

# Dawson Loses His 'Cool'

NEW ORLEANS, La. (AP)—An apparently exasperated Lenny Dawson broke off questioning Wednesday about his link with

a restaurateur arrested in connection with a nation wide gambling ring after admitting events of the past 24 hours had disturbed his concentration for Sunday's Super Bowl game.

outwardly, at least, to be the cool, collected person he is generally acknowledged to be.

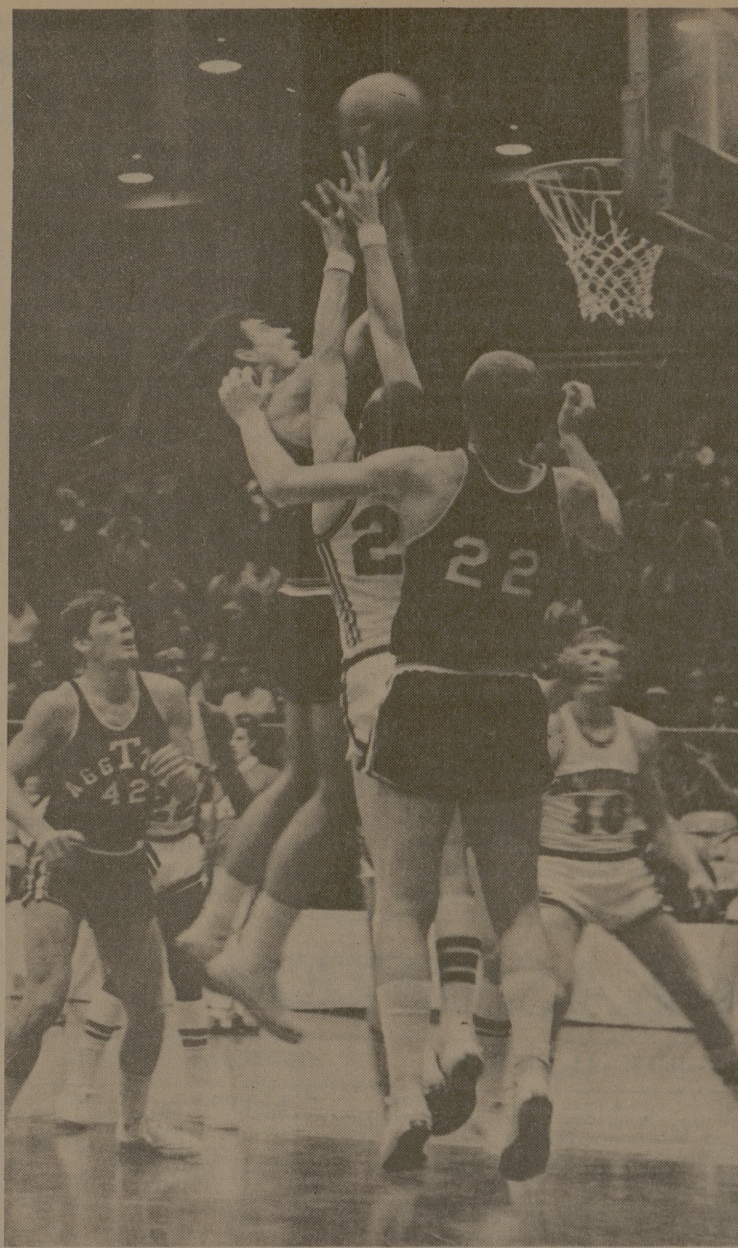
But when a question was thrown from the floor about his relationship with Donald Dawson, the Birmingham, Mich., restaurateur recently arrested by federal agents in connection with gambling, the quarterback quietly exasperated turned to coach Hank Stram and asked:

"Are we going to get involved with all this again?"

"No, we're not," said Stram, pointing out that the questioning should be limited to Sunday's game against the Vikings.

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**NILES REBOUNDING FOR TWO**  
Steve Niles powers past Arkansas's David Elderidge for a tip-in early in the second half of Tuesday's game. Niles hammered in 13 points in the contest and pulled down 10 rebounds. (Photo by Mike Wright)

## FROM THE PRESSBOX

by Richard Campbell

There were several things that happened to preclude the Aggies' 64-59 win Tuesday night over Arkansas that made it an even more remarkable feat than it seemed to those of you that heard it on the radio.

