

TANK McNAMARA

by Jeff Millar & Bill Hinds



Davis, Koncak help lead SMU past Longhorns, 73-64

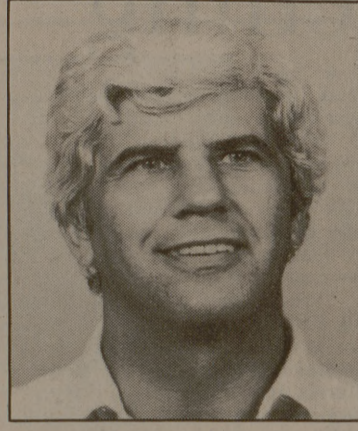
United Press International
AUSTIN — Forward Larry Davis and seven-foot center Jon Koncak helped break open the game early in the second half Tuesday night as the SMU Mustangs coasted to a 73-64 victory over the Texas Longhorns. The Longhorns, reduced to five scholarship players, hit eight of their first nine shots and jumped to a 16-10 lead. But over the last five minutes of the first half the Mustangs' all-court press began to force turnovers and they outscored

the Longhorns 12-4 to open a four-point advantage at the break. Then, to start the second half, the Mustangs ran off a 19-6 streak. Davis scored the first four points of the second half and Koncak followed with a three-point play to start the Mustangs' streak. SMU had as much as a 17-point lead before a late Texas rush closed the deficit. The Mustangs forced the Longhorns into 21 turnovers during the game.

SMU closed out the first half of the Southwest Conference race with a 4-4 record, and the Mustangs are 12-7 for the season. Texas is 1-7 in league play and 6-13 overall. Guard Dave Piehler led the Mustangs with 16 points while Butch Moore had 15, Koncak 13 and Davis 10. Bill Wendlandt, the only senior on the Longhorns' roster, paced Texas with 21 points. The two teams combined to try 58 free throws in the foul-plagued contest.

Rockets lose again, 129-76

United Press International
CHICAGO — Del Harris leaned against the wall outside the Houston Rockets' locker room and put his team's worst whipping ever — a 129-76 slaughter by the Chicago Bulls — in perspective. "This is the worst game we've played, but we've played a lot of similar games," said the coach of the NBA's worst team, 8-37 after Tuesday's loss. "We have been playing good basketball for the last couple weeks and I told the guys before this game that they have continued to play hard," Harris said.



Del Harris says whipping was Rockets at their worst

The Rockets had won three of their last seven contests before they were trounced by the Bulls. The 53-point margin erased the Rockets previous worst loss, 156-114, to Baltimore in 1968. That was the second time a Houston club fell by 42 points. The Bulls' record in a victory is a 56-point margin against Portland in 1976. Elvin Hayes gave the Rockets a 23-16 lead with 2:03 left in the first quarter. The Bulls then outscored the Rockets 24-4 to grab a 42-29 lead on Mark Olberding's basket with 6:47 re-

— the old mark was 19 and the league record is 24 set by Philadelphia in 1966 — to build a 101-54 margin with 9:26 left in the game. When David Greenwood scored with 1:45 remaining on a layup Chicago had its biggest lead, 126-65. Dwight Jones paced the Bulls with 19 points and was one of eight Chicago players scoring in double figures. Greenwood added 16 points and had 11 rebounds. The victory snapped a six-game home losing streak and a three-game overall skid for the Bulls. "Our last three games we have been playing quality basketball," said Chicago Coach Paul Westhead. "Those three losses were by a combined total of 10 points to New York, Detroit and Boston. Houston scored its last points of the third quarter when Wally Walker's basket cut Chicago's lead to 78-54 with 3:21 left. The Bulls then rang up a team record 23 straight points

"Tonight, we were not that much different in our execution than we were against those three clubs." The loss was witnessed by only 3,989 fans — the smallest crowd in the Stadium since 1973. "As far as our game is concerned we have to remember who we are," said Harris. "We started out OK tonight, but when we went to the bench it became one pass and then shoot. That's not our type of team. We have to select our shots." "It's hard to come back when you have a poor shooting team." The Rockets entered the contest with a 44 percent shooting average and shot 35 percent against the Bulls, who hit 58 percent of their shots. Allen Leavall paced Houston with 14 points, while Hayes added 13.

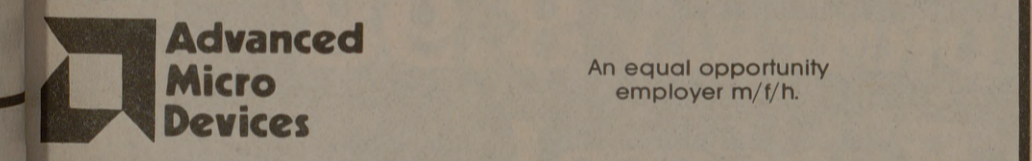


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Wednesday is Ladies Night
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