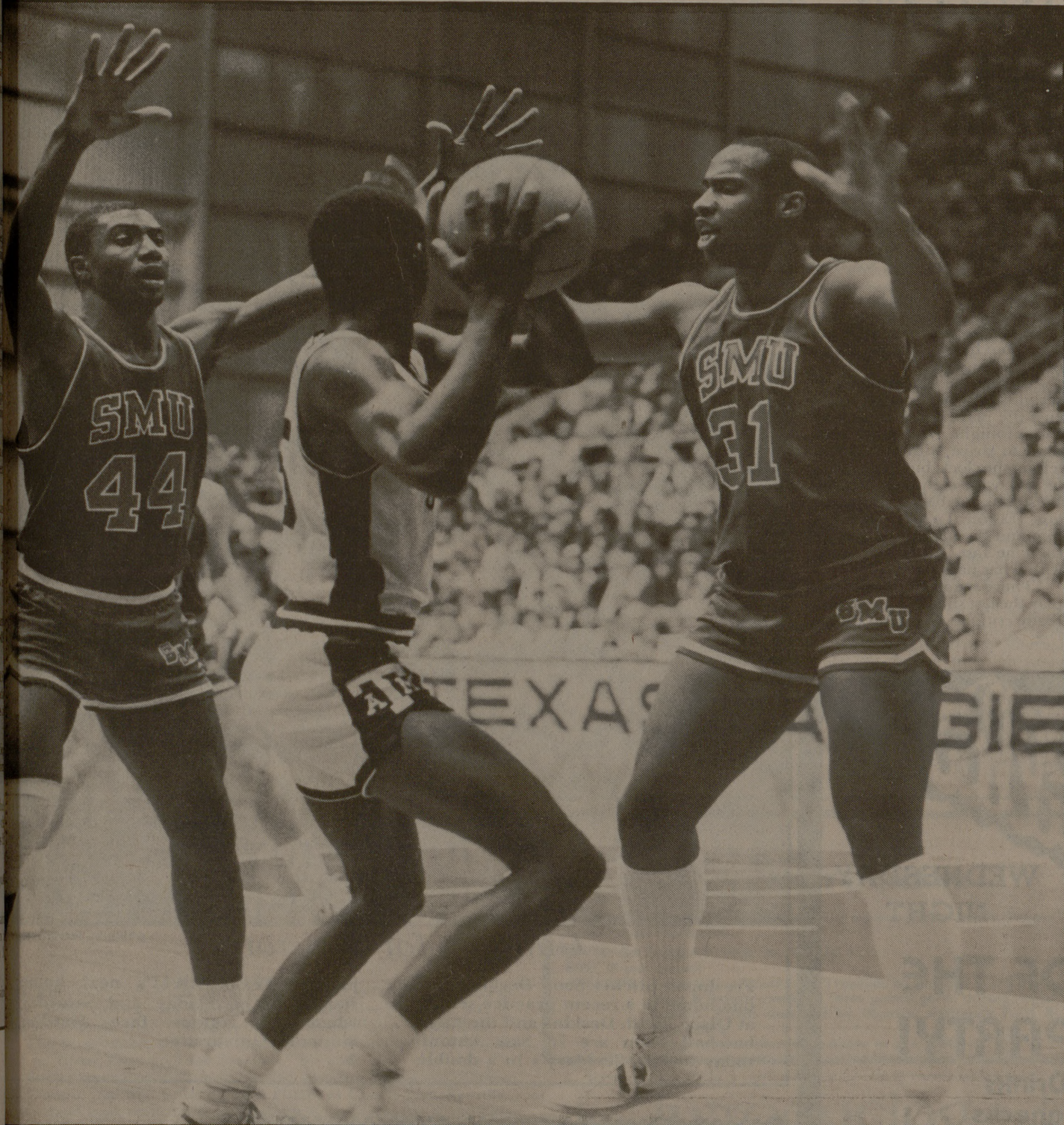


Texas A&M

The Battalion Sports

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Help!

photo by Octavio Garcia

Texas A&M junior forward Lowell McHenry looks for a way to get away from SMU defenders Derrick Parks (31) and Carl Wright (44). McHenry and his

teammates will be looking for ways to get away from the Mustangs again tonight as Texas A&M travels to Dallas to face SMU in a key conference match-up.

