

The Battalion Sports

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Squeaker

Texas A&M defeats Baylor 64-63, faces Houston in semifinals tonight

by Frank L. Christlieb
Sports Editor
DALLAS — Gary Lewis' arms had never felt heavier. Standing at the free-throw line with 22 seconds remaining, Lewis faced the most difficult situation of his freshman season. The Aggies held a 63-61 lead, with Lewis preparing to shoot two free throws.

Lewis missed the first shot but made the second, giving Texas A&M a three-point lead. The free throw gave the Aggies a 64-63 victory over Baylor, but Lewis would have preferred a different set of circumstances. "I thought to myself when I went to the line that I'd better put them in or I'd have everybody on my back," Lewis said. "On the first one, my arm had a little extra weight on it. The second one was real smooth."

The victory in the Southwest Conference tournament quarterfinals gave Texas A&M an 18-9 season record, while Baylor finished with a 17-11 record.

During the regular season, Texas A&M defeated Baylor 47-46 in G. Rolie White Coliseum. Baylor defeated the Aggies 58-55 in Waco.

Texas A&M Coach Shelby Metcalf said either team could have won the game Thursday, in which the largest lead for either team was eight points.

"Winning this game is like marrying a woman with money," Metcalf said. "You earn everything you get. It was a great basketball game and both teams played real well. We were real fortunate to win it."

Forward Claude Riley, who led the Aggies with 17 points,

credited Baylor for its intensity throughout the game.

"They wanted this game as much as we did," Riley said. "This was the type of game where it doesn't make any difference if you win by one point or 20. They would have been just as happy if they had won by one."

"We didn't have a lot of intensity during the whole game

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— Coach Shelby Metcalf

tonight, but we'll get it up against Houston. We kept fighting and never gave up."

Texas A&M tonight will play the Cougars, who won their last eight games to finish with a 20-6 season record. Houston, as a result of finishing second in the SWC, received a bye into tonight's semifinal game with Texas A&M.

The game will begin 30 minutes after the end of the 7 p.m. Arkansas-TCU game.

Baylor took an early 5-4 lead

when Terry Teagle scored on a 15-foot turnaround jumper from the right side of the basket. Teagle, who had 29 points in the game, scored 10 of the Bears' next 14 points to give his team a 16-15 lead with 8:47 left in the first half.

Baylor extended its lead to 24-17 with only 5:36 remaining in the half. However, a 15-2 spurt by the Aggies gave them a 32-26 lead with 43 seconds left.

Leading scorers for Texas A&M during that stretch were Reggie Roberts with three jumpers and Riley with two field goals and a pair of free throws.

The Aggies led 32-28 at halftime, thanks to two Baylor cold spells during the first half. The Bears went without a field goal during 6- and 5-minute stretches, with the latter allowing Texas A&M to take its halftime lead.

Tyren Nauels gave the Aggies a 34-28 lead to start the second half, hitting a jumper from the top of the circle. But Teagle scored from 15 feet to cut the lead to 34-32 with 18:42 left in the game.

A layup by Nauels pushed the Texas A&M lead to 40-32, but Baylor outscored the Aggies 14-8 over the next eight minutes. The result was a 48-46 Texas A&M lead with 9:35 left.

Although the Bears never led during the second half, they cut the lead to two points six times.

The Aggies led 63-59 with 2:18 left when guard Milton Woodley went to the line to attempt a one-and-one. After he made the first one, however, the

