

The Battalion Sports

January 17, 1983 Page 13

Even SWC record at 2-2

Aggies drop Baylor, 68-66

by John Wagner

Sports Editor

WACO — The Texas Aggies did Saturday night what no other team had been able to do so far this year. They beat the Baylor Bears in Waco.

Playing perhaps their best basketball of the season, the Aggies nipped the Bears 68-66 and evened their Southwest Conference record at 2-2. Baylor fell to 1-2.

Texas A&M's two-point victory was the Bears' first loss in Heart O' Texas Coliseum this season, and it was quite a shock to the 9,850 fans in attendance. The Bears entered the game with a home record of 7-0, and

no less an expert than Arkansas coach Eddie Sutton had predicted a Baylor victory because the Bears would be at home before a near-capacity crowd.

But Lowell McHenry's tip-in at 19:14 of the first half gave Texas A&M a 2-0 lead, and they led the rest of the way. Baylor stayed close until 7:31 of the first half, when the second of Aggie guard Tyren Naulls' three-point plays gave Texas A&M a 22-11 lead.

Naulls was 3 of 3 from the field and 6 of 6 from the free throw line in the first half to pace the Aggies, who led 38-25 at halftime. Senior forward Claude Riley finished the half

with eight points and seven rebounds.

In the second half, the Aggies used back-to-back slam dunk shots by McHenry and Reggie Roberts to pull ahead by 15 at 63-48, but from there it was almost all Baylor.

Roberts' slam at 6:53 of the second half was the Aggies' next-to-last field goal of the night. And poor free throw shooting down the stretch almost gave the game away for the Aggies.

The Aggies hit only 2 of 7 free throw shots during the last 5 minutes of the game, and finished the half hitting 8 of 16.

At 6:37 McHenry committed

his first of two straight fouls, his third and fourth of the night, but Baylor was unable to connect on the free throws. Gilbert then scored to give the Aggies a 66-50 lead, but a minute later the freshman from Huntsville fouled out, and Mike Heller's free throw cut the score to 66-53.

After the Aggies failed to score on their possession, Baylor's Daryl Baucham hit a two-foot jump shot off the glass to make it 66-55. At 2:39 Riley fouled out, and after Jay Shakir missed his free throw attempt he was fouled by McHenry, who