'Killer' says Cougars better than Arkansas

United Press International

In the matter of Houston vs. Arkansas, which will happen for the second time in a little more than a week, TCU coach Jim Killingsworth feels he must line up on the side of the Cougars.

He isn't alone, of course, since the first time those two teams played, Houston held the Razorbacks to 36 percent shooting and won by 15 points.

But Killingsworth's opinion carries more weight than most because he has faced both teams twice this year.

"I'd have to give the edge to Houston," Killingsworth said Saturday after his Horned Frogs had come up on the short end of a 64-56 encounter with Arkansas.

"I don't know that Arkansas is any better than I thought they would be. Of course they are plenty good enough as it is. I thought we had a chance to beat them once this year. It just didn't happen (although the two teams could meet again in the SWC post-season tournament).

"But Houston is awfully good when they get rolling. I guess we are the only team that has been able to stay close to them."

The Horned Frogs, now 17-7 and still hoping for their first 20-win season in 24 years, have lost twice to the second-ranked Cougars by a total of 11 points.

And TCU came close against Arkansas as well Saturday in Fort Worth, only to be done in down the stretch by the quick hands and accurate shooting of Darrell Walker. It was the 25th straight win for the Hogs over the Frogs.

As the final seconds ticked away in the Razorbacks' win, the large contingent of Arkansas fans began chanting, "Houston, Houston."

They are anxious for Houston's trip into the always demonstrative confines of Barnhill Arena in Fayetteville, a journey scheduled for March 3. But as the Houston game draws near, Walker would like to see a slight change made in the seventh-ranked Razorbacks.

"We couldn't put TCU away," said Walker, who scored 24 points and made seven steals against the Frogs. "Not being able to put people away is keeping this good ballclub from becoming a great ballclub."

The Razorbacks, whose loss to Houston has

been the only blemish in a 22-1 season, should have little trouble putting the Texas Longhorns away tonight in Austin. The Hogs' last tuneup for the Cougars will come Saturday night in Fayetteville against Texas Tech.

Houston has just one game left before it makes the trip to Arkansas — that coming Saturday night at home against the cross-town rival Rice Owls.

Houston defeated Rice earlier this season.

The Cougars are coming off a week in which both wire service polls ranked them second — their highest ranking since 1968. Only the University of Nevada-Las Vegas is ranked higher.

But the biggest contests of the week will probably involve Texas A&M, which did not play over the weekend.

The Aggies, who defeated St. Mary's in an inter-sectional game Monday night 96-76, travel to SMU tonight and host TCU Saturday night.

A&M is fighting TCU for the third and final bye past the first round of the SWC tourney. The winner of the TCU-A&M game, which will be regionally televised, will likely claim the third-place position in the final standings.

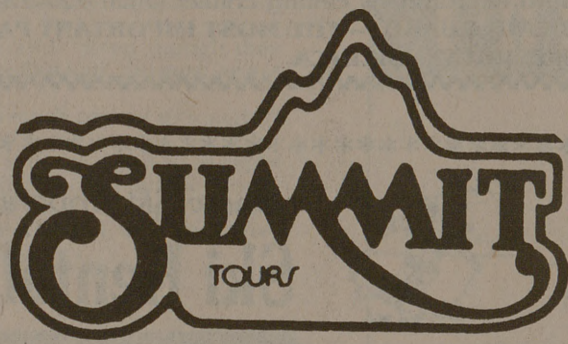
But Texas A&M must go to Dallas first, and take on the sometimes-up, sometimes-down Mustangs.

The Aggies defeated SMU earlier this season in G. Rollie White Jan. 22 by a score of 85-77. Six Aggies scored in double figures for Texas A&M, including Claude Riley with 18 points and Jimmie Gilbert with 16 points.

Reggie Roberts had 13 for the Aggies, followed by Kenny Brown and Roy Jones' 12 points and Tyren Naualls' 10.

Jon Koncak led the Mustangs with 14 points. Texas A&M led the Mustangs 40-32 at half-time, and ran the score to 59-46 with 13:20 left, but SMU fought back to cut the Aggies' margin of victory to seven points at the buzzer.

In TCU, the Aggies will face what many believe to be one of the toughest teams in the conference, a team that beat Texas A&M 67-50 earlier this season in Fort Worth. Despite the Aggies' 13-2 quick start, the Horned Frogs came back to win big behind the play of Doug Arnold. Arnold finished the game with 29 points, 14 rebounds and seven blocked shots.



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