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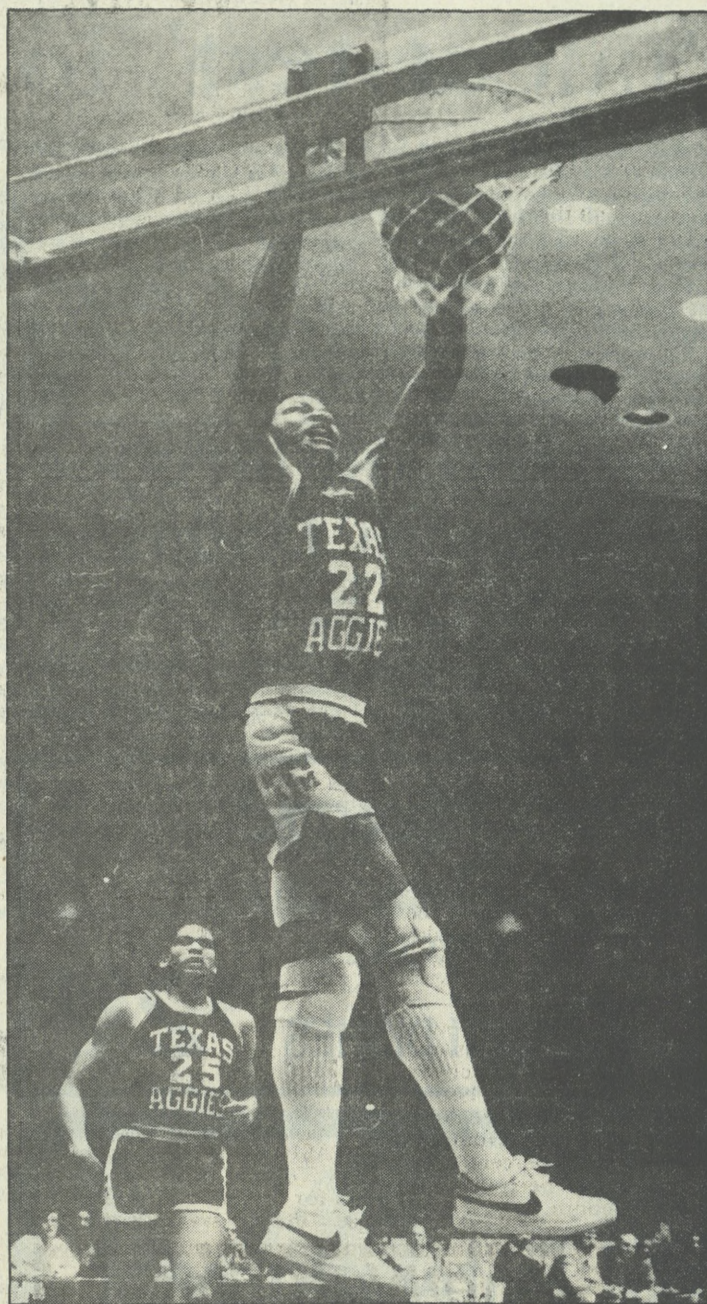


photo by C. Michel Chang

Texas A&M guard Reggie Roberts stuffs one in during Thursday's game against Houston. The Aggies lost, however, 96-93.

Teagle sharp but Bears lose

by Bill Robinson
Battalion Staff

DALLAS — Baylor University senior All-America Terry Teagle looked ready to join the ranks of the NBA in the Bears' 64-63 loss to Texas A&M University Thursday night.

Playing in the Dallas Mavericks' Reunion Arena, Teagle hit 12 of 23 from the floor — five of those coming from outside the NBA's three-point line.

If three-point shots had been a part of NCAA rules, Baylor — not Texas A&M — would be advancing to the semi-finals of the 1982 Southwest Conference Tournament.

But that three-point line has no meaning in college basketball, and Texas A&M will be facing the University of Houston tonight.

The Aggies won the game with strong rebounding in the second half, Baylor Coach Jim Haller said.

Baylor managed only two offensive rebounds in the second period, while the Aggies pulled down seven, converting five of those into scores.

"We fought our guts out in the second half," Haller said. "The clock just ran out on us. We tried our best but just came out a little bit short."

"There is no doubt the difference in the ballgame was the second half. Claude (Riley) and Rudy (Woods) were just too much."

Whenever Baylor did mount a drive, the Aggies would kill it, he said. "It's hard to come back against Dr. (Shelby) Metcalf," Haller said.

"The 1-3-1 trap disrupted our offense. I learned a lot from Coach Metcalf when I was starting out, but we weren't prepared for that."

Despite the loss, a National Invitational Tournament bid looks promising to Haller, who has spoken with the tournament director this week.

"I told my ballclub that I don't think this is going to be our last game this year," he said.

Teagle agreed. "We have a good chance of going to the NIT," he said, "so I'm not thinking about my college career ending."

Should the Bears receive an invitation to the NIT, Teagle, who is the all-time leading scorer in the Southwest Conference, should play even better than he did against Texas A&M.

He has been suffering from the flu and is just now returning to form.

"Teagle hasn't got his full strength back," Haller said. "During the six-game winning streak, he was poetry in motion, but it took him a while to get his rhythm back."

Teagle's only complaint about the game was the Aggies' use of their size and weight.

"Everyone tries to bang us around because it's embarrassing to them to have a smaller team out-rebound them," he said.

Ozell Hall agreed. "It was not really a factor of height, but more of weight," he said. "I feel like we have a chance to go to the NIT. We will just have to go back and work out the wrinkles if we get that chance."

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