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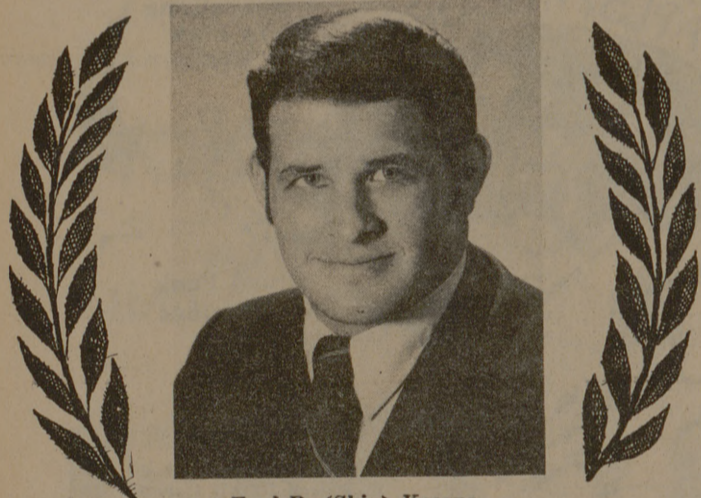
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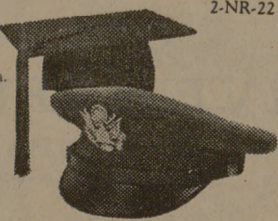
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Second half blitz drops Temple JC

By BILL HENRY
Assistant Sports Editor

After a slow first half, the Texas A&M freshmen caught fire by scoring 47 points in the final stanza to defeat Temple JC, 76-57, here Saturday night in front of 8,000 avid supporters.

Tonight the Fish travel to take on the Texas Yearlings in Austin at 5:45 p.m. to complete the first round of SWC action. A&M stands 4-0 in conference and 8-2 for the season after Saturday's non-conference victory.

Throughout the first half, the contest was as exciting as a county spelling bee with both teams having a hard time holding on to the basketball; much less shooting it. The Fish had a far-below-average 40 percent shooting average, hitting 13 of 32 shots, were outrebounded and outplayed. Temple turned the ball over 10 times and hit only 29 percent of their outside shots to leave it two points down at the first half buzzer.

Temple had the lead but once, 9-8, though the Fish errors kept the Leopards in the contest throughout the first half. A&M led by six numerous times but

was not able to break away. In the last eight minutes, A&M was able to score only six points to the Leopards 12.

Julius Howard, 6-8, 235, led all scorers in the first period with 14 points and seemed to be the only offense the Leopards had even though hampered with three fouls.

The second half, as has been evident in several contests, was to be all in A&M's favor. It started off in the same slow manner as the preceding stanza with A&M scoring only four points to six for the Leopards during the first five minutes and the score tied, 33-33. Coach Culpepper had the team call a time-out and from that point on nothing was to stop the Fish from its eighth victory in 10 starts. Two minutes later the Fish had gained a 10-point advantage with heads-up basketball. With eight minutes remaining, A&M had a 16-point lead and coasted the rest of the way to take the 19-point bulge.

The margin of victory came as a result of a tenacious press and good defensive play by A&M. Dale Donaldson was a key factor in achieving the win by hitting four straight howitzer-like shots

from a range of over 20 feet.

Cedric Joseph, as usual, led the team in scoring with 20 points and grabbed 10 rebounds. Webb Williams led the locals in rebounds with 13 while stuffing in 14 points. Isdell Birbaum scored 11 points and Jerry Mercer 10 to round out the double-figure scoring. Mercer, hampered with four

fouls early in the second quarter, had only one rebound which was far below his 13-per-game norm.

Huge Julius Howard led the Leopards in scoring with 18 points and took runnerup honors in rebounds with 11. Eric Clark, sharpshooting and hot-headed guard from San Antonio grabbed 14 rebounds to lead the team

while scoring 12 points. Lee Williams also had 12 points in Temple.

