

— BIG 12 CONFERENCE —

Questions surround A&M's buzzer-beating triumph

By Jason Merrihew
Staff Writer

Texas A&M beat Texas Tech 88-86 with a layup at the buzzer Saturday night.



Or did they? The game ended in a 39-minute delay after Texas Tech coaches protested that the game-winning shot came after the buzzer.

After the game official Charles Range had already counted the basket, Texas Tech officials protested and Range and his officiating crew reviewed the shot on a TV replay.

The officials then reversed their previous call and called off the basket, forcing an overtime period.

However, Texas A&M Coach Melvin Watkins protested the reversal by not returning to the court.

"I didn't need to debate anything or wait around," Watkins said. "The basket was good and the game was over."

Watkins' protest paid off for the Aggies. The referees reversed their call once again and awarded the basket to A&M.

Big 12 officials are trying to figure out if Texas A&M left the court before the game was concluded. The Aggies may be penalized by league officials if they believe A&M left the game before it was over.

"I don't know what he (Watkins) was instructed specifically to do when the team first left the floor," Big 12 commissioner Kevin Weiberg said. "They were working under the presumption that the game was over."

League officials will continue to work on the problem. Commissioner Weiberg wasted little time in suspending referee Range for the rest of the season.

"Mr. Range is an experienced and successful official, and we anticipate that he will be a part of our officiating staff in the future. Officials Paul

"Mr. Range is an experienced and successful official..."

Kevin Weiberg
Big 12 commissioner

Janssen and Eddie Jackson, the other two officials working the game, handled their responsibilities in this situation appropriately," Weiberg said.

Video footage by KXAS-TV in Dallas showed that the Aggies' Andy Leatherman had the ball in his hand when the clock read 0.0.

Leatherman's last-second layup put A&M ahead of Tech 88-86, giving the Aggies a victory in Lubbock for the first time since 1994. Ironically, the 1994 game ended with a last-second shot, causing a brawl.

The Red Raiders play Nebraska tonight.

Fizer, Cyclones turning heads

■ Iowa State shoots to the top of the Big 12, thanks to junior forward's solid play.

By Trevor Johnson
Staff writer

When you think about Iowa State basketball, you don't think about tradition. You might think about former stars Jeff Hornacek, Kelvin Cato or Dedric Willoughby, and maybe you remember their NCAA Sweet 16 appearance in 1997.

But odds are you aren't thinking about a great basketball program.

And sometimes when you think about Iowa State basketball, you are thinking about a team that should get you a win.

The Cyclones want to change your thinking.

Riding a school record 12-game winning streak which includes three

in a row in league play, ISU is now the hottest team in the Big 12 Conference.

Lighting the fire for this team has been the improved all around game of junior forward Marcus Fizer.

Fizer has burned his opponents averaging over 21 points a game for the season, and 22.7 in conference play. He has led his team in scoring in 12 of 17 games it's played this year.

While improved offensive numbers have grabbed headlines, his defensive work is getting the attention of Big 12 coaches.

"He's much better defensively than he was last year," Kansas State Coach Tom Asbury said. "And he's rebounding better... I know he's an NBA guy."

ISU coach Larry Eustachy also commented on the forward's new ability to take over a ball game.

"This year Fizer is a different guy, he's dictating the game where as last year the game dictated him."

Fizer has been dictating many games this year, but he's had his share of help. Transfer guard Kantrail Horton has stepped in to make a solid back court with Michael Nurse, and senior forward Stevie Johnson has helped solidify the frontcourt.

Even though the Cyclones are riding a hot streak that is starting to seem like it won't end, Eustachy is keeping his team realistic about the situation.

"We are going to lose another game this year," Eustachy said. "We have a difficult four game stretch coming up."

It's hard to get too optimistic considering most of ISU's victories have come on its friendly home court where they are 12-0.

But a conference road win over Nebraska last Saturday gave the Cyclones confidence. And if they get a victory tonight at Kansas State, this year's Cyclones team could change the way a few people think.

NU victory over Missouri was rife with turnovers

By Brandon Schulte
Staff writer

It was fitting that Nebraska Coach Paul Sanderford knocked over his beverage in his post-game interview.

