in the game at 70-69 with 1:29 remaining. The game was tied at 71-71 when Cooksey connected for his winning goal.

The big story of the second half was in rebounding where the junior college team outdid the Aggie freshmen 39-12. For the game Tyler enjoyed a 62-44 edge in rebounding.

Brooks paced the Tyler rebounding with 16 while Chatman had 15 and Marshall contributed 14.

For the game A&M hit on 32 of 72 shots from the field for a 44.4 mark while Tyler connected on 29 of 87 for 33.3 per cent.



PERET DRIVES

Aggie Center Ronnie Peret drives under the basket and starts a jump shot goalward during third-quarter play. Arkansas defenders are Gary Stephens (24), James Eldridge (25) and Ricky Tanneberger (11). (Photo by Mike Wright)

Big 8 Sooners Sign Mildren

NORMAN, Okla. (AP)—Oklahoma football Coach Chuck Fairbanks said Tuesday he will sign Jack Mildren, Abilene, Tex., quarterback, to a Big Eight Conference letter of intent today.

Fairbanks said Mildren, who led Cooper to the state Class AAAA finals, would sign at a news conference in Abilene.

Mildren has been widely sought as a college prospect, and had reportedly limited his choice to Oklahoma, Southern Methodist and Arkansas. His signing of a Big Eight letter will not be binding on Southwest Conference schools, but he can sign a national letter of intent later this spring.

Mildren, 6-foot-1, 185 pounds, was voted the No. 1 college prospect in Texas by Southwest Conference coaches. He was an all-state selection.

In Fayetteville, Arkansas head Coach Frank Broyles said, "I am real sorry that Mildren is leaving the Southwest Conference."

He said he felt the conference was "losing a tremendous athlete."

"OU did a terrific job in selling him," Broyles said.

He added that Oklahoma coaches were able to make many more visits to Mildren than Southwest Conference members, who are limited to two visits with a prospective athlete.



Spring Sports

Aggie Netters In Houston Saturday For Key Match

By JOHN PLATZER

The Aggie tennis team of Coach Omar Smith travels to Houston Saturday to play the University of Houston in their second match of the season.

They began the season on a successful note this past weekend with a 6-1 win over the University of Texas at Arlington.

SMITH CONSIDERS the match with a Houston an important one.

"This will be sort of a crucial match for us this week," Smith said.

"We will be the underdog but I think we will have a chance." A&M is young and inexperienced while Houston is highly ranked with several outstanding California players on the squad.

Smith says that the Aggies are still in somewhat of a rebuilding stage but that the prospects are real good.

"THESE BOYS have worked harder and progressed more as a group than any we've had here in quite some time," Smith said.

The Houston match will begin at 1:30 on the McGregor Courts about six blocks from the University of Houston campus.

G. Rollie White served as the site of the team's win over Arlington when the matches were forced inside by rain.

The Aggies won 4 of 5 single and both double matches for the evening.

REGISTERING the Aggie wins were Jon L. Ragland, 6-4 and 7-5, Mike Hickey, 6-1 and 6-1, Bruce Crumley, 6-4 and 7-5, and Jerry Oliver, 6-1 and 6-1. The lone defeat was suffered by co-captain Joe Tillerson, 6-2 and 12-10.

The double team of Ragland and Hickey for A&M won 7-5 and 6-2 while the team of Tillerson and Oliver for A&M came out on top 14-12, 6-2 and 10-8.

Ragland, a co-captain as a sophomore on the team, is considered the number one man by Smith followed closely by Hickey, a freshman.

"I would say Ragland is the most outstanding player we've had since Richard Barker of two years ago," Smith said.

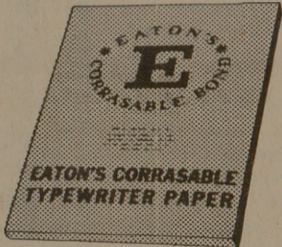
Tillerson is the only senior on the squad which is also composed of two freshmen, two sophomores and a junior.

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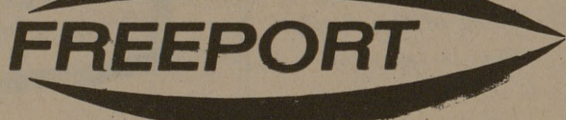
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