

Phillips brilliant as SMU wins

By CLIFFORD BROYLES
It was Gene Phillips night here Tuesday as the Mustang super senior scored 43 points, including 19 straight foul shots as the Texas Aggies blew a 6-point lead in the final three minutes and lost to the Southern Methodist University Mustangs 89-83 in overtime.

Phillips canned five of 10 field goals and nine straight free foul shots in the first half but saved his best for last as he came within one of a career-high 44 points which he notched earlier this year against Creighton.

But the Aggies should never have let this one get away. They led virtually all the way and were sitting on a six-point lead and had two foul shots coming up with only 2:33 to play.

The loss overshadowed some fine rebounding by A&M subs Rick Duplantis and Chuck Smith in particular and the whole team in general.

Duplantis, who didn't come into the game until seven minutes had expired and didn't enter the contest until the second half was five minutes deep, finished the game with 20 points and seven rebounds. Smith, who played even less had 17 points and 12 rebounds.

Speaking from a team standpoint the Aggies outrebounded SMU 60-31, but late Aggie turnovers helped the Mustangs get back in it and A&M scored only one point in the final 2:33 and the first 2:28 of the overtime period. During that time SMU scored 12 and went from a six-point deficit to a five point lead.

Phillips' second half performance included seven of 12 from the field and 10 more from the line.

A&M took command in the game late in the first half as they led by as much as nine—

Phillips' show a record breaker

Gene Phillips, who once scored 81 points in a high school game, Tuesday night played for the third time in his varsity career at G. Rollie White Coliseum and the record-breaking senior made his mark.

Phillips scored 43 points, breaking the Coliseum record for points scored in one game set by Gary Overbeck of the University of Texas at Austin in 1968.

Overbeck had 41 against the Aggies and the record by an A&M player at home is 40 by John Beasley, who now shoots baskets professionally for the Texas Chaparrals of the American Basketball Association.

Phillips, now only 80 points away from being the Southwest Conference's leading career scorer, came away a winner for the first time in the Coliseum.

In other conference action Tuesday night league-leading Texas Christian won its fifth straight and third on the road 89-87, over Arkansas. Texas Tech, 4-1, muffled Baylor, now 3-2, 90-76 in Lubbock and UT-Austin sent Rice reeling to its third straight loss 84-68 at Gregory Gym in Austin.

and by seven, 41-34 at the half. Smith entered the game with 11 minutes to play in the half and cannoned in a 17-foot jumper, a short jumper from inside and two tipins while sparking the Aggies from early deficits to their halftime lead.

A&M broke from a 28-28 tie with 3:55 to play in the half as Jeff Overhouse dropped in a free throw. And then Smith went to work with his 17-footer and two more buckets sandwiched around a jumper from the right corner by Bill Cooksey to give A&M a 37-30 lead and then 13 seconds after Phillips zeroed in to cut the lead to five, Jenkins hit and Niles canned two free shots as A&M enjoyed their biggest margin of the half.

SMU pulled back into the lead in the opening minutes of the second half but the pounding of the boards by Duplantis, Smith and Overhouse kept the Aggies going.

In fact the Aggie big men, including Niles, who sat out much of the final half while Duplantis and Smith were prospering well, at one time hit 23 consecutive Aggie points. Many of them came on second effort rebounds and tipins as the Aggies attempted 23 more shots than the Mustangs.

The Aggies never trailed in the second half after Smith hit two free throws to propel them to a 56-55 lead, but the last tie of the game came with 59 seconds to play when Phillips swished through a 25-footer from the corner after Smith had stolen a pass and tried to get the ball back in bounds but Phillips, from whom he stole it was all alone and he tied it.

A&M then got its chance to win it and worked the ball around for the final shot and called time out with 11 seconds left.

But tough defense by Bobby Rollings caused Cooksey's last-second shot to go long and the battle went to overtime.

Larry Delzell put the overtime away quickly with a driving lay-up 16 seconds deep that put them up for good.

Niles had two chances to tie; he missed the first on a one and one and then missed the first of a two-shot foul.

Rollings slammed in a 19-footer to put SMU up by three and then Delzell put it away for keeps with a layup after he intercepted a pass.

