lougars remain undefeated in SWC

UH confident after victory

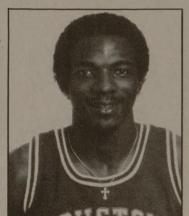
Battalion Staff iven a choice between Texas M's pistol-quick guards and own basketball-swatting bullzers, Houston Cougar coach on that he'd take the latter. And when the Aggies tried to we the ball toward the basket inst those intimidating bullers Saturday in G. Rollie ite Coliseum, Lewis had preted the results beforehand. ce nearly every Houston onent has attempted nout success — to get the igars' basket watchmen in trouble, Lewis knew Texas www. Would fall short in the

put it lightly, Lewis has confidence in his "Big than Kareem Abdulbar has in his sky hook or

ph Sampson has in his right-nded dunk. And why not? As the club's ority stockholder, Lewis is in fourth season with Larry cheaux, his third with Clyde exler and Michael Young and second season with Akeem dul Olajuwon. Through the t two and a half years — with se four players contributing he cause — the Cougars have piled a 64-19 record.

The Aggies, outmanned and derstaffed against the eighthked Cougars, fell short in the al score, 86-66. In addition, de Drexler, made Texas M's players appear much ofter than the game program

ut that's not unusual. The gars seem to dwarf even the est opponents into submiswhether it be by blocked ts, rebounds or showy dunks. ewis, whose club pushed its ord to 18-2 overall and 9-0 in Southwest Conference, said was glad to see the Aggies tthe afternoon with their ins best ide game. Although Texas with aim & M had to turn to its shooting



Coogs' Clyde Drexler says defense key to UH victory

side shooting doesn't win basketball games.

"I'll tell you one thing," said Lewis, whose team is on the way to its 24th straight winning season. "I'd rather see them take it shoot. Boy, that (Doug) Lee was unconscious. And (Kenny) Brown was pretty damn good,

Lee and Brown, both freshmen, came off the Aggie bench to score a combined 15 points — Mich all but one from the outside. But the inside domination of Drexler, Young and Olajuwon made Texas A&M's oft-brilliant out-

side shooting seem ineffective.
"I think this was the most consistent game we've every played up here," Lewis said. "We really hung in there and played our game. I'm happy to get in and out of here with a win. I'll tell you, A&M's a good basketball

It'd been five years since the Cougars had played a "consisde game. Although Texas & Mad to turn to its shooting tards — namely Reggie oberts, Kenny Brown and oug Lee — later in the game, aws said he still believes out-

about winning in College Sta- kets), was just awesome.

"Well, how tall is the highest mountain?" he asked. "We had said a couple of weeks ago that the next five games or so starting with the Rice game (Jan. 26) could make or break us. This was the third of those games and we still have to play SMU up there and TCU at home.

"We played well today. After being asked if his Cougars had played a better game this season, Lewis paused for a few seconds

"That's a good question," he said. "I think it's definitely the

best road game we've played."
Micheaux, who scored nine
points and had six rebounds,
played only 27 minutes after getting into foul trouble in the first half. When both Micheaux and Olajuwon drew three fouls in the opening 20 minutes, it seemed the Aggies' plan would work. But sophomore Benny Anders came off the bench to score 11 points in 21 minutes.

"To me, this was really my best game ever, because I came inside on us than to see them off the bench ready to play and shoot it outside. They can really was able to contribute," Anders said. "I knew in the first half that our big guys were in foul trou-ble. Coach (Lewis) told me to be ready for anything, and I was. This was one game that we had

> Micheaux, the only senior in UH starting lineup, said he has big plans for the remainder of

"I really want to see us go undefeated — both at home and on some. The way Akeem was playtwo dunks (UH's first two bas- won the game on our defense.

"I think the Aggies wanted to go inside on us and get us into foul trouble, which they did. But we held on and they had to go outside instead. We were ready to play. Everyone was saying we'd have to win this one because we hadn't won here in so long. So, we had no intentions of

coming in here and losing."

And will the Cougars continue their winning ways, which have brought nine straight SWC victories?

"Oh yeah, with a big win like this in such a hard place to play?" he aksed. "I think we may just go on and be undefeated the

Drexler, whose No. 1 assignment was to stop Aggie forward Claude Riley, said he and his teammates didn't want to see Riley break loose like he has in recent games with the Cougars Riley, who had 38, 28 and 24 points against Houston last sea-son, finished Saturday's game with 20 points and a game-high 13 rebounds.

"Riley got the ball a little too much in the first half (14 points)," Drexler said. "So Coach Lewis told us to forget about the rest of the team, to still play defense and to still re-bound, but to not let Riley touch the ball. At halftime, he told us not to let him get his hands on the ball in the second half."

The Cougars' superior de-fense paved the way during the victory, Drexler said.

"I think this was one of our the road. The team wanted to greatest games on the road, play well today. It was just awe-without a doubt," Drexler said. 'We played it just as if we were at ing, especially with those first home. Defense was the key. We

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son tonight when the ninth-ked Arkansas Razorbacks, The Houston Cougars return

the first Southwest Conference victim of the Rice Owls Saturday

to action Wednesday night at SMU. The Mustangs won only The Hogs have lost the last one conference game last year and that was against the UH. to, but that could change The Cougars are currently 9-0 ight since the Bears are in a in SWC play.

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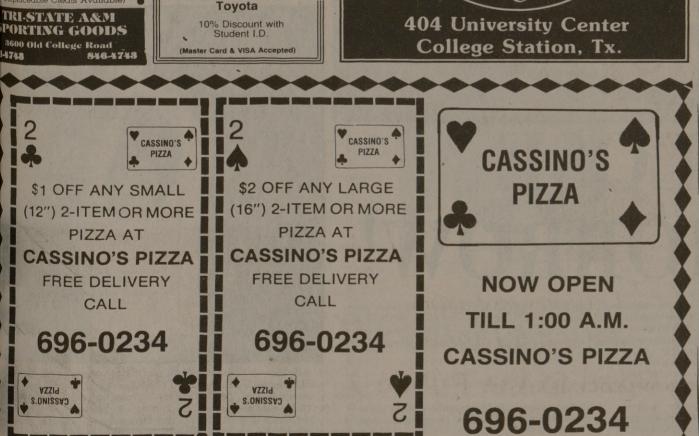
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