

SWC fans find...

The Pork stops here

Where's the Pork? ... Squeal like a pig Eddie ... We bad ... Grown men wandering through \$100-a-night hotels with plastic pigs on their heads. And a stadium filled with Red and White. Phi Slama Jama fans, lest they be known as Cougar fans, and Arkansas fans gather together yearly for this ritual they call the Southwest Conference basketball tournament.

It doesn't matter if it's held in Dallas, or San Antonio, or Houston as it was this year, the fans from Arkansas and the U of H fill the stands.

This year's 10,000+ fans smashed into the Summit to see five hard-fought basketball games culminating in a match-up between the red and white and the white and red.

All five games were close. In fact, The Rice Owls playing in their first quarterfinal SWC tourney game ever, had the largest margin of victory in any game, defeating Texas Tech by five.

But it was the final game, between the Cougars and the Razorbacks that the fans had spent their \$45 for a tournament pass to seek.

With 27 seconds left and UH up 57-56, the Cougars' Alvin Franklin was at the line with a 1-1.

SOOOOOOIEEEEE PIGS ... SOOOOOOIEEEEE PIGS.

Franklin misses, Arkansas rebounds and calls time-out.

The Razorbacks work the ball around until only four seconds remain in the game. Ricky Norton shoots and misses. The ball is tipped up and in. No call from the referees. A mad rush of coaches and players to the scorers table.

UH's Renaldo Thomas climbs the backboard on the Cougars offensive end. The referees signal.

The soocie pigs had quieted, and as the Coogs cut the strands of cotton from the rim, the chants of HOUSTON, HOUSTON, HOUSTON echoed through the steel and glass of the Summit.

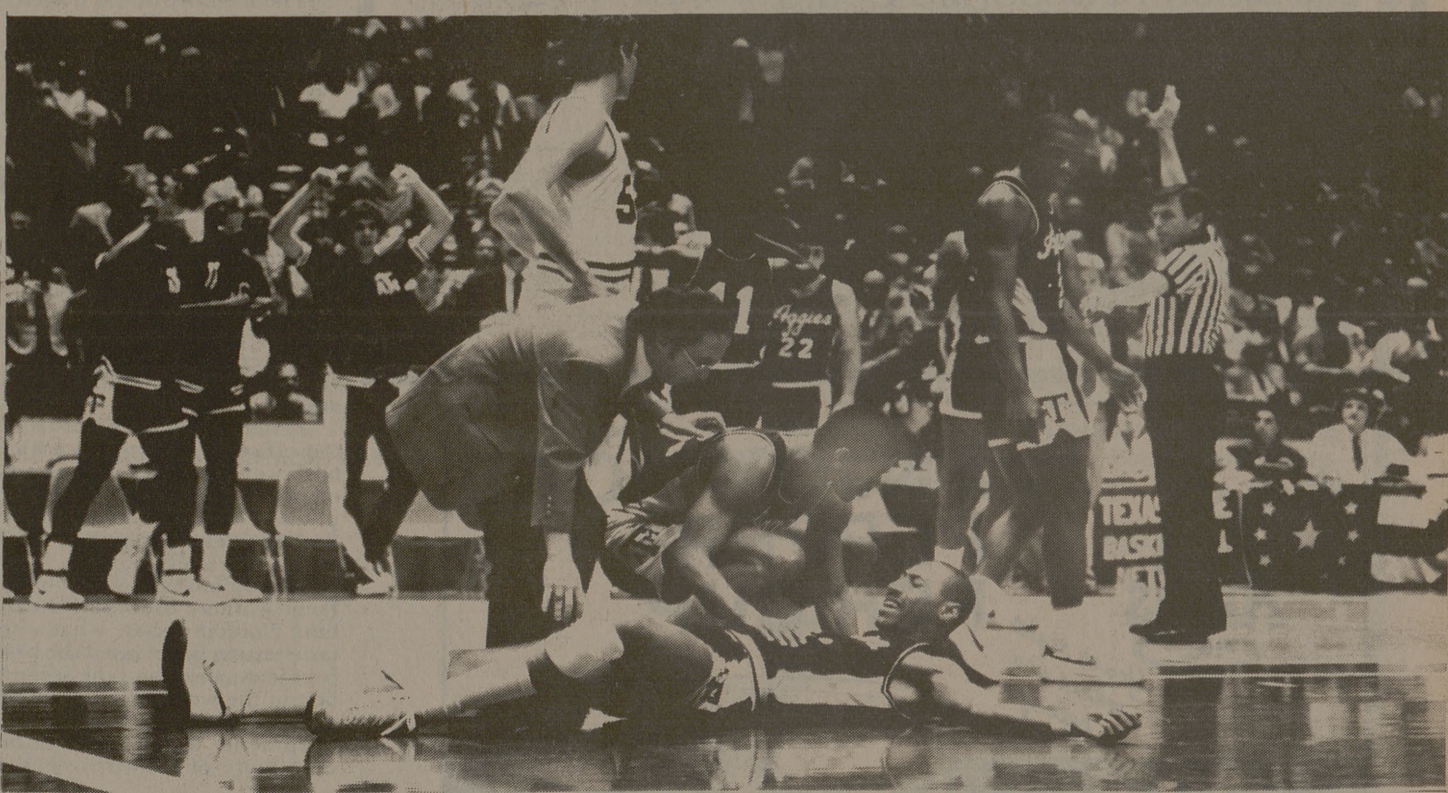
By DONN FRIEDMAN
Sports Editor

Akeem Olajuwon celebrates with his teammates after the Cougars' victory over

Arkansas in the finale of the Southwest Conference tournament.



Winston Crite makes a flying save during the Aggies' victory over SMU.



An injured Jimmie Gilbert stretches out on the floor after hitting the winning bucket.



Coach Shelby Metcalf listens to an official's explanation of a call.

PHOTOS by DEAN SAITO,
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and JOHN MAKELY.