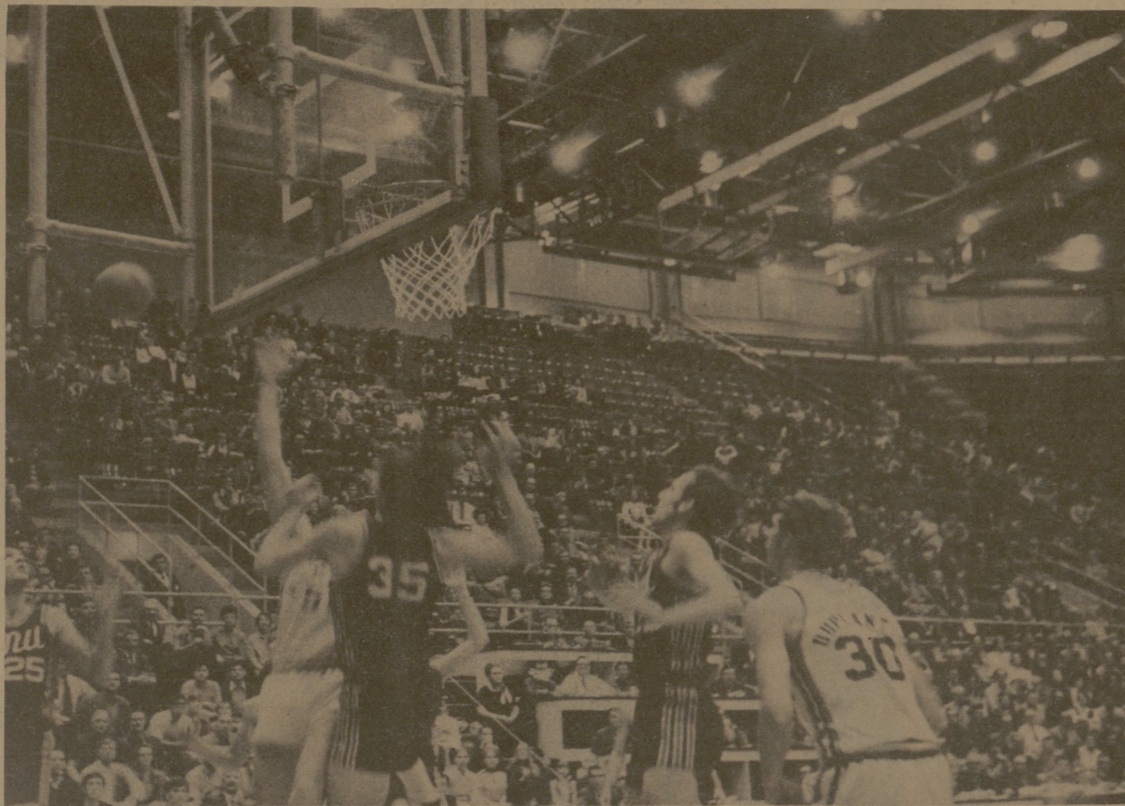
Phillips iced it in the waning seconds with four free throws but the damage had already been done.

The SMU rally late in the game was aided by its half court press which the Mustangs deployed midway in the second half, but the Aggies were their own worst enemy as they turned the ball over twice on bad passes in the final two minutes.

Scoring in the A&M-SMU game:

A&M—Charlie Jenkins 10, Bill Cooksey 10, Jeff Overhouse 9, Steve Niles 15, Rick Duplantis 20, Chuck Smith 17, Bill O'Brien 2.

SMU—Larry Delzell 13, Bobby Rollings 11, Gene Phillips 43, Steve Putnam 12, Jack Trout 8, David Miller 2.



JEFF OVERHOUSE (wearing white) and Clayton Korver (35) battle for rebound that seems headed in the opposite direction in Tuesday night's game at G. Rollie White Coliseum that SMU won 89-83 in overtime. Overhouse led A&M with 13 rebounds and Rick Duplantis (30) had 20 points. (Photo by Mike Rice)

Grid prospects introduced at SMU game

Five prospective football recruits, including one who has verbally committed himself to Texas A&M were introduced Tuesday night at the halftime of the SMU-A&M basketball game.

The first day for signing high school athletes to letters of intent is Tuesday.

Approximately 70 high school gridgers were on hand last weekend, although the number was too large for them to be introduced individually at the Texas Tech basketball game.

Introduced at halftime were:

John Phillips, 6-3 242, All-District offensive guard and defensive tackle from Klein, who has verbally said he will attend A&M. Phillips runs the 40-yard dash in 4.7.

Phillip Kent, 6-2 190, All-District offensive running back from Houston Booker T. Washington. Kent runs the 40 in 4.5 and has been clocked in the 100 at 9.8.

Russell Shaw, 5-11 175, All-District and All-City halfback from Houston Kashmere. He is president of his senior class and runs the 40 in 4.6.

Tim Gray, 6-2 190, All-District and All-City halfback from Houston Kashmere. Gray runs the 40 in 4.5.

Willie Scott, 6-3 215, All-District and All-City defensive tackle from Houston Kashmere, who runs the 100 in 9.8.

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