

the sports

# Hogs freeze Ags 60-56

By DAVID BOGGAN  
Battalion Sports Editor

FAYETTEVILLE — The Texas A&M basketball team was as cold as the Ozark weather in the first half of Tuesday night's game against the Arkansas Razorbacks. The Aggies thawed somewhat in the second half, but they could never get hot enough to overtake the Hogs as Arkansas won the contest 60-56.

Arkansas had a very good first half. "Texas A&M's Vernon Smith said, "Arkansas played one of its best games. They were stronger on their rebounding. We weren't get-

ting off good shots. We forced a lot of shots due to impatience. They took away our offensive rebounding and that's the first time that has happened."

A look at the first statistics verifies Smith's words. The only thing that fell in the first half were the Razorback's shots indoors and the snow outdoors. The Aggies hit only 35.7 percent of their shots from the floor in the initial period while the Hogs made 59 percent of their first half attempts.

The most amazing statistic of the first half, however, was the fact that

the Razorbacks out-rebounded the physical Aggies 21-6.

"We were really conscious of keeping them off the boards but we didn't do anything special," Arkansas' Steve Schall said. "They got 16 offensive rebounds at College Station so we knew that was a big key."

"A&M throws it up and just pounds the boards. They have the most talent in the league. Wright is the best board man they have. He's very strong and plays taller than he is."

The Aggies managed to stay within nine points as the halftime buzzer sounded with the Razorbacks leading 34-25.

The Aggies fought back in the second half and lead at one point late in the game when Dave Goff drove the baseline for a go-ahead basket. But the Aggies' one-point lead was short-lived as Arkansas' Sidney Moncrief made a lay-up at the other end of the court seconds later.

"They just kept playing and kept playing," said Moncrief, who was held to four points in the second half. "They're a tough team to beat. When you play basketball you have to take what the defense gives you and they just didn't give me too much in the second half."

But when the Aggies' defense picked up, so did the referees' whistles. Texas A&M's Rudy Woods fouled out with 6:13 left in the game

and things got no better for the Aggies as time ticked away. Smith, David Britton and Goff followed Woods to the bench with five personal fouls each. Wright and Tryone Ladson finished the game with four fouls.

"I thought we lost Vernon Smith on a questionable call," said Aggie Coach Shelby Metcalf. "Before we lost Vernon (with 3:01 left in the game and Arkansas leading 52-50) I thought we were going to win the game. But we lost our leading scorer and they got two free throws out of it."

"I know you're not suppose to blame a game on the refs," Britton said, "but they made some crazy calls. They were a big factor. I'm not going to say we would have won, but if they would just have been reasonable..."

"We came out cold and they came out hitting," Britton said about the first-half action. "That is not like us. We weren't in position to make our rebounds. And every time we'd start to make a run at them, they would score."

Arkansas forced Texas A&M to play the Razorback's style of basketball throughout much of the game.

"We played with patience," Moncrief said. "We wanted to control the tempo of the ball game because they are such an explosive basketball team."

Tuesday night's loss drops the

Aggies out of the Southwest Conference lead and lowered their season record to 20-5. Texas A&M is one-half game in front of the Razorbacks with the Aggies posting a 9-3 conference mark. Arkansas is 16-4 on the year and 8-3 in conference play.

"There was a lot at stake out there," Metcalf said. "We have to win at Tech now (Saturday night). We have our backs against the wall. If we can win at Lubbock it will us some momentum against Texas (Monday night)."

Vernon Smith led the Aggies with 20 points and was the game's leading scorer. Rynn Wright scored 15 points while pulling down 14 rebounds. The Aggies finished the game hitting 37.7 percent from the floor and 52.6 percent from the free-throw line.

Sidney Moncrief and U.S. Reed each scored 16 points for the Razorbacks. Steve Schall scored 11 points before fouling out with one minute left in the contest. The Hogs hit 47.6 percent of their field goals and 62.5 percent of their free throws.

The Razorbacks out-rebounded the Aggies in the game 45-32.

BOX SCORE

ARKANSAS (60)  
Brown 1 0-0 2, Hastings 3 0-0 6, Schall 4 3-6 11, Reed 5 6-7 16, Moncrief 5 6-9 16, Friess 1 1-4 3, Zahn 1 4-6 6. Totals 20 20-32 60.  
TEXAS A&M (56)  
Smith 8 4-4 20, Wright 7 1-4 15, Woods 3 3-7 9, Ladson 2 2-2 6, Goff 1 0-0 2, Britton 2 0-2 4, Colton 0 0-0 0, Pederson 0 0-0 0, Robinson 0 0-0 0, Sylestine 0 0-0 0. Totals 23 10-19 56.  
Halftime — Arkansas 34, A&M 25. Fouled out — Smith, Woods, Goff, Britton, Schall. Total fouls — A&M 29, Arkansas 20. Technical — Arkansas bench (Sutton). A — 9,342.

## Tennis player keeps Him in her court

By JULIA CRAWFORD  
Battalion Reporter

Kathleen Sissom's motto would not only read, "It's not who you win or lose, but how you play the game," but she would add "because if you give it your best effort, that's all that God wants to do."