A lot of you probably heard what happened to the team and their traveling companions (namely coaches and us sports writers) when they attempted to take off from Easterwood airport Tuesday morning. First of all, we showed up Monday at 1 p.m. when our flight was scheduled and stood in the terminal for nearly three hours before finding out that the plane couldn't land in Fayetteville because of the weather.

Not to take anything away from HaHa Airlines (a name which has been changed to protect the guilty) but when we found out that one of the engines had caught fire before we took off, many of us became a little wary about our impending journey. I guess you noticed that it was cold, cold, cold Tuesday morning. Well, our swift bird of flight was without a heater and it was rumored that the inside temperature of the fuselage actually approached a stifling 110 degrees above zero. Add to that, flying all the way to Longview before changing our course for Dallas, some rough winds flying at 2,700 feet and you get 21 very cold Aggies. A few of us lucky ones got sick during the near two hour flight and got to keep the wind off of us in the restroom.

If that wasn't enough, when we finally touched down in snowbound Fayetteville, the mercury was a steady nine above and drifts of snow covered cars and trucks that could not be moved. All of the roads were covered with ice but we finally made it to Barnhill Fieldhouse where the heaters were not working. At tip-off time I sat at the scorers' table in topcoat and watched the Aggies battle the Razorbacks in the deep-freezer and win.

What was truly remarkable about this win was that through all of this adversity, the players managed to keep their cool (if you'll excuse the pun). They managed to keep their minds on the job they had to do while us bystanders could only shiver and wonder how they did it.

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You think that game with Arkansas was important just look at Baylor, which invades G. Rollie White Saturday night. They beat Texas easily, 81-59, and have a fine season record, including wins over nationally ranked Wyoming and New Mexico State. But they seem to choke whenever they play in College Station and that's because the Aggie fans rattle them.

A&M has now won four in a row on the road, not a bad feat in itself, and they deserve a better break than two or three thousand people in the stands. They are the defending Southwest Conference champions and if a large crowd would help their chances of beating anyone then they should be given that chance. So show up Saturday night, because a basketball team is only as good as its supporters.

A lot of rinky-dink schools right around us have come up with good basketball teams because their fans support them and A&M could just as easily become a basketball school with a little support.

## Lumberjacks Hold 2nd Slot

By The Associated Press  
Kentucky Wesleyan and Stephen F. Austin remained one-two in the Associated Press weekly small college basketball poll Wednesday while Howard Payne took a giant step and grabbed the third spot.

In the nationwide balloting by sportscasters and sportswriters, the Panthers received 10 first place votes and 240 points. Stephen F. Austin drew three firsts and 211 points while Howard Payne, now 14-0, drew enough support without any first place ballots for 178 points.

Howard Payne, with two victories last week, moved up from sixth place. The voting is based on games through Saturday, Jan. 3.

Kentucky Wesleyan, 8-1, and Stephen F. Austin, 7-0, each won one game last week.

Youngstown, 9-0, with a first place vote, remained No. 1, drawing 143 points with Ashland 9-1, in the No. 4 spot, dropping one notch after three straight victories.

Trinity, Tex., 7-2, moved to one place to sixth while Gamble 8-2, slipped three places to No. 7, after splitting a pair of games. North Carolina A&T 7-0, remained No. 8 with Puget Sound 8-0, moving into the ninth spot up two notches.

Oglethorpe, 6-0, slipped from ninth to 10th.

