

CU Buffs fall at Texas A&M

Despite late rally, Big 12 road losing streak hits 32

By Ryan Thorburn, Camera Sports Writer
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 01/23/2010 02:14:08 PM MST

COLLEGE STATION, Texas -- Alec Burks was ready to stun the crowd of 10,316 and board the charter flight packing an elusive road victory.

With Colorado trailing 61-59 and the clock winding down, Jeff Bzdelik put the ball in the hands of his super freshman.

"Gaining wisdom and experience ... how do you do that?" Bzdelik said. "You just have to go through the moment."

Burks made a quick move at the rim but lost his balance in the paint as his game-tying shot skimmed off the rim with just over 20 seconds remaining.

Texas A&M then went 6-for-6 at the free throw line in the last 18.3 seconds to escape with a 67-63 victory over the Buffs on Saturday at a rocking Reed Arena.

"I love pressure time," Burks said after the disappointing defeat. "Most people shy away from that, but I want the ball in that situation."

Burks finished with 19 points, three rebounds, two steals and no turnovers in 32 minutes. Cory Higgins, another clutch player who tied the score 59-59 by swishing a pair of free throws with 53.9 seconds left, also scored 19 points with four steals and three rebounds.

Add in some timely 3-pointers by Austin Dufault (13 points) and another efficient performance off the bench from Dwight Thorne (10 points, 4-for-7 shooting), and it appeared CU was finally going to break through with a Big 12 road victory.

Fittingly, it was a slam dunk by Bryan Davis on an offensive rebound with 34 ticks left that gave the Aggies (14-5, 3-2) the lead for good at 61-59.

"You have to put a body on him," said Bzdelik, who drove to Houston after the game in search of a big man to recruit. "I think that's all we talked about for 72 hours."

Six of Davis' game-high nine re-bounds were offensive boards. He finished with 12 points on 6-for-6 shooting and three blocks.

The loss dropped the Buffs to 10-9 overall and 1-4 in Big 12 play. CU's painful streaks outside of Boulder were also extended:

A 32-game road losing streak in the Big 12 dating back to Jan. 21, 2006 (at Oklahoma State, 80-78 in overtime).

A 24-game road losing streak against Division I opponents dating back to Dec. 22, 2007 (at Colorado State, 73-70).

"We should have won the game," Casey Crawford said. "It's just frustrating what we're doing on the road. We're in the games and we should win some of them."

The Aggies built a 10-point lead (53-43) before Bzdelik's team made its final push. Dufault drained a 3-pointer and Burks completed a traditional three-point play to quickly slice the margin to 53-49 with 5:54 remaining.

Burks then stole the ball and converted a layup to complete the crowd-silencing 8-0 run that forced Texas A&M coach Mark Turgeon to call a timeout with his team clinging to a 53-51 lead.

"I think we proved we're not going to just lay down," Higgins said. "We're a team that's going to keep fighting no matter what the situations is. We never think we're out of any game."

After Thorne dribbled in a floater off an offensive rebound to make the score 59-57, CU forced turnovers on the Aggies' next two possessions.

Higgins had a shot blocked in the lane by Davis with a chance to tie with a minute left, but the junior guard drew a foul the next time down and made the score 59-59 by making a pair of free throws with 53.9 seconds left.

Thorne had his hands on what would have been a key defensive rebound moments later, but Davis took possession in mid air and slammed home the 50-50 ball to give Texas A&M the lead for good.

"We put ourselves in position to win," Thorne said. "Once again it was our arch nemesis -- rebounding."

The Aggies won the battle of the boards 38-28, including 14 offensive rebounds. Texas A&M had a 16-9 edge in second-chance points and outscored the Buffs 46-32 in the paint.

"That has been our Achilles heel and it's something we have to correct, obviously, if we want to get to where we want to get to," Bzdelik said. "I know I sound like a broken record."

The Buffs shot 52 percent from the field in the first half and led 32-30 at the intermission.

Texas A&M only had a 13-8 advantage after the visitors endured a scoring drought of four minutes and 13 seconds, which Dufault ended with a 3-pointer. Burks tied the game twice after making layups off of steals and his basket with 3:22 remaining gave CU a 28-25 lead.

The Aggies -- who finished a miserable 2-for-23 (8.7 percent) from 3-point distance -- missed their first eight shots from behind the arc before Khris Middleton knocked down a 3-pointer to break a 17-17 tie.

Higgins scored the final four points of the half to give the Buffs a bounce in their step as they trotted to the locker room. CU, which shot 35.5 percent in the second half, fell to 9-3 when leading at halftime.

The Buffs -- who were coming off a lackluster defensive effort in Wednesday's 90-78 loss at Oklahoma State -- scored 23 points off 12 A&M turnovers.

"When we play defense hard we can stop anybody," Burks said. "We proved that today."

