

## Hogs wear down Aggies, 75 -60

### Poor shooting negates rebounding edge; Ags 1-3 in SWC

From Staff and Wire Reports  
 FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. (AP) — Oliver Miller scored 12 of his 16 points in the second half as Arkansas broke away from a halftime tie and defeated Texas A&M 75-60 Monday night.

Texas A&M led by as many as 10 in the first half but it was 36-36 at intermission.

Miller got the second half started with a slam off a fast break and then Keith Wilson stole the ball and followed suit.

The Razorbacks came up with the loose ball and then Wilson fed Larry Marks for another slam and it was 42-36.

An offensive rebound basket by Wilson, a basket inside by Miller, and a free throw by Wilson put Arkansas on top by nine.

A three-point play by Wilson made it 56-44 and then Mario Credit followed

with a slam for a 14-point lead with less than 12 minutes remaining.

The Aggies were as close as 11 but Miller slammed another one, Wilson put back a rebound and Cannon Whitby got loose on a fast-break basket and Arkansas led 66-49 with five minutes left.

Arkansas is 10-3 and 4-1 in the conference. Texas A&M dropped to 8-8 and 1-3.

Tony Milton hit two free throws for a 24-14 A&M lead with less than 10 minutes left in the first half.

Two baskets by Lenzie Howell cut the margin to 29-25 and then Whitby made two baskets that narrowed the advantage to 1.

Arkansas took its first lead, 34-33, on Credit's rebound basket with less than two minutes left in the first half.

Lynn Suber led the Aggies with 21 points.

Doug Dennis chipped in 13 points for A&M while Milton and Donald Thompson scored nine each.

Milton, a guard, led the Aggies in assists (five) and in rebounding with 10 as A&M outrebounded Arkansas 39-29.

Coach Nolan Richardson of Arkansas agreed with Coach Shelby Metcalf of A&M: the Razorbacks won by tiring out the Aggies in the second half.

"We came out in the second half and stayed after them," Richardson said.

"I told our guys at the half that if we would continue our pressure on them, the wear and tear on A&M would hurt them down the stretch."

"We just got tired," Metcalf said. "We ran out of steam toward the end.

Our guys played hard, though, we just don't have enough players.

"At the start of the second half, Arkansas came out strong and ran with the ball. They also were using a zone and pushing us out of our offense ... We're tired and I'm going to give them a day off tomorrow."

The Arkansas bench outscored the Aggie bench 37-4.

Oliver Miller scored 12 of his 16 points in the second half as Arkansas broke away from the halftime tie to beat the Aggies.

"The second half, I calmed down and played better," Miller said. "We went out and got down in the first half and let some of the calls get to us. Coach gave us a pep talk at the half and it turned out well for us in the end."



**Play ball!**  
 Photo by Jay Janner  
 A&M pitcher Steve Hughes, a sophomore from San Augustine, practices his craft during practice Monday afternoon at Olsen Field during the Aggies' first spring baseball practice. Hughes and the Aggies begin the 1989 season February 10 when Pan American University visits Olsen Field.

## Recruiting suffers in Jackie's absence

The end of the fall semester brought agony to Texas A&M. More than just pain at giving and taking final exams, but anguish because A&M's football program was a mess.

A lot can happen in a little time, though. Just as heavenly winter rain has turned campus lawns greener than they were all fall, a little time has brought new life into the Aggie athletic outlook.

R.C. Slocum has taken over and done a little early spring cleaning, getting rid of Offensive Coordinator Joe Avezano and Receivers Coach George Pugh possibly for taking part in illegal recruiting practices.

There's no problem there. It feels good to shed the heaviness of guilt.

Next step. Slocum, with all of his experience and wisdom at coaching — and he has plenty — selected a couple of top rate assistants and moved one of those he kept around to defensive coordinator.

It's a new look and it takes another load off of the program. A&M is beginning to smell like it's had a bath. Clean behind the ears and ready to go.

But it's going to take more than debonair young coaches to make Aggieland smell like a winner.

It's going to take recruits.

Unlike the last few years, the Aggies are nowhere near the top of the Texas recruiting race. That's no shocker, though, the recruiting power is gone.

Jackie Sherrill didn't have coaching theory that awed the rest of the Southwest Conference.



**Jerry Bolz**  
 Assistant Sports Editor

The fact is he could easily be outcoached on any Saturday and still win. Sherrill won games by the talent on his teams — talent that came to A&M because of Jackie Sherrill's name.

