

# Arkansas sits alone atop SWC as Longhorns fall to Houston

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**Arkansas 81, SMU 68**  
Lenzie Howell scored 24 points and the Arkansas Razorbacks raced to an 81-68 Southwest Conference victory Wednesday night over the Southern Methodist Mustangs.

Arkansas increased its overall record to 17-5 and stayed atop the SWC standings with a 10-2 record. SMU dropped to 10-12 and 5-6.

The Razorbacks, who had lost four of their games on the road, were too quick from SMU to handle and led all the way after the Mustangs made the opening basket.

Lee Mayberry added 17 points for the Hogs. Todd Day contributed 12 points and Keith Wilson 10 points.

SMU senior Glenn Puddy scored 25 points, tying his career high, but couldn't get any help in the scoring column except from Eric Longino, who had 12 points.

Puddy hit 8 of 11 shots and a free throw for 17 points in the first half to keep the Mustangs close.

Howell scored 16 of his points in the first half as the Razorbacks built a 42-35 lead. Arkansas forced SMU guards into five turnovers in the first 20 minutes. The Razorbacks' full-court press produced some easy lay-ups.

Arkansas forced SMU into 16 turnovers with its full-court press. The Hogs only lost the ball 12 times themselves.

Arkansas coach Nolan Richardson said Howell was the key.

"What a game he had," Richardson said. "He was just tremendous. The thing that was bothering us was SMU's offensive stick backs, and Lenzie did a good job of shutting that off."

SMU coach John Shumate said the turnovers killed his team. "We played helter skelter, and we

Houston improved to 15-9 and SMU have won in Austin since 1981. It was the second time the Longhorns have lost at home all year.

Travis Mays, the conference leading scorer, finished with 24 points, while Lance Blanks, the second leading scorer, was held to only four in the first when he was fouled for-11 from the floor.

The Cougars grabbed a 23-10 lead with 10:31 remaining on a double-pump bank shot by Craig Church, who had 23 points.

Houston led by six points seven times before intermission and held a 46-42 advantage at the break.

The Cougars also forced the Longhorns into 12 turnovers in the second half. Texas came into the game averaging only 17 per game.

**Rice 70, Texas Christian 67**  
Dana Hardy scored 18 points, including eight of the final 10, as Rice Owls beat Texas Christian Wednesday night in Houston.

Danny Hughes of Texas Christian led all scorers with a personal best team season-high of 23 points, including seven 3-point field goals.

The Owls improved their record to 10-13 overall and 4-8 in conference play while Texas Christian, 14-10 overall and 7-5 in conference play. The Horned Frogs, who came out strong in conference play, won their first six games, but now lost five of their last six games.



had a couple of turnovers down the stretch that hurt," Shumate said.

**Houston 105, Texas 96**  
Richard Hollis led hard-luck Houston, losers of five Southwest Conference games by a total of seven points, with a season-high 27 points as the Cougars knocked Texas out of a share of the league lead with a 105-96 victory Wednesday night.

Texas, 9-3 in league play, dropped a game behind Arkansas, which moved to sole possession of first place at 10-2 by beating Southern Methodist 81-68 Wednesday night.

Texas is 18-6 for the season.