CU will return home to face Nebraska on Wednesday at the Coors Events Center (8 p.m., FSN).

Texas A&M 67, Colorado 63

COLORADO

FG FT Reb

Min M-A M-A O-T A PF PTS

Tmlnsn 23 0-3 0-0 0-0 6 2 0

Rlphrd 20 0-6 0-0 2-5 1 2 0

Burks 32 8-16 3-3 2-3 0 3 19

Higgins 35 6-11 7-8 0-3 0 2 19

Dufault 33 5-9 0-0 1-3 1 1 13

Thorne 28 4-7 0-0 2-4 1 3 10

Hrs-Tnks 2 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 1 0

Knutson 7 0-2 0-0 0-0 0 2 0

Crawford 20 1-2 0-0 0-3 0 2 2

Totals 200 24-56 10-11 8-28 9 18 63

Percentages: FG .429, FT .909.

3-Point Goals: 5-14, .357 (Dufault 3-4, Thorne II 2-2, [C.Higgins](#) 0-1, Knutson 0-2, Relphorde 0-2, Tomlinson 0-3).

Team Rebounds: 7.

Blocked Shots: 0.

Turnovers: 10 (Tomlinson 3, Relphorde 3, [C.Higgins](#) 2, Thorne II, Harris-Tunks).

Steals: 10 ([C.Higgins](#) 4, Relphorde 2, Burks 2, Dufault, Thorne II).

Technical Fouls: None.

TEXAS A&M

FG FT Reb

Min M-A M-A O-T A PF PTS

Davis 30 6-6 0-0 6-9 1 2 12

Harris 35 0-2 1-4 0-7 7 3 1

Sloan 37 5-15 8-9 0-3 3 2 18

Middletn 20 3-7 0-1 1-5 1 3 7

Walkup 24 6-13 4-6 2-8 0 1 16

Lewis 1 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 1 0

Loubeau 19 3-4 0-0 1-2 0 2 6

Holmes 31 2-8 2-2 0-0 1 1 7

Hibbert 3 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0 0

Totals 200 25-55 15-22 14-38 13 15 67

Percentages: FG .455, FT .682.

3-Point Goals: 2-23, .087 (Middleton 1-4, Holmes 1-7, Harris 0-2, Sloan 0-5, Walkup 0-5).

Team Rebounds: 4.

Blocked Shots: 4 (Davis 3, Loubeau).

Turnovers: 12 (Sloan 4, Davis 3, Harris 3, Walkup, Holmes).

Steals: 6 (Holmes 3, Harris 2, Davis).

Technical Fouls: None.

Colorado 32 31--63

Texas A&M 30 37--67

A -- 10,316.

Officials -- Michael Eggers, Bill Kennedy, Don Daily.

Close Window

Send To Printer

Injuries take toll on Buffaloes

By Ryan Thorburn Camera Sports Writer
Boulder Daily Camera

Posted: 01/24/2010 12:02:15 AM MST

COLLEGE STATION, Texas -- Jeff Bzdelik looked down at the end of the bench and couldn't help wondering what might have been if everyone were healthy.

Shannon Sharpe, the talented freshman point guard who sustained a season-ending knee injury on the first day of practice this season, might have been able to keep Donald Sloan in check.

Keegan Hornbuckle, another skilled freshman who did not suit up for the Buffs due to a nagging right shoulder injury, might have grabbed a key rebound in the second half when other players were getting tired.

And, most notably, Marcus Relphorde -- the reigning Big 12 rookie of the week who left the game with a bruised hip -- might have been able to contribute a key play in crunch time.

"We had a couple of young players who were unable to play," Bzdelik said after CU's deflating 67-63 loss to Texas A&M on Saturday at Reed Arena. "But I still feel good about our future."

Alec Burks scored 19 more points and continues to be the only true freshman in the country who has scored in double figures in every game this season (19 and counting). He is now tied with Randy Downs (1982-83) for seventh on CU's all-time freshman scoring chart with 322 points.

Richard Roby (480 points, 2004-05) and Chauncey Billups (465 points, 1995-96) head the list.

"He is very talented," Bzdelik said of Burks, who leads all Big 12 freshmen in scoring.

Hornbuckle and Relphorde are not expected to miss a significant amount of time and could be ready to play this coming Wednesday against Nebraska.

CU did get some positive news out of the training room over the weekend. Trent Beckley, who has not played since Nov. 16 against Coppin State due to health issues not related to basketball, was back in uniform against the Aggies but did not play.

Sour south swing

The good news perhaps is that the Buffs have already completed their road trips against South Division opponents this season. CU already traveled to Texas (lost 103-86) and Oklahoma State (lost 90-78).

The Buffs defeated Baylor in Boulder and will host Oklahoma on Feb. 17 and Texas Tech on March 6. Kansas State is the only North Division rival the Buffs have played this season.