He gained his recruiting power the moment he came to College Station. A big name from the East getting a big salary to turn a sagging program around. That was enough for a good percentage of top state and national talent to take a chance on Sherrill and A&M.

So for five or six years, A&M was the place to go for Texas footballers who wanted to win championships and see action in bowl games.

But Sherrill and his name are gone and so are the lines of players signing up to play football for A&M. So it is in Aggieland.

Newspapers around the state Sunday listed verbal commitments and schools that recruits are considering. Texas, Rice and Arkansas are leading the way, each with a handful. But A&M's hands are empty.

With 23 days left before official signing day, it

doesn't appear the new Aggie staff is even out of the gates.

A&M has coaches, some great ones. But it takes much more than coaching ability to draw talented players to a program — it takes a bigger name than A&M has right now.

True, Slocum has been recruiting in Texas for more than 15 years, he has that to his advantage. But to build a good recruiting name, like Sherrill had, he will have to win some ball games. And that could take time, talent and grace. It might be next season, or years down the road.

For now, the question is if A&M has enough talent stowed away to get a few good seasons under Slocum's belt. There certainly isn't anyone in the SWC that has packed in top-quality players like the Aggies the last few years. But others — like Arkansas and Houston — are catching up.

Even the Cougars, who have more recruiting restrictions than A&M, already have four commitments.

Or, it could be that Jack Pardee has a name that kids would like to play under. It's hard to know without asking the recruits. There certainly hasn't been anyone running to A&M yet this offseason.

But until A&M is re-established as an honest winning program, and Slocum's name is as familiar to kids in Amarillo and Zapata as it is in College Station, recruiting may be pretty slim.

On the other hand, Rice has had no head coach during this recruiting season and they have done well. Maybe the Aggies should have been more patient.

## Lady Ags visit Ozarks for tussle with Hogs

Traveling to Arkansas' Barnhill arena has always caused problems for Texas A&M's Lady Aggies. They have never won there.

**Lady Ags at Arkansas**

- **What:** Texas A&M (11-3; 3-0 in the SWC) takes on the Arkansas Lady Razorbacks (8-5; 2-2) in Southwest Conference women's basketball.
- **When:** Tonight at 7 p.m.
- **Where:** Barnhill Arena in Fayetteville, Arkansas.
- **Radio/TV:** There will not be radio or television coverage.

This year's squad, at 11-3 and 3-0 in the Southwest Conference, is hoping to outdo the Razorbacks (8-5, 2-2) tonight at 7 p.m.

The Lady Aggies have beaten TCU, SMU and Baylor in SWC action, while Arkansas has downed Texas Tech and TCU and lost to Texas and SMU (their only home loss of the year).

Arkansas leads the series 14-3. Two of A&M's victories came last year at G. Rollie White Coliseum and again in the SWC tournament. A&M has a seven-game win streak.

Senior Donna Roper leads the Lady Aggies with 16.6 points per game, and Lisa Jordan has over 10 per game.

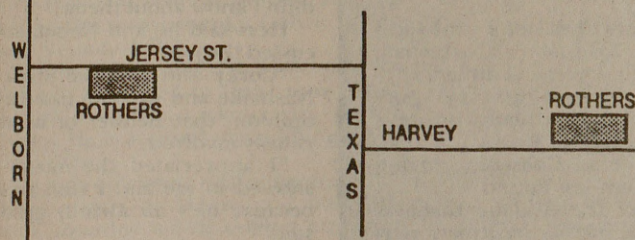
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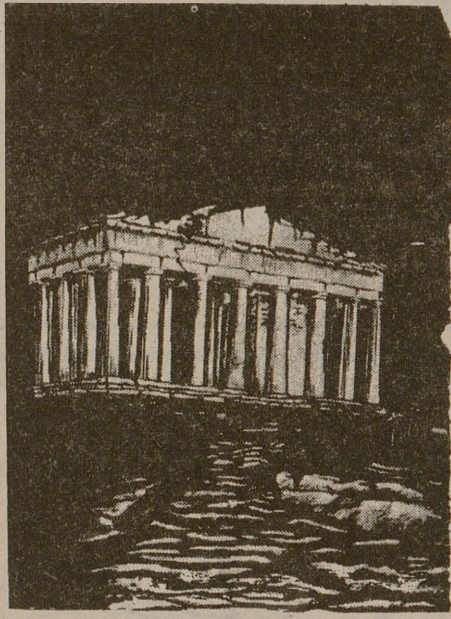


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