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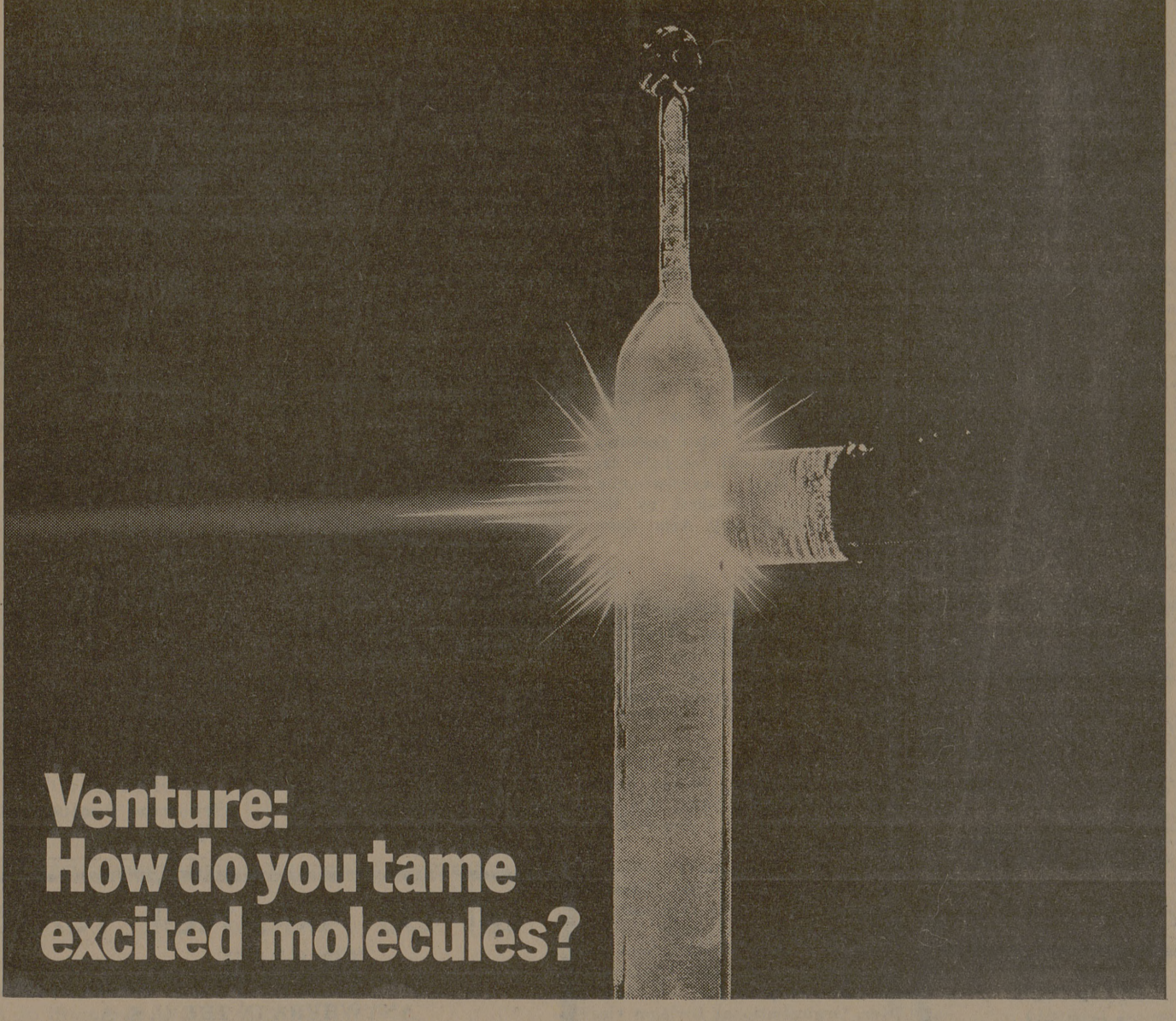
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## Venture: How do you tame excited molecules?

Answer that one and you'll open up a whole new field of solid state physics that just might come to be called "excitonics." Because the most exciting thing about excited molecules in solids, right now, is that no one knows what to do with them.

This intriguing state of affairs came about after physicists began firing photons into molecular crystals and observing the results. Which were: "excitons."

An exciton is a conceptual entity that has more "stateness" than "thingness" about it. When a photon strikes a molecule in an organic crystal with sufficient energy, it bumps an electron to a higher energy level, leaving a "hole" in the molecule. In the brief interval before it falls back into its hole, the electron releases the energy it received from the photon, which propagates another hole-electron pair in a neighboring molecule, and thus on

through the crystal. This phenomenon is called the "singlet" excited state: or the singlet exciton. Du Pont scientists have produced it with a 150-watt bulb. In the singlet, an electron is excited without any change in direction of its spin or magnetic moment. It dies quickly, and a blue light emerges from the crystal. But with an intense light source, such as the laser, an even more interesting excited state has been produced: the "triplet."

In the triplet, the spin of the excited electron is reversed, a magnetic field is produced, and the excited state lasts a million times as long—about a hundredth of a second. Du Pont researchers have also found that two triplets can combine, producing a singlet exciton with greatly increased energy and a life span of a hundred millionth of a second. Of promising interest is that this tendency of triplets to merge can

be sensitively controlled by applying a magnetic field to the crystal.

Perhaps the next step will be the engineering of devices that manipulate light signals directly, bypassing the present need to convert them first into electrical signals and then back into light. Perhaps too this line of research will lead to greater understanding of the mechanisms of light-energy transfer itself, such as those involved in photosynthesis by living plants. The possibilities are many.

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