The Fish will not return to home ground until Feb. 11 when they host Rice and will play four straight road games. No preliminary match is scheduled preceding the Arkansas A&M varsity contest Feb. 11.

Stallings hired by Cowboys as defensive backfield coach

DALLAS (AP)—The Dallas Cowboys have hired Gene Stallings, who lost his head coaching job at Texas A&M after last season, it was announced Saturday.

"It was a move we had to make," said Cowboy Coach Tom Landry. "It was felt we had to split up some of the duties in Bobby Franklin's area. He's been trying to coach the secondary, the specialty teams and handle all our film work."

"Franklin will handle the kicking game and continue his film work, and Gene will take the secondary," Landry said.

"We've always recognized Gene's ability as a coach, and his major background is defense and in the defensive secondary."

The hiring of Stallings does not set precedent with the Cowboys.

Jim Myers, the offensive line coach and running game coordinator, was hired by Dallas in

1962 after he lost the head coaching job at A&M.

Stallings, 36, will join the Cow-

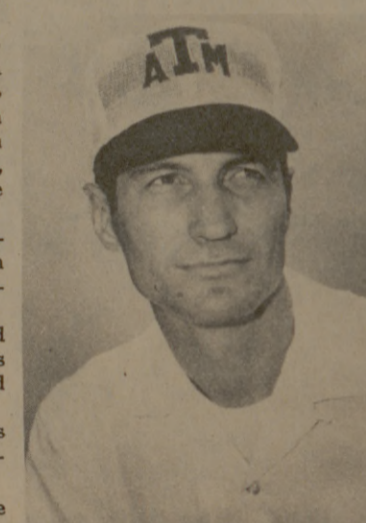
boys in about a week, a spokesman said.

"I'm extremely pleased to be able to join an organization such as the Dallas Cowboys, as I've always been a fan of Coach Landry's as well as the Cowboy team," Stallings said. "I just hope I can make some contribution to the organization."

Stallings, a 1957 graduate of A&M, returned there in 1964 as head coach. In his third season his team won the Southwest Conference championship and he beat Alabama in the Cotton Bowl.

Before returning to A&M, he was at Alabama under Paul "Bear" Bryant, who was his coach at A&M.

"Although Gene's major experience has come in college football, we feel he'll make the adjustment easily and do a good job for us just as Jim Myers and others have, Landry said.



Gene Stallings

Morton to battle Staubach for starting nod next season

DALLAS (AP) — Quarterback Craig Morton indicated Monday he will cast his future with the Dallas Cowboys rather than ask to be traded.

But no one will know for sure what Morton is going to do until the No. 2 signaller holds a news conference Tuesday.

"Everyone has been giving me an opinion on what I should do," Morton told the Dallas Times Herald. "I thought I would take a couple of months to decide—

but I think it would be good to make a decision and let everyone know."

Morton did hint as to what his future would be with such remarks as:

"I did enjoy not playing last season. My arm is fully recovered and I think I made a contribution to the team."

"I wouldn't mind fighting for the job at Dallas. If I went somewhere else, I'd have to fight for

the job, too. Besides, I think I could take the team as far as Roger Staubach did."

Staubach became the No. 1 quarterback this past season and led the Cowboys to 10 straight victories including the Super Bowl.

The tenor of Morton's remarks were almost opposite of what he had said after Staubach was established as the starter.

"After this season, one of us will be moving on," he remarked privately at the time.

SOPH. WEEKEND FEB. 11-12

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SATURDAY AFTERNOON: B-B-Q 1:00 HENSEL PARK.

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DECORATING WILL BEGIN IN DUNCAN HALL AT 6 A.M. SATURDAY. ALL HELP WILL BE APPRECIATED. TICKETS AVAILABLE AT STUDENT PROGRAMS OFFICE, M S C AT \$10.00 PER COUPLE.

2-NR-22