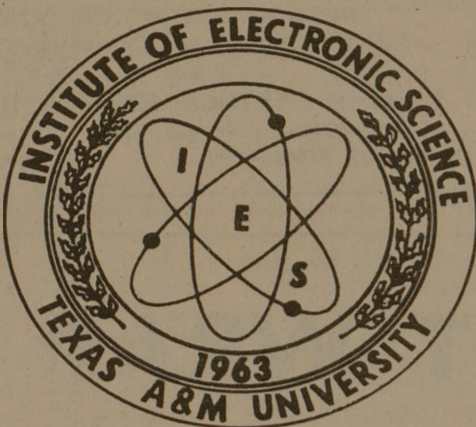


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# Ags split weekend basketball action

By JOHN CURYLO  
Battalion Sports Editor

The Texas Aggie basketball team, using the fast break and a pressing defense, beat Northwestern Louisiana State 91-75 Saturday night, but fell to the Tulsa Hurricanes Monday, 90-79.

A&M looked good in beating the Demons, but the inability to hit enough shots hurt them against the hot-handed, highly-rated Tulsa squad.

In Saturday night's game, with 14:47 left in the first half, Wayne Howard missed a shot and several attempts were made to tip it in, with Jeff Overhouse finally being successful. This put the Aggies out in front to stay, 9-8.

Howard then hit a short jumper from the fast break and a 15 footer from the left side to put it at 13-8. A&M wasn't particularly outstanding the rest of the half on offense, although they made 15 of 38 shots from the field for 39.5% in the opening stanza.

The Demons chopped the Aggie lead to eight four times in two minutes, but Randy Knowles popped the net with a jump shot from the baseline after a pass from Bobby McKey at 13:10 to spark another rally.

Overhouse, filling in for about two minutes for Duplantis, converted a pair of charity shots, then made a layup to boost the score to 54-41. The margin kept increasing on two more jump shots by Knowles, a drive by Duplantis and free throws by Charlie Jenkins and Howard.

With 10:34 showing, Howard took a pass from Jenkins near the basket, faked one way and turned the other for a layup hook shot to make the score 64-43.

The Aggies were able to enjoy a 21-point margin twice more in the game. Brown drove through the right of the lane and made a layup and the ensuing free throw at 8:23 for a 68-47 count. Fifteen seconds later, McKey displayed his ball handling with

a bouncing pass to Knowles, who dropped in an easy layup to make it 70-49.

Brown was charged with back-to-back offensive fouls at 3:07, one on an inbounds play and the other when he circled a Northwestern player while dribbling the ball. The Demon, off balance, fell on Brown's back when Mario Brown stopped, but the referees saw fit to charge an offensive foul on the play.

Brown retaliated with 25 seconds left, though, replacing McKey, who fouled out at that time. The Chicago junior college transfer took the inbounds pass, dribbled to midcourt down the right side, then weaved in and out of several opposing players. He circled the key in a wild dribbling exhibition and drove through two Demons to score on a layup and he fouled in the process.

With Northwestern Coach Tynes Hildebrand arguing that this action was a violation of the rule that one player cannot control the ball for that length of time, Brown was alone on the court, basking in the glory of the accolades being given him by the 2,704 standing, screaming fans. The crowd delighted at the thrown kisses and reaction Brown showed to their applause.

Referee Shorty Lawson, meanwhile, was busy assessing Hildebrand with three technical fouls for his outburst and arguing. The coach refused to be quieted, and the colorful Lawson refused to be intimidated.

The scoring:  
A&M—Wayne Howard, 25; Mario Brown, 18; Jeff Overhouse, 18; Randy Knowles, 14; Bobby McKey, 5; Brad Pauley, 4; Rick Duplantis, 3; Bob Gobin, 2; and Charlie Jenkins, 2.

Northwestern—Vernon Wilson, 15; Thurman Baptiste, 14; Randy Vuleman, 12; Jesse Horner, 12; Judson Brock, 10; Stanley Lee, 4; Perry Ball, 2; Butch Hildebrand, 2; John Hill, 2; and Randy Prather, 2.

