

Texas A&M

The Battalion Sports

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staff photo by David Fisher

Aggie coach shows his disappointment over an official's call during the Great Alaska Shootout, held during the first

week of Texas A&M's season. Metcalf's squad lost Wednesday night to LSU by a score of 88-70 in the Superdome.

LSU takes advantage of Aggie mistakes

Tigers 'feast' on Aggies

by John P. Lopez

Battalion Staff
NEW ORLEANS, La. — In a city known for its fine cuisine, the LSU Tigers had a super feast in the Superdome — all at the expense of the Texas Aggies.

The Aggies played perhaps their finest game of the year for the majority of the game, but costly mistakes near the end of the contest gave the Tigers an 88-70 decision in front of 3,861 fans.

The Aggies took an early lead in the first half behind good defense and strong rebounding but could never pull away from the Tigers. At 3:49 of the first half, Texas A&M let the Tigers pull to within one at 28-27 after leading at one time by as many as eight points.

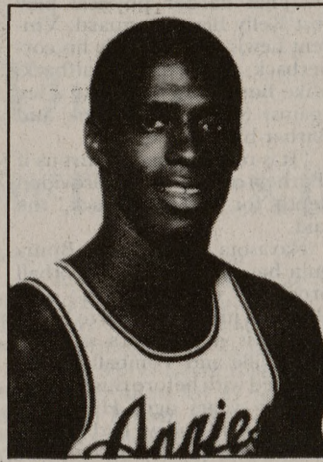
After the surge by LSU, the Aggies started to pass sloppily and consequently committed several turnovers. The poor play on offense gave LSU the spark it needed to take a 37-32 lead at the end of the first half.

Texas A&M stayed close for most of the second half, pulling to within two at 53-51 with 10:42 to play. After that, the Aggies kept pressuring the Tigers defensively and appeared to be making a rally with crowd-quieting shots.

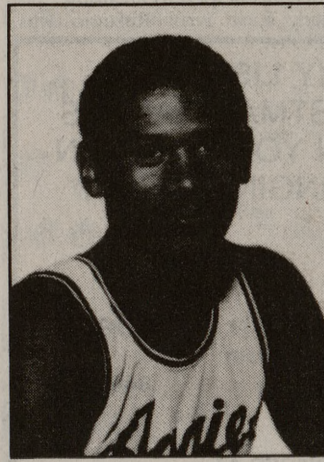
A crucial call with 3:38 left in the game, however, gave LSU the opportunity to pull away and ice the game in the waning minutes.

After Texas A&M forward Lowell McHenry narrowed the LSU lead to 65-61 with a 10-foot fadeaway jump shot, the Tigers' Steffond Johnson put in a layup after the shot clock had apparently expired.

The referees, however, gave Johnson the basket and called Aggie senior forward Claude



Tyren Naulls leads Aggies with 20 points against LSU



Freshman Kenny Brown collects 18 points in loss

Riley for a foul on the play. Johnson made the foul shot to up the score to 68-61.

Texas A&M coach Shelby Metcalf, who was protesting Johnson's basket on the sideline, was given a technical foul.

Johnson then sank the two technical foul free throws, making it a 70-61 ball game.

After the game, Metcalf explained the turn of events.

"I wished I hadn't got the technical, but that's just how I felt," Metcalf said.

"The ball has to hit the rim (before the shot clock expires) for it to count, and it didn't. Johnson caught the ball in the air and then put up the shot after time had expired," he said.

"What are you supposed to do when you know you're right?"

When questioned whether he thought the referees, who were all Southeastern Conference officials, blew some calls, Met-

calf said: "I'll tell you what, I don't think we'll become pen pals."

With the loss, the Aggies' record drops to 2-4, which Riley said isn't indicative of Texas A&M's potential.

"We just have a few odds and ends to fix up," Riley said. "We played hard and I think we can build on this. At least we kept our intensity up the whole game tonight."

LSU coach Dale Brown agreed.

"Texas A&M is the most talented team we've played all year," he said. "And that includes North Carolina. They've got a lot of offense, but I think we just wore them down tonight. We had a little more depth."

Metcalf said he isn't disappointed with the Aggies' 2-4 record but he added that it's exactly what the Aggies deserve for their effort so far this year.

"I think we played pretty well

tonight," he said. "We kept our intensity up the whole game. These tough games we've played should help us, but our record is exactly what we deserve."

Leading scorers for the Aggies were Tyren Naulls with 20 points and Kenny Brown with 18. Brown collected 16 of his points in the first half, but was held to one of 6 shots in the second half because of tough defensive pressure applied by the Tigers' Johnny Jones.

Rebounding was almost even between the two teams, with Texas A&M pulling down 25 and the Tigers 27.

Guard Howard "Hi-C" Carter was the leading scorer for LSU with 27 points. Tiger forward Leonard Mitchell had good things to say about the Aggies.

"They (the Aggies) are going to give people in the Southwest Conference fits. Houston and Arkansas better watch out," he said.

The Aggies will be in Huntington, W.Va., this weekend for the Marshall Memorial tournament.

TEXAS A&M (70)
Naulls 6-8 8-8 2, Brown 9-16 0-0 18, Riley 5-10 2-5 12, Jones 5-10 0-1 10, McHenry 3-3 2-2 8, Roberts 0-1 1-2 1, Gilbert 0-0 1-2 1, Lewis 0-0 0-0 0, Tillman 0-0 0-0 0, Lee 0-0 0-0 0, Bock 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 28-48 14-20 70.

LOUISIANA STATE (88)
Carter 10-13 7-7 27, Mitchell 4-7 10-12 18, Black 7-10 2-4 16, Jones 2-8 7-8 11, Johnson 3-4 2-8 8, Redden 2-4 2-2 6, Reynolds 0-1 2-5 2, Perkins 0-2 0-0 0, Tudor 0-0 0-0 0. Totals 28-49 32-46 88.

Halftime — LSU 37, Texas A&M 32. **Fouled Out** — Texas A&M, McHenry; LSU, Black. **Total Fouls** — Texas A&M 28, LSU 20. **Rebounds** — Texas A&M 25 (Riley 7), LSU 27 (Mitchell 10). **Assists** — Texas A&M 8 (Jones 3), LSU 14 (Jones 5). **Technical Fouls** — Texas A&M bench (2), A — 3, 861.

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