

Sports

Porkers defeat Aggies in heart breaker, 63-62

By PAUL ARNETT
The Razorbacks trotted off the court in restrained triumph, leaving a stunned Aggie basketball team. The Southwest Conference champions defeated Texas A&M 63-62.

The Aggies finished the SWC season tied with Texas for fourth place. As a result of a coin toss, the Aggies will host SMU in the first round of the play-offs this Saturday at 3 p.m.

The toss of the coin would have been unnecessary had the Aggies

been able to defeat the Hogs. A&M pulled to within one on numerous occasions, but were unable to make that one important shot which would have vaulted them into the lead.

With 30 seconds remaining in the game, the Hogs had the ball and a precarious one-point lead. They threw the ball in against a zone press and narrowly escaped having the pass stolen. Arkansas worked the clock down to 17 seconds when it appeared Wally Swanson fouled Steve Stroud.

When no foul was called, A&M desperately went after the man who had the ball. With about five seconds left on the clock, John Schlicher flagrantly fouled Marvin Delph. No foul was called and time ran out.

"I don't know how we can get screwed any worse," coach Shelby Metcalf said after the game. "If we'd gotten screwed any worse, I'd be a prostitute."

"Wally fouled number 40 with 17 seconds left. If he'd fouled him any worse, it would have been flagrant.

That was the plan and it would have worked had the referees made the call.

"I told them that after 15 seconds to foul anybody, which Schlicher did with five seconds left in the game."

Steve Jones had his own thoughts about the final 30 seconds.

"Anybody in the nickel seats could have seen that Wally fouled Stroud," Jones said. "Boy, I wish we could have won this game because it really would have boosted our morale for the play-offs."

Jones had a bad game for the Aggies scoring only eight points. The senior from Houston was shut out in the first half by the Arkansas defense.

"We played the best defense we've played all year in the first half," Arkansas coach Eddie Sutton

said. "In the second half A&M played great defense, some of the best we've seen. We knew that after Houston, A&M would be the toughest team we'd have to face."

"I think Shelby should get coach of the year. He has got these kids playing with great intensity."

The Razorbacks, winning at College Station for the first time since

1959, finished the evening shooting 67 per cent from the field. A cold night at the foul line, kept the Aggies in the game in the first half. The Hogs connected on only 47 per cent of their charity tosses.

Arkansas' leading scorer was Ron Brewer, who scored 22 points. His shooting was the turning point of the ball game. Sutton's strategy was

to post him down low against the shorter Dave Goff and let him shoot. Brewer hit 53 per cent of his shots.

The Aggies' leading scorer was Willie Foreman. Foreman scored 23 points before fouling out with over three minutes left in the game. A&M's second leading scorer was Wally Swanson with 14 points.

Crowds are on decline

By ANNETTE CUELLAR
Basketball game attendance has decreased this year because of an apathetic attitude toward basketball, according to Wally Groff, Assistant Athletic Director of Business at Texas A&M University.

This is the first season in the last three years that a closed circuit television has not been needed for students unable to obtain tickets for important basketball games, Groff said. The closed circuit television was used twice the last two years.

"We haven't sold out once this year," said Groff. "Texas Tech and Baylor are usually good turnouts and we could have fit 3,000 more people in to see the Baylor game. There were more students at the

Southern Methodist University game over Christmas break, than at the games against Tech and Baylor.

The attendance average for 1975 was 3,013. The number decreased by 382 in 1976, and this year the average came to 2,063, a decrease of 568.

The scheduling of the basketball games are the same as previous years.

"We've played the traditional Tuesday and Saturday games all along so that shouldn't have anything to do with the lack of attendance this year," Groff said.

The biggest turnout was against Houston. The game was televised, which are usually smaller crowds.

"If the game had not been on

television it probably would have been a sell out," Groff said.

To increase revenues, the athletic department used the north end of C. Rollie White Coliseum for reserved tickets this year. The department was also allowed to sell general admission tickets in advance for the first time. The students admission to basketball and baseball games are included in student fees.

With an increase in enrollment, there is no apparent reason for the decrease in attendance.

"The expectations were less this year because we had such a young team, but the games haven't been less exciting," Groff said. "Apparently there is an apathetic attitude toward basketball by the students. They just don't have as much interest in basketball right now."

Intramurals

MEN INDEPENDENT
A Division: Dutchmen vs. Breakers, 0-10; Derelicts vs. Limp, 16-11; Lone Star vs. Sevilla, 11-1; Skata vs. Treehouse, 14-0.
C Division: Animal Science vs. Fish Genetics, 4-12; Martinez Bros. vs. Mexico, 10-0.

MEN DORM
B Division: Moses vs. Hart, 18-7; Aston vs. Crocker, 12-11.

WOMEN DORM
A Division: Krueger vs. W-1, 22-2; Fowler vs. Mosher, 4-7; Krueger #2 vs. Keathley #1, 0-10.

CO-REC
C Division: Casa vs. Hunters, 6-5; WFS vs. Hooters, 10-0.



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