

# Sports

## Ags overcome mediocrity to down Titans

By Danny Myers  
Sports Writer

Texas A&M, 2-1, showed brief flashes of a good basketball team Monday night in defeating Oral Roberts University, 1-3, 63-56 in front of 2,628 at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Senior forward Winston Crite pumped in nine out of 10 shots from the field to lead the Aggies with 24 points and 15 rebounds.

His performance picked up the slack of the Aggies' mediocre perfor-

mance. They shot 42 percent for the game and A&M's leading scorer coming into the game, Todd Holloway, was 0-for-9 from the field and scored only four points.

"Todd just wasn't on tonight," Crite said, "but we were able to come through. Todd's leadership was still there."

With the game tied at 51 and 3:48 left on the clock, A&M's Tadd Thomas stole the ball and launched it downcourt where Keron Graves

received the pass and stuffed it home to give A&M its first lead since eight minutes into the second half.

Then A&M got the ball back on a traveling call and Thomas put in a crucial 22-foot jumper. Crite followed with the next two-pointer to give the Aggies some breathing room at 57-51 with 2:08 left.

A&M Head Coach Shelby Metcalf said he was pleased with the win.

"Our intensity picked up," Metcalf said. "I thought we played hard. At money time we did some things right and you have to be happy about that. There were some gutty plays made down the stretch and basically after we got down, we got back in with our defense, and I'm happy about that."

"But right now there are so many things I'm concerned about I'm having a hard time enjoying it much."

Metcalf's biggest concern is finding somebody who can play center. Jessie Spinner started at center, but managed only five points and three rebounds in 20 minutes.

Despite being used to playing the forward position, Thomas played well at the center position before fouling out.

The lack of the center position didn't figure too heavily in the outcome of the game though, because ORU shot a miserable 21.9 percent from the field. However, the Titans hung in the game with 23 points from the free-throw line and a zone defense that confused the Aggies.

"I had heard about (Haywoode) Workman, but I had never seen him play," Metcalf said. "He's a big leader. Fouling him is not the answer. They are a great free-throw shooting team."

Workman was 8-for-8 from the line but only 4-for-14 from the floor.

Oral Roberts Head Coach Ted Owens said his defense did a good job but the team couldn't create enough offense.

"The one stretch with about three and a half minutes to go where they come out with the man-to-man, forced us into three turnovers or so in a row," he said. "That stretch was the ballgame."



Photo by Tom Ownbey



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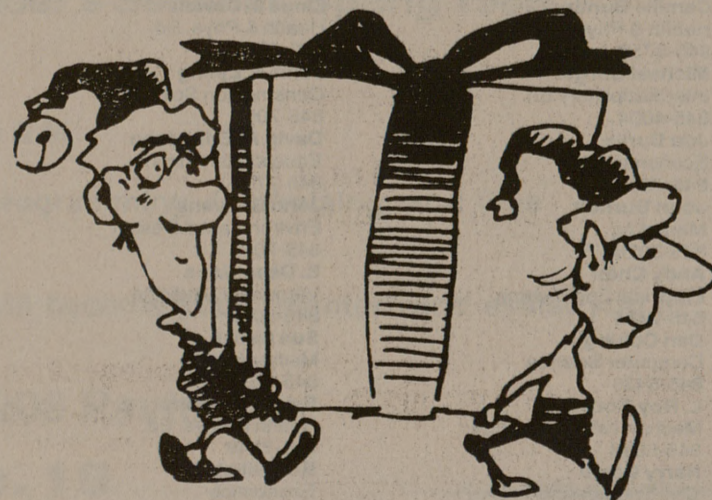
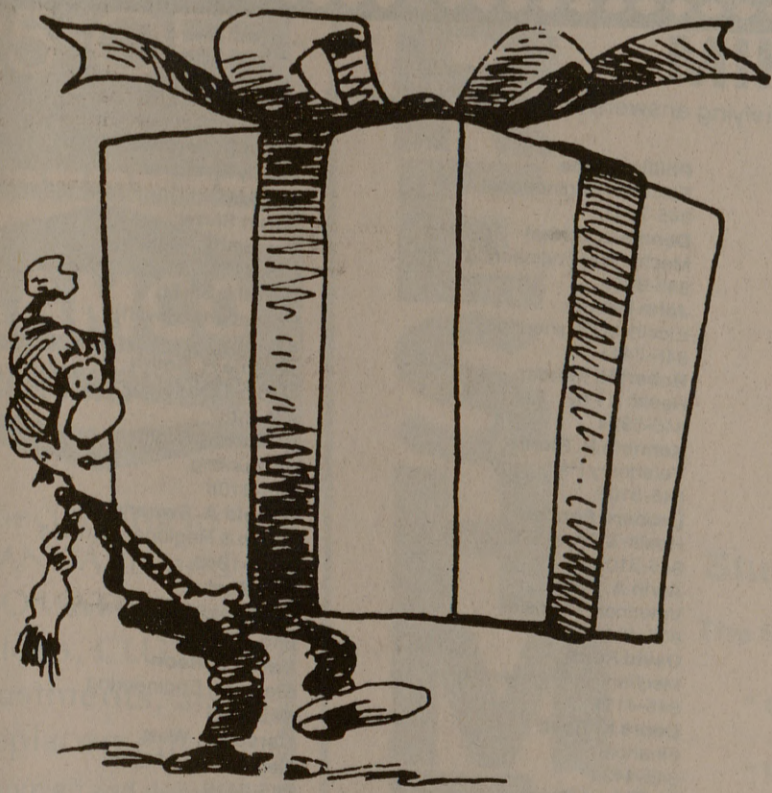
A&M's Todd Holloway drives past Oral Roberts' Willie Irons on his way to the basket during Monday night's game.


A&M's John Trezvant looks to pass the ball to Winston Crite (left) during Monday's game against Oral Roberts University in G. Rollie White Coliseum. A&M won 63-56.

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