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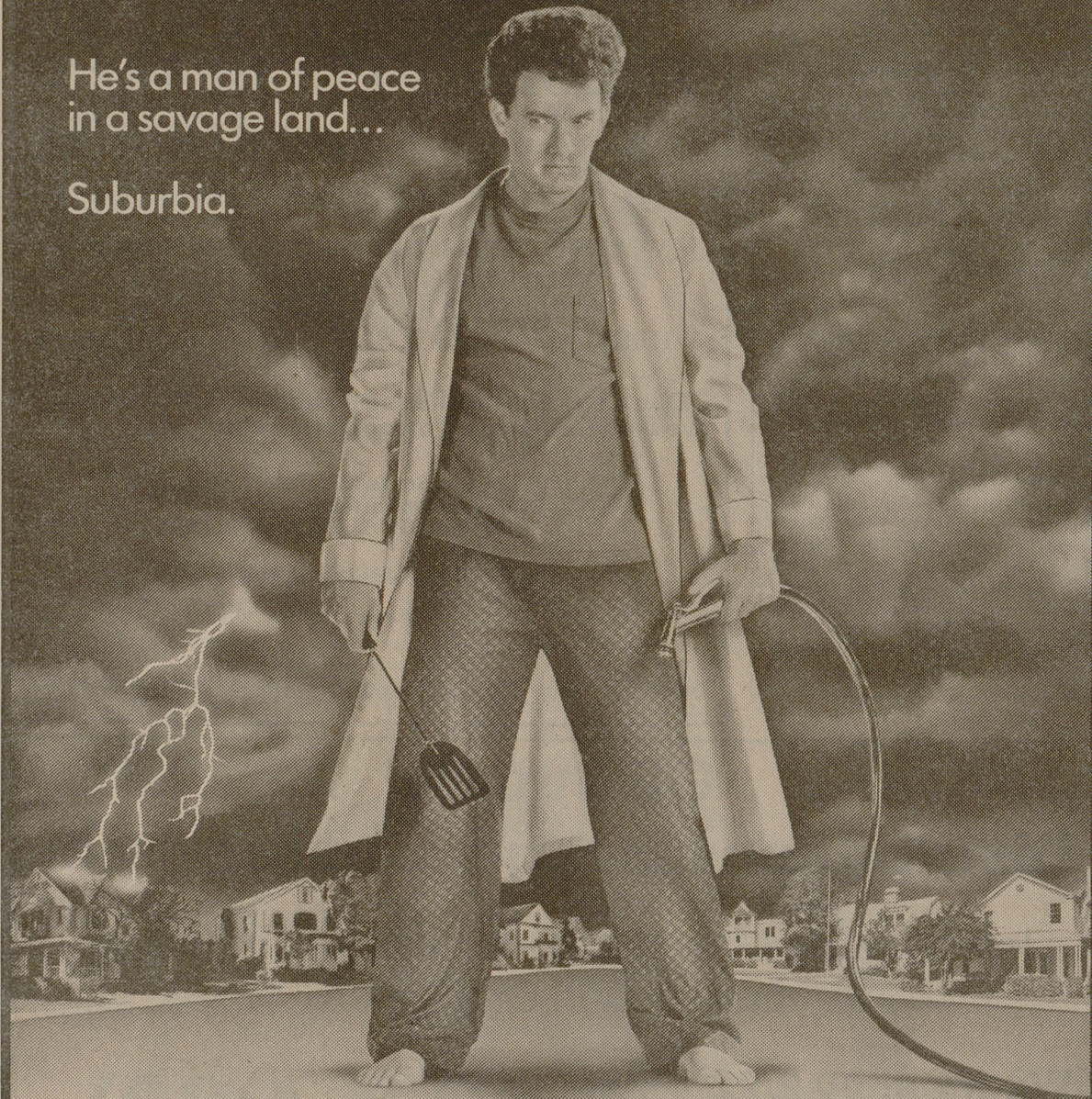
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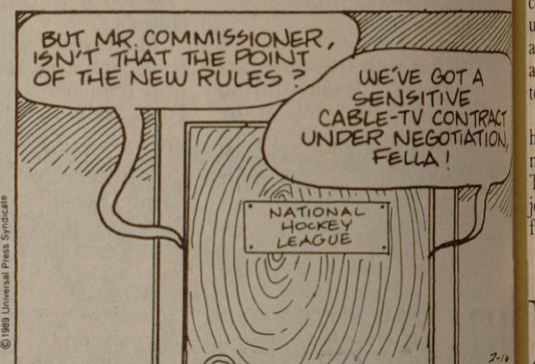
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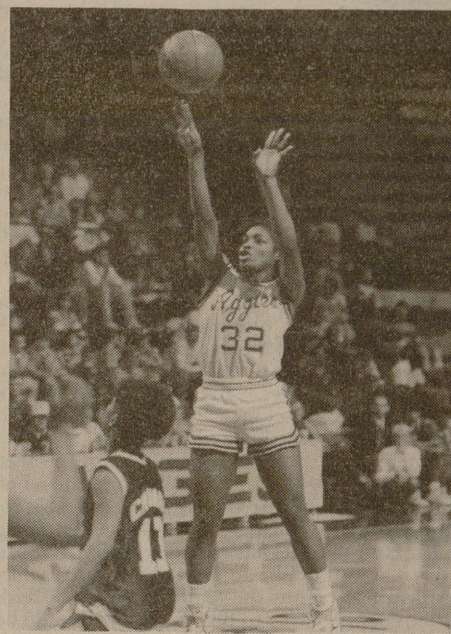
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