Sissom, a sophomore tennis player on the women's tennis team said that because of her Baptist faith she has changed her attitude about winning and losing.

"I used to push myself to win, but now I want to just play the way that I can," Sissom said. "God has given me the talent to play, and leave the final results up to him."

And so far, the results have been good. During her freshman year at Texas A&M, the secondary education major played the singles spot on the women's team and qualified for the regional tournament in both singles and doubles.

Sissom is confident that this spring should be even better for herself and for the team. She said, "Our program is still young and we established as SMU and Trinity. But each year we get stronger."

"We should do a lot better this year because we have so much depth. We have some new players that will do well, and everyone else has improved a lot from last year."

And Sissom said that the addition of the new tennis courts stands will bring improved competition to Texas A&M. The women's match with Tyler Junior College was rained out Tuesday.

The attitude of doing your best is common to many of the women on the team, Sissom said, and this will be a big factor during the 1979 season.

"We have a much more positive and winning attitude," Sissom said. "We are going to really surprise some of the other teams this spring."

Like some tennis players, Sissom was introduced to the sport by her family at an early age.

"I guess I started playing when I was 10," she recalled. "And remember our weekly family doubles matches with my parents, brother and I."

Sissom said that her parents didn't push her into tennis. She always had the attitude that she should stop playing tennis when it wasn't fun anymore.

"It's easy to get burned out and for awhile I didn't think I'd go to college," Sissom said. "There's more to life than sports, but you go and do it all on your own. When I was thinking about not going to tennis, God started opening up so many opportunities for me that I realized that he wanted me to play."

Sissom said she is glad she is playing tennis, because it has given her opportunities to meet people and to travel.

"I've been real fortunate and just thankful for the abilities that has given me," Sissom said.

## In the SWC

### Texas runs

United Press International  
AUSTIN — Center Phillip Stroud scored a career-high 23 points to lead Texas to a 95-52 win over Rice and help the Longhorns claim sole possession of first place in the Southwest Conference Tuesday night.

Stroud, a senior from Houston, hit nine of 13 shots from the field and had 14 rebounds. Guard Jim Krivacs added 20 points and Tyrone Branyan had 16 for the Longhorns. Texas extended its season record to 17-5, its SWC mark to 10-2 and moved a game ahead of Texas A&M, which dropped to 9-3 after its 60-56 loss to Arkansas Tuesday night.

BOX SCORE  
RICE (52)  
Darden 5 0-1 10, Rieke 3 0-0 6, Burkholder 2 0-0 4, Tudor 0 0-0 0, Wilson 0 0-2 0, Burns 6 3-5 15, DeCello 1 0-0 2, McCage 2 0-0 4, Daniels 3 2-2 8, Mott 1 0-0 2, Miller 0 1-1 1. Totals 23 6-11 52.  
TEXAS (95)  
Baxter 0 0-0 0, Branyan 6 4-4 16, Stroud 9 5-10 23, Krivacs 7 6-7 20, Moore 4 3-4 11, Dotsen 0 0-0 0, Boyd 0 1-2 1, Shepard 2 1-2 5, Johnson 4 2-4 10, Blundell 2 1-2 5, Danks 2 0-1 4, Stephens 0 0-0 0. Totals 36 23-36 95.  
Halftime — Texas 39, Rice 27. Fouled out — Rieke. Total fouls — Rice 26, Texas 19. Technical — Texas (Johnson). A — 16,000.

### Vinnie guns

United Press International  
HOUSTON — Vinnie Housh and Pat Nunley each scored 20 points — Nunley's total career high — to help the Houston Cougars win the night and give the Bears a victory.

Baylor took the lead for 14 minutes left in the first short jump shot by John Southworth Conference's scorer, but the Bears biggest night was only seven seconds long.

Wendell Mays added 10 for the Bears, who broke losing streak and ran the record to 6-5 and their series to 12-9.

Houston stayed in first place in the league race with record as the Cougars slip to 11-13 for the year.

George Walker led the attack with 21 points and Ewing had 16.

### BOX SCORE

BAYLOR (80)  
Teagle 6 2-2 14, Zeller 4 1-1 8, 1-1 17, Nunley 8 4-5 20, 4-4 20, Stanley 0 0-0 0, 0-0 0, Vaszauskas 0 0-0 0. Totals 34 12-13 80.  
HOUSTON (77)  
Ewing 8 0-0 16, Walker 10 5 1 3-4 5, Williams 3 1-3 7, O'Neill 3 0-0 6, Hamilton 3 0-0 0, Mitchell 1 0-0 2, 0-0 4. Totals 36 5-9 27.  
Halftime — Baylor 46, Houston 27. Total Fouls — Baylor 15, 15. Technical Foul — Houston (ren). A — 5,813.

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ST. LOUIS — A 19th century saloonkeeper who owned the St. Louis Browns professional baseball team is responsible for the word "fans" becoming part of the language.

Chris Von der Ahe called the followers of the zany team "fanatics" and later shortened it to "fans."

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