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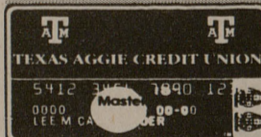
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# Sports

## A&M stunned by Rice 69-67 as Owl hits key free throws

By Homer Jacobs  
Sports Editor

Freshman D'Wayne Tanner hit two free throws with four seconds left in the game to lift the Rice Owls to a stunning 69-67 upset of the Texas Aggies Wednesday night at Autry Court in Houston.

A&M's Todd Holloway tied the game with a 3-point shot at 67-67 with 33 seconds left. But the Owls worked the clock down to eight seconds and called timeout. When play resumed, Tanner attempted a jump shot at the free-throw line when Keron Graves fouled him, thus sending the freshman to the line.

The Aggies had a final attempt at the win as Holloway was able to get off a 3-pointer that bounced off the front of the rim as the buzzer sounded.

The loss dropped A&M's record to 4-2 in conference play and 12-5 overall. Rice picked up its first Southwest Conference win to up its SWC record to 1-5 and overall mark

to 7-10. It was Rice's first win over A&M since 1973.

"Rice outplayed us," A&M Coach Shelby Metcalf said. "It's obvious we've played better, but you can't take anything away from Rice."

"We just had poor rebounding tonight," he said.

Rice built its largest lead with 12:06 left at 57-41 and had a 12-point lead on the Aggies with 4:25 left to go.

But A&M rolled off 11 points, and with 2:16 remaining Aggies were down 63-62.

The Aggies managed to lead in the early going of the first half as A&M climbed to a 37-33 lead at halftime.

Winston Crite led the Aggies' attack with 19 points. Graves added 14 and Holloway scored 11.

Rice outrebounded A&M 31-20.

## Owls drill Lady Ags 69-54

The Lady Aggies continued their losing ways Wednesday night as they dropped a 69-54 decision to Rice at Autry Court in Houston.

The loss gives the Lady Aggies a 6-9 overall record and a 2-4 Southwest Conference mark. Rice improved to 11-5, 4-2 in the SWC.

Sophomore center Lisa Jones led a balanced A&M scoring attack with 11 points. Evelyn Sellers, Traci Thomas and Garrett each contributed points for the Lady Aggies.

Rice's Holley Jones, who is averaging 17.6 points a game, led all scorers with 19 points.

## Broncos know running the ball is key to success against Giants

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — The New York Giants are confident they can run the ball on the Denver Broncos. The Broncos hope they can run on the Giants.

In other words, if Sunday's Super Bowl turns into a ground war, the Giants have a big edge.

The Broncos, 9-point underdogs in the NFL championship game, have spent the week talking about having to establish the run to keep the pressure of the Giants menacing front seven off John Elway. As Coach Dan Reeves puts it:

"If John is forced to throw 50 or 60 times, we're going to be in trouble."

The Broncos were the ninth worst team in the NFL at running the ball; the Giants were the best at stopping the run. Joe Morris' 1,516 yards, second best in the NFL, was 362 yards better than the combined total of the Broncos' two best backs — Sammy Winder and Gerald Willhite.

Moreover, the Giants were not enthralled with their rushing performance in the first meeting between the teams, a 19-16 New York win Nov. 23, although Morris gained 106 yards in 23 carries.

The Broncos don't seem as confident about running as the Giants do.

"Joe Morris is a friend of mine and a great running back," Willhite says. "I think I'm just as good as Joe, and Sammy thinks he's just as good ... But Joe thinks he's better than anyone."

The Giants' offensive scheme is simple and no secret: run Morris until the Broncos show they can stop him and use the running to set up Phil Simms' passing.

The Broncos, meanwhile, use

quickness and deception more than brute force to stop the run — Los Angeles Raiders Coach Tom Flores says they might use 25 different defensive fronts in a 60-play game. They may shift two or three times before the ball is snapped.

"We're trying to simplify things from what we did the last time," says New York center Bart Oates.



New York Giants



Denver Broncos

"I think we reacted too much then to what they were doing. We may have spent too much time adjusting the last time instead of concentrating on blocking our man."

"The movement can cause some blocking problems," says Ron Erhardt, the Giants' offensive coordinator. "But you've just got to make sure you've got the right people blocking the right people on their side."

Some of New York's power comes from fullback Maurice Carthon and tight end Mark Bavaro, each one of the best blockers at his position in the league.

The 5-foot-7 Morris, meanwhile, has the ability to hide behind the front, then use his quickness to cut inside the defense. To counteract that, the Denver linebackers have

been working out with a huge cine ball to teach the linebackers to keep their hands and bodies when they try to tackle Morris.

Denver's problems running the offensive line, where Paulard, the most experienced blocker out with a knee injury. He will be replaced by second-year man Cooper. Keith Bishop, the Bowl guard, has also been hurt and will play.

The Broncos must deal with York's linebackers — not only MVP Lawrence Taylor, but MVP Pro Bowler Harry Carson, the Carl Banks, who plays the site outside spot from Taylor teams put a second blocker on the line and sometimes even a third.

Like the Giants, the Broncos lot of blocking from their tight ends — Clarence Kay, who is on with Bavaro as a blocker if not a receiver. But while Kay did a job on Banks in the first game, Broncos ran for just 80 yards, them on eight scrambles by Elway.

Kay, with Joey Hackett or Moby on the other side, may be key to handling Taylor because double-team opens up lanes other Giants defenders.

"I can't spend too much time Taylor because I've got Lee Marshall over me," says left tackle David Studdard. "They've got many talented players that we just concentrate on one."

Winder and Willhite are complemented by Gene Lang, who has an effective short-yardage runner used as a change-up to take off Elway.

## TCU beats Tech, stays unbeaten in SWC

LUBBOCK (AP) — Senior forward Carven Holcombe scored 16 points and Larry Richard pulled down 16 rebounds as No. 19 Texas Christian out-muscled Texas Tech 48-43 in Southwest Conference action.

The victory pushed TCU's overall record to 15-3, while keeping the Horned Frogs alone atop the conference standings at 6-0.

Tech, losing at home for the first

time this season in conference play, dropped to 8-9 and 4-3.

Holcombe hit his team's first three field goals for a 6-6 tie with 13:32 remaining in the first half.

Richard, who added 11 points, scored four of the Frog's next 10 as TCU built a 16-8 lead with 7:17 left until intermission.

Sean Gay, who led all scorers with 18 points, led a brief Tech comeback by nailing two of his five 3-pointers

to pull the Red Raiders within 20-17 at halftime.

The Raiders twice pulled away one point early in the second half but TCU's 38-25 rebounding and stifling zone defense counteracted Tech's charges.

Senior center Tony Papa played a major role in the victory, scoring 11 points and pulling down a high 11 rebounds.

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