Notable

CU still leads the all-time series 9-8, but Texas A&M has won the last seven meetings. The teams are tied 8-8 in Big 12 play. ... This was the Buffs' 25th single-digit loss under Bzdelik. ... CU entered the game as the No. 6 team nationally in free throw percentage (.765); 16th in field goal percentage (.490); and 41st in scoring offense (77.4 ppg.). ... Longtime Denver Nuggets media relations director Tommy Sheppard, now the vice president of basketball administration for the Washington Wizards, scouted the game and visited with Bzdelik.

Close Window

Send To Printer

denverpost.com

THE DENVER POST

sports

CU hits more road trouble

Texas A&M 67, CU 63

By Kristie Rieken
The Associated Press

Posted: 01/24/2010 01:00:00 AM MST



The Buffs' Austin Dufault, who hit 5-for-9 from the field and had 13 points, pulls up for a shot over Texas A&M's Dash Harris during the second half Saturday in the Aggies' 67-63 victory. (Bob Levey, The Associated Press)

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Texas A&M coach Mark Turgeon wasn't impressed with Donald Sloan's offensive performance Saturday.

But the senior made up for it at the free-throw line and on defense.

Sloan scored 18 points, including four late free throws, to help Texas A&M defeat Colorado 67-63 and extend the Buffaloes' Big 12 road misery.

Advertisement

Kodak

IF YOU'RE NOT PRINTING ON A KODAK ESP ALL-IN-ONE PRINTER, CHANCES ARE
YOU'RE PAYING TOO MUCH FOR INK.

FIND OUT HOW MUCH YOU'RE OVERPAYING FOR INK AT PRINTANDPROSPER.COM

Print Powered By FormatDynamics™

denverpost.com

THE DENVER POST

The win was Texas A&M's seventh straight over the Buffaloes and extended Colorado's conference road losing streak to 32 games.

Sloan was 5-of-15 and missed all five of his 3-point attempts on a day when the Aggies were a horrible 2-of-23 on 3-pointers.

"Sloan knows he wasn't any good," Turgeon said. "But I'll say this, he's becoming a much better defender. They went at him late. He did a good job late."

The Aggies (14-5, 3-2 Big 12) were up 59-53 before CU scored six quick points, aided by Texas A&M turnovers, to tie it 59-59 with 48 seconds left.

A putback dunk by Bryan Davis put the Aggies back on top with 32 seconds remaining.

Colorado coach Jeff Bzdelik was discouraged his team was unable to stop Davis from getting that shot.

"We work on it every day," he said. "You've got to put a body on him. I think that's all we talked about for 72 hours."

Texas A&M made six free throws after that, including four by Sloan, to secure the win. It was the second straight game in which Sloan made late free throws to help Texas A&M get a win.

"It's good that my teammates trust me and know that I'm going to make them," Sloan said. "It

feels good."

Cory Higgins and Alec Burks scored 19 points each to lead Colorado (10-9, 1-4), which hasn't won a conference road game in more than four years — dating to an overtime victory at Oklahoma State on Jan. 21, 2006.

Colorado trailed by nine points before outscoring the Aggies 11-4 over the next five minutes to cut their lead to 53-51 with 4:45 remaining.

The Aggies responded

CU Basketball

- [View](#) slide show of former CU men's basketball coach Jeff Bzdelik .
- [View](#) slide show of CU women's basketball coach Linda Lappe .
- [Visit](#) the CU Stats Page for men's boxscores, Big 12 standings, team leaders and more .
- [Visit](#) the CU Stats Page for women's boxscores, Big 12 standings, player pages and more .
- [Visit](#) Tom Kensler's All Things Buffs blog for a behind-the-scenes look at CU sports .

with four straight points to push their lead to six points.

Advertisement



**UNIVERSITY of
SAN FRANCISCO**

End-to-End Training as It Should Be: 100% ONLINE!

Earn Your Master Certificate in Internet Marketing

- SEO & Paid Search
- Online Branding
- Web Analytics

- Internet Law
- Media Buying
- Social Media



1-800-268-9943
USanFranOnline.com/FD

Print Powered By  **FormatDynamics™**

denverpost.com

THE DENVER POST

Texas A&M had led by one before going on a 10-2 run to take a 49-40 lead with 9:40 remaining. Sloan scored six points in that span, including an uncontested layup after a steal by Dash Harris.

Texas A&M made up for its bad 3-point shooting by outrebounding Colorado 38-28.

"We need to do a better job off the defensive glass and finishing possessions defensively, and that's been our Achilles' heel," Bzdelik said. "It's something we need to correct, obviously, if we want to get where we want to get to."

Burks' 19 points extended his streak of double-figure scoring in each game this season. He is the only true freshman in the nation to do so this season.

Higgins scored four straight points to put Colorado ahead 32-30 at halftime.