Tulsa shot exceptionally well, hitting 56.9% of their shots, with a wicked pace of 63.3% in the second half. Free throws hurt A&M, with the Hurricanes making 24 of 33 and the Aggies 15 of 26.

Jim Clesson came off the bench to score 23 points in the second half and lead all scorers

with 29. The 6-0 senior hit 14 of 24 shots from the field and one of two charity tries. Nine of his field goals popped the net from the outside.

The Aggies jumped out to an early lead, having an eight-point margin against the favored Hurricanes five times in the early going. The Oklahomans got the lead, 26-25, with 5:33 left in the opening period when guard Steve Bracey and Larry Morris were

good on consecutive jump shots from the baseline.

A&M managed to tie them twice again, but Tulsa led at the half, 41-34. In the initial stanza, the Aggies hit on 34.1% of their shots, while the Hurricanes made 46.4% of theirs. Jeff Overhouse scored 11 and Mario Brown and Randy Knowles had six each to lead the Aggies. Overhouse hauled in 12 rebounds in the first 20 minutes of play.

Rick Duplantis was hot at the beginning of the second half, hitting a free throw, a layup and a short jump shot. The Hurricanes had Clesson, though, and with four minutes gone, it was their scoreboard, 55-43.

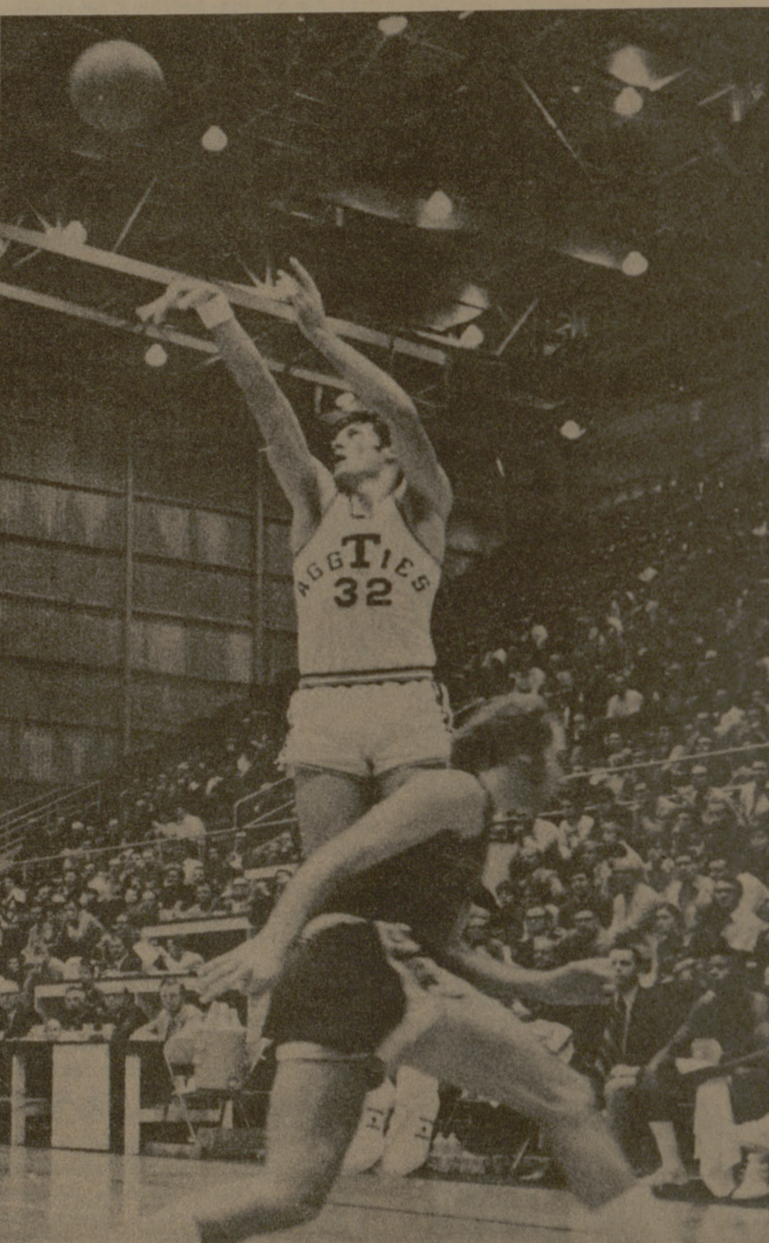
A free throw by Bracey lifted the margin to 16 three minutes later, but the Aggies rallied to lower it to 11 again with 11:00 left to play. With Overhouse and Knowles providing the offense and Bobby Threadgill and Charlie Jenkins playing good defense, A&M was able to match Tulsa's point production for a while, but the lead stayed with the Hurricanes.