"We only had 18 of those tonight (turnovers), and they had 28," Sanderford said.

The spill typified the women's basketball game between Nebraska and Missouri. Fouls and turnovers were plentiful commodities in a sloppily played game that the Cornhuskers won 80-63 in part because they made fewer mistakes than their counterparts.

The teams combined for 46 turnovers and 53 fouls. The fouls led to 70 free throw attempts, including 44 for Nebraska, four attempts from a school record.

NU's main defensive focus was to pressure MU point guard Natalie Bright. The Huskers caused her to commit seven turnovers — five more than her season average.

Missouri Coach Cindy Stein said Nebraska didn't do anything unusual to stop her team.

"I'm not sure Nebraska did anything in particular," Stein said. "I think they just are a good solid defensive team. They kept pressure on our point guards, and they forced us wide on our offense. All those things we should be able to handle."

Plenty of things didn't go right for Stein's team, which had been averaging 81.5 points per game and was held to a season low 63. The Tigers gave up 21 more points than their season average of 58.9.

"Tonight was just a night that things weren't going right for the Missouri Tigers," Stein said. "And sometimes you have to eat that."

Early, the Tigers seemed to have the Huskers right where they wanted them. MU trailed 28-26 with 6:31 left in the first half. Nebraska's most experienced players — Nicole Kubik, Brooke Schwartz and Charlie Rogers — were on the bench.

"I felt like the game was going our way," Stein said.

"We don't want a physical game with them, and they're in foul trouble. Unfortunately, we didn't play within a framework to execute what we needed to do."

Navix® is now ALLTEL Internet Service.

(Now you won't have to share your e-mail.)

New name— same service. Plus a whole lot more. Now, with ALLTEL Internet, you'll receive up to 5 personal mailboxes with your account so everyone can have their own e-mail address. And, ALLTEL Internet gives you up to 5MB of FREE personal web space. So you can create your own web page.

Get 5 FREE Hours And if you're a UNL student, faculty or staff member, we'll give you 5 free hours of Internet access every month when you sign up for one of these plans:

Low Usage Plan: Get 15 hours of online time for just \$6.50 a month.

Medium Usage Plan: Get 60 hours of online time for just \$10.00 a month.

High Usage Plan: Get 250 hours of online time for just \$19.50 a month.

Additional minutes for each plan are just \$.02 and activation is free.

Call University Telecommunications at 472-5151 (students) or 472-3434 (faculty or staff). Or, stop by 211 Nebraska Hall.

ALLTEL Internet is offering your first month FREE with no activation fee if you order your new service before January 29, 2000.

472-5151 (students)
472-3434 (faculty or staff)
info@alltel.net
www.alltel.com
www.alltel.net



* 60-day subscription required. Netscape™ Communicator software available in Windows and Macintosh versions.

summer sessions

hawai'i

6 weeks, 6 credits, as low as \$2,700 (based on typical costs of tuition, room & board, books, and airfare)

Term 1: May 24-July 2 • Term 2: July 6-August 13
www.outreach.hawaii.edu • toll-free 1 (800) 862-6628

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Summer Sessions

BOWLERS!



JOIN THE FUN JOIN A LEAGUE

LEAGUE	STARTING DATE & TIME	# PLAYERS PER TEAM
BIG 12 DOUBLES	TUESDAY, JAN. 25, 7 P.M.	2
NITE OWLS	WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26, 8 P.M.	4
PIN POUNDERS	THURSDAY, JAN. 27, 6 P.M.	4
TRIOS	THURSDAY, JAN. 27, 8 P.M.	3

All leagues bowl 3 games per night. Cost is \$5.00 per person per night. Teams and/or individuals must pre-register at the East Union Lanes N' Games (or call 472-1751). UNL Students, Faculty, Staff, and friends are eligible.

EVERYBODY HAS A CHANCE TO WIN REGARDLESS OF ABILITY. LOTS OF FUN AND PRIZES!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

TOP 2 TEAMS FROM EACH LEAGUE QUALIFY FOR THE ALL-UNIVERSITY ROLLOFFS IN APRIL!

For more information, contact East Union Lanes N' Games, 472-1751