See AGS page 15

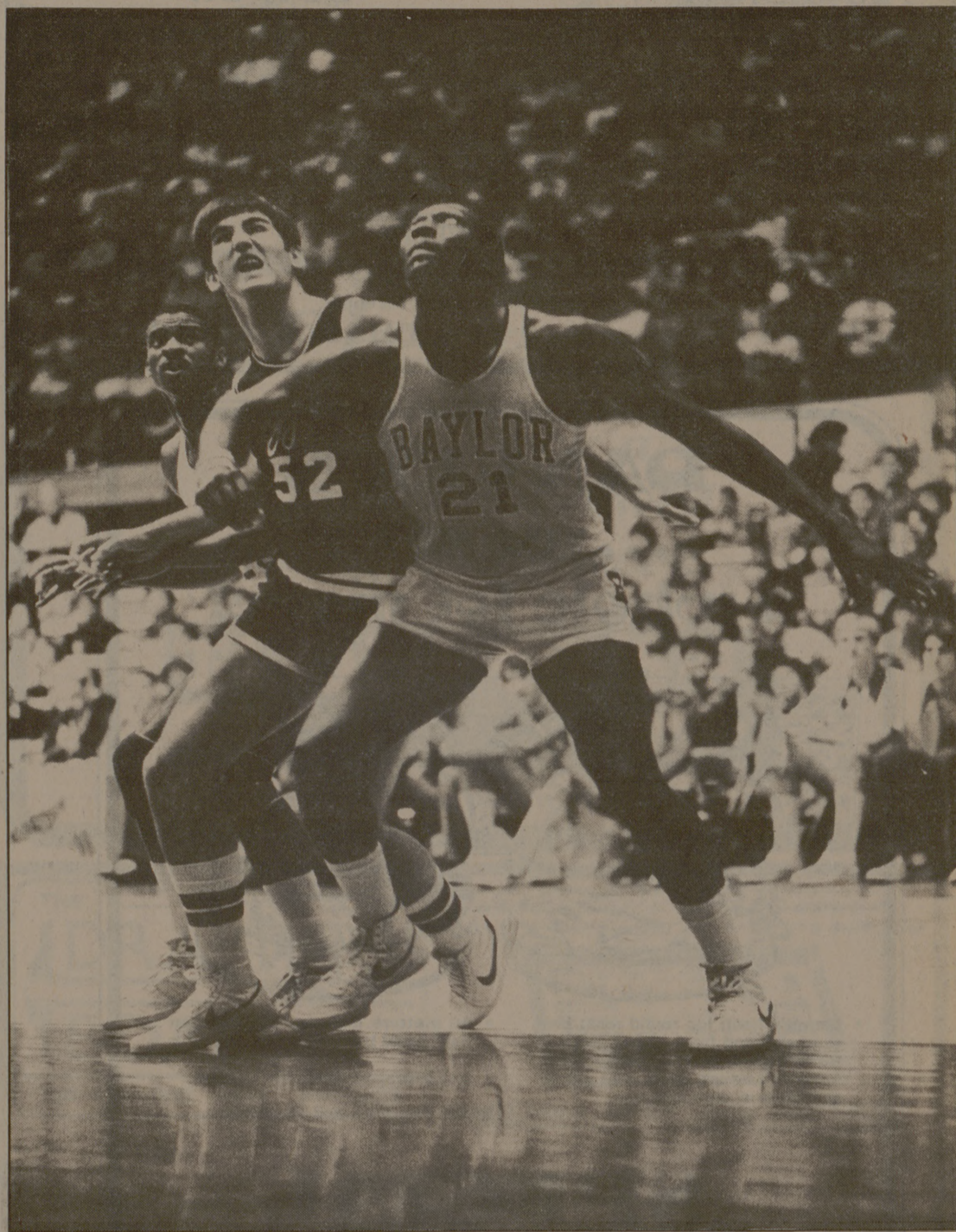


photo by Donn Friedman

Aggie center Roger Bock and Baylor center Ozell Hall fight for position under the Baylor basket in the Aggies'

68-66 victory Saturday. Texas A&M evened its SWC record at 2-2 with the victory, while the Bears fell to 1-2.

Aggie Ladies fall to Bears

by Frank L. Christlieb

Battalion Staff

WACO — After building a lead of 14 points in the first half, the Aggie Ladies' late comeback to win 75-67 Saturday night in the Heart O' Texas Coliseum.

Texas A&M, which has an 8-8 record for the season, closed the season's lead to 68-65 with under a minute to play. But five crucial free throws and a layup by Baylor center Jackie Reiter, who had been alone under the basket, wiped out the Ladies' chances.

After playing to an early 8-8 tie with the Bears on baskets by the sixth man, Lynette Joiner, and the Aggie center Jackie Reiter, who had been alone under the basket, wiped out the Ladies' chances.

shooting touch and Baylor built a 24-12 lead. A late first-half spurt by Texas A&M made the score 42-36 at halftime.

But Baylor started the second half by jumping to a 12-point, 48-36 lead on two jumpers by Reiter and a basket by forward Kelly Lyons. With 7:58 left in the game, the Bears still led 57-47 after a jumper by the Aggie Ladies' Kelly Krauskopf.

Another quick comeback brought Texas A&M within four points, 59-55, with 5:36 to go. After a Baylor turnover, however, the Aggie Ladies' Ann Trinka missed a layup that would have cut the deficit to two, and the Bears' Lola Reescano scored to make it 61-55.

The lead increased to seven points at 66-59 with 2:36 left, but a jumper by Krauskopf, a layup by Jackie Jones and a 15-footer by Felice Lewis made the score 68-65 with 1:10 left in the game. Reescano made two free throws to make the score 70-65 with 48 seconds to go, and Reiter's wide-open layup made it a seven-point game with only 25 seconds remaining.

For the Aggie Ladies, who are 1-1 in Southwest Conference play, Joiner had 14 points on 7 of 8 from the field, Krauskopf had 12 points and Lewis had 10. Tatum and Trinka led in rebounding with nine each.

Baylor's Reescano led the Bears with 24 points and nine rebounds, followed by Reiter's 20 points and 15 rebounds. Lyons had 11 points and 10 rebounds.

Saturday's game didn't count toward either team's SWC record, since this season's league format calls for only certain games to show up on conference records. Each of the schools will play six SWC teams twice, but only one of each pair of games will count. The single games against the other two schools will also count in league standings. Each school's football schedule

for the past season will be the basis for deciding upon league games.

For instance, since the Aggie football team played Texas Tech here, only the Aggie Ladies' home game Jan. 31 against the Red Raiders will count. Likewise, since the football team played Houston on the road and Rice at home, the Aggie Ladies' game in Houston Jan. 5 and their game against the Owls here Jan. 8 both counted toward their SWC record.

The Aggie Ladies lost to Houston 92-67 but defeated Rice 105-81, making their SWC record 1-1. So on the season, Texas A&M will play eight SWC games that will count and six that won't, with the league tournament slated for March 11-13 in Austin.

Coach Cherri Rapp said the Aggie Ladies played well at times Saturday but couldn't maintain the consistency needed to win.

"They (Baylor) hit the basket very well during the first half, and we just suddenly went cold," she said. "Then in the second half, I thought we might come back and overtake them, but we just couldn't do it."

See LADIES page 16

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