With 6:22 to go, the margin was still 11, 76-65. Morris, Clesson and Bracey displayed their teamwork, ball handling and deadly accuracy, though. Four minutes later, the frustrated Aggies trailed, 86-68.

A&M managed to trim the lead somewhat, but the aggressive Oklahomans were too much for the Aggies, whose mistakes cost them several scoring opportunities. Tulsa adapted its offense to the situation, and they had an uncanny ability to hit the open man.

The Aggies next excursion is a trip to California to meet the UCLA Bruins Saturday night. Game time is 10:00, central time. A&M hosts Southwest Texas State next Tuesday.

The scoring:  
A&M—Randy Knowles, 22; Jeff Overhouse, 18; Wayne Howard, 10; Mario Brown, 9; Rick Duplantis, 5; Bob Gobin, 4; Bobby Threadgill, 4; Bobby McKey, 2; Charlie Jenkins, 2; Joe Arniega, 2; and Brad Pauley, 1.  
Tulsa—Jim Clesson, 29; Larry Morris, 17; Steve Bracey, 17; Joe Voskuhl, 14; Dave Rademeyer, 5; Eric Smiler, 4; and Donnie McMullen, 4.



HIGH-SCORING SOPHOMORE Randy Knowles (32) takes a shot in Monday night's loss to Tulsa. The 6-6 forward scored 14 points against Northwestern Louisiana State Saturday night and 18 in the game with the Hurricanes. (Photo by Joe Matthews)

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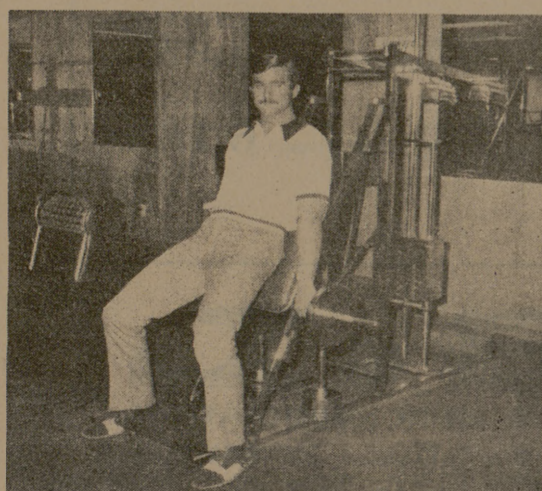


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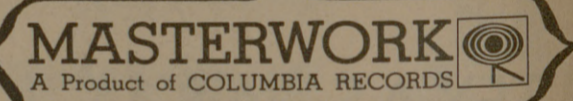


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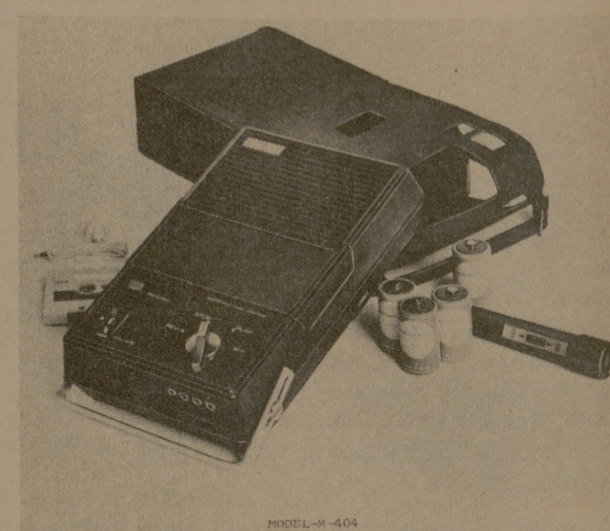
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