FG FT Reb

COLORADO Min M-A M-A O-T A PF PTS

Tomlinson 23 0-3 0-0 0-0 6 2 0

Relphorde 20 0-6 0-0 2-5 1 2 0

Burks 32 8-16 3-3 2-3 0 3 19

Higgins 35 6-11 7-8 0-3 0 2 19

Dufault 33 5-9 0-0 1-3 1 1 13

Thorne 28 4-7 0-0 2-4 1 3 10

Harris-Tunks 2 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 1 0

Knutson 7 0-2 0-0 0-0 0 2 0

Crawford 20 1-2 0-0 0-3 0 2 2

Totals 200 24-56 10-11 8-28 9 18 63

Percentages: FG .429, FT .909. **3-point goals:**

5-14, .357 (Dufault 3-4, Thorne 2-2, Higgins 0-1, Knutson 0-2, Relphorde 0-2, Tomlinson 0-3).

Team rebounds: 7. Blocked shots: 0.

Turnovers: 10 (Tomlinson 3, Relphorde 3, Higgins 2, Thorne, Harris-Tunks). **Steals:** 10 (Higgins 4, Relphorde 2, Burks 2, Dufault, Thorne). **Technical fouls:** None.

FG FT Reb

TEXAS A&M Min M-A M-A O-T A PF PTS

Davis 30 6-6 0-0 6-9 1 2 12

Harris 35 0-2 1-4 0-7 7 3 1

Sloan 37 5-15 8-9 0-3 3 2 18

Middleton 20 3-7 0-1 1-5 1 3 7

Walkup 24 6-13 4-6 2-8 0 1 16

Lewis 1 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 1 0

Loubeau 19 3-4 0-0 1-2 0 2 6

Holmes 31 2-8 2-2 0-0 1 1 7

Hibbert 3 0-0 0-0 0-0 0 0 0

Totals 200 25-55 15-22 14-38 13 15 67

Percentages: FG .455, FT .682. **3-point goals:**

2-23, .087 (Middleton 1-4, Holmes 1-7, Harris 0-2, Sloan 0-5, Walkup 0-5). **Team rebounds: 4.**

Blocked shots: 4 (Davis 3, Loubeau). **Turnovers:** 12 (Sloan 4, Davis 3, Harris 3, Walkup, Holmes).

Steals: 6 (Holmes 3, Harris 2, Davis). **Technical fouls:** None.

Colorado 32 31 — 63

Texas A&M 30 37 — 67

10,316. Officials — Michael Eggers, Bill Kennedy, Don Daily.

A —

Advertisement



Bring the Classroom to Your Home
With a Degree Online From Florida Tech

FLORIDA TECH
UNIVERSITY ONLINE

 **APPLY TODAY!**
FloridaTechOnline.com/FD | 1-888-253-5946



Print Powered By  FormatDynamics™

SPORTS	CONCERTS	THEATER
Jazz @ Nuggets	05/02/2010 starting at: \$23.00	
TBD @ Nuggets Home Game 1 (If Necessa...	05/03/2010 starting at: \$49.00	
TBD @ Nuggets Home Game 2 (If Necessa...	05/05/2010 starting at: \$59.00	

choose another city

StubHub!

Not Logged In [Login](#) / [Sign-up](#)

★chron | Texas A&M college

NEWS SPORTS BUSINESS ENTERTAINMENT LIFE TRAVEL BLOGS JOBS HOMES CARS CLASSIFIEDS

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)

4 Comments

0 Recommend

[Like](#)

Search

[advanced search](#) | [archives](#)☒ Chron.com ☐ Web Search by **YAHOO!**NOW
73°

Davis slams door on Colorado upset bid

Dunk puts Aggies over top in 67-63 win at Reed Arena

By BRENT ZWERNEMAN College Station Bureau
Jan. 23, 2010, 10:40PM

• Statistics

Bob Levey AP
Texas A&M's Bryan Davis dunks the ball in the first half of the Aggies' game against Colorado.

COLLEGE STATION — Colorado had nearly crashed Texas A&M's party Saturday when Aggies senior center Bryan Davis crashed the board.

"Biggest play of the game by far," teammate Donald Sloan said of Davis' resounding follow-up dunk that broke open a tie with 32 seconds remaining. "We needed it, and the big man stepped up."

Thanks to a big day of offensive rebounding and in spite of an awful afternoon of long-range shooting, the Aggies edged the Buffaloes 67-63 before 10,316 fans in Reed Arena.

The Aggies, in winning their second straight at home, finished 2-of-23 (8.7 percent) from the 3-point line and are 17-of-94 (18 percent) from long range through five league games.

"I've got good shooters. I do," A&M coach Mark Turgeon said. "We're getting good shots, we're just not making them. I keep telling you we're going to at some point. And we will."

Key board

