

Billy Bob Barnett (24) goes up between three Texas defenders for two of his team-leading 23 points Tuesday night. The 6-5 Brenham product connected on 10 of 17 from the floor to pace A&M back into undisputed first place in the SWC with a 70-69 overtime win. (Photo by Mike Wright)

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AGS TOP TU

(Continued from page 1) cut slowly into the margin until they knotted the score at 21-21 with 8:14 remaining in the half. The lead changed hands twice more in the initial half until a pair of free throws by TU's Larry Smith made the score 27-27 at the break.

curacy from the beginning of the second half and the score changed hands 15 times in the first 14 minutes of the period. Barnett picked up his fifth foul of the night with 1:38 remaining in the regulation game and Kurt Papp connected on both attempts from the foul line to send the Steers in front 60-59. Larry Smith had a chance to put the game away for Texas 30 seconds later with a pair of free throw attempts but he missed his sec-

DESPITE HIS early departure, Barnett was again A&M's top scorer with 23 points followed by Heitmann, Peret and Benefield with 16, 11 and 10 respectively. The 6-5 Brenham product connected on 10 of 17 from the field and dragged down 9 rebounds while Peret had 9 and Steve Niles had 6, all in the first half.

Wayne Doyal, who seems to specialize in scoring against the Aggies, took high point honors for the game with 26 hitting on 13 of 21 attempts. Papp and Bruce Motley rounded out TU's double figure scorers with 16 and 11 respectively.

A&M's superior height and

muscle was once again a key factor in the win as the Aggies outrebounded their opponents 44-25. Texas hit on 19 of 30 from the field in the second half for a blistering 63.3 per cent and ended the game with a 55.8 mark while A&M hit on 57.1 per cent of their shots in the last twenty Both teams hit with great acminutes and on 46.7 for the

> An unusually smooth game was also turned in by the Aggies as they committed only 10 turnovers in the game compared to 13 by Texas.

By RICHARD CAMPBELL

est point total of the year Tues-

day night as they avenged an earlier loss to the Texas Year-

lings, 89-71, before 5,500 fans in

The Fish were led by 6'8" Rick

Duplantis with 27 points, Jeff Watkins with 25, and Frank Farnsworth with 21 as they con-

nected on 36 of 73 shots for 49.5 per cent and avenged a 126-76 loss to the Yearlings earlier in Austin. The Yearlings could not

get untracked in the second half

as they hit only 11 of 32 for 34.4

per cent. The rebounding depart-

ment also belonged solely to the

Fish as they dragged down 47 to

the first half with the Fish keep-

ing up with the run-and-shoot

Yearlings behind the timely tip-

ins of Duplantis and the outside

shooting of Farnsworth. Texas

was handicapped by the absence

of their top rebounder, Steve Aaker, who did not even suit up

Eric Groscurth did the most

damage for the Yearlings con-

necting on 11 of 19 shots and four

of five from the foul line for 26

points. He also picked off nine

rebounds to tie with teammate

Richard Langdon for top honors

The game was nip-and-tuck

with neither team getting more

The score was tied 12 times in

38 for the Yearlings.

for the game.

in that category.

G. Rollie White Coliseum

Hot second-half shooting carried the Aggie Fish to their high-

The team that became the Aggies' best friends last night (Rice) becomes A&M's biggest enemy Saturday as A&M travels to Houston to take on the Owls. The Aggies defeated Rice 90-82 last Saturday before the regional television cameras in College Station.

than a three point lead until 8:48 hit a layup and Duplantis hit a Yearlings were cold in of the second half when A&M's three-point play to start the Fish field and turned in their Skip Carleton popped in a 14-foot jumper to give the Fish the edge, 60-55. The Yearlings kept within that five point margin for the and the final score, 89-71. next three minutes until Watkins

Fish Tromp Yearlings, 89-7

on their way. Farnsworth hit two free throws with five seconds left year. In nine contests so is to give the Fish their biggest lead

lowest scoring performance season, the Yearlings have seven games at home a The usually sharpshooting both of their road games

Aggies Take Huge Lead In SWC Grid Recruiting

By JOHN PLATZER

Coach Gene Stallings pushed A&M to the top of the Southwest Conference recruiting heap Tuesday as the Aggies announced the signing of 24 schoolboy gridders including six of the state's top 20 and seven additional All-Staters.

It was the first day that the high school stars could sign with a SWC school and the Aggie coaching staff made it a big one for A&M, traveling in all directions around the state collecting the valuable autographs.

Texas' top twenty list from which the Aggies collected six, was based on a poll of the SWC

Two quarterbacks, two linebackers and two linemen make up the Aggies' blue chip collection.

Lex James, a 6-0, 180 pounder from Houston Sam Houston and Brad Dusek, a 6-1, 190 pounder from Temple are the widely sought quarterbacks while Bruce Best, a 6-3, 215 pounder from Houston Smiley and Dennis Carruth, a 6-1, 195 pounder from Dallas Jefferson are the linebackers. The linemen are Butch Kamps, a 6-3, 240 pounder from Houston Bellaire and Buster Callaway, a 6-4, 235 pounder from

The Aggies have doubled their nearest competitor, Texas University, in the signing of blue chippers with approximately five of the list still undecided.

Among the seven All-Staters were two from whom the Aggies had not received an oral commitment before the signing date. These were Brooks Doughtie, a 6-1, 210 pound tackle from Pasadena and Ralph Sacra, a 6-5, 220 pound end from Houston Jesuit.

Grady Hoermann, a 6-0, 220 pound linebacker from Seguin; Robert Gerasimowicz, a 6-2, 225 pound center from Dickinson; Robert Murski, a 6-1, 178 pound halfback from Houston St.

Thomas; Boice Best, a 6-1, 225 Thomas Burke, a 6-6, 210 pound tackle from Houston Smiley and Gary Martin, 6-0, 220 guard from Houston St. Thomas were other All-Staters. Martin was an All-American selection and was named the top Catholic schoolboy player in the nation this past season.

The remaining players signed by the Aggies Tuesday were Mike Faulkner, a 6-3, 215 pound tackle from Victoria; Todd Christopher a 6-2, 200 pound linebacker from Beaumont South Park; David Mc-Kee, a 6-0, 200 pound linebacker from League City (Clear Creek); and Fred Placke, a 6-0, 200 pound tackle from Houston Spring Woods.

Mike Mercer, a 5-0, 185 pound center from Temple; Gary Mc-Caffery, a 6-1, 190 pound linebacker from San Antonio MacArthur; Homer May, a 6-2, 210 pound end from Lubbock Monterey; Raymond Peak, a 6-1, 195 pound fullback from Fort Worth Eastern Hills; Tommy Goodwin, a 6-1, 190 pound end from Fort Worth Eastern Hills; Jimmy Aycock, a 6-1, 185 pound fullback from Fort Worth Poly and

end from Houston Sam Ha were others who signed is of-intent with A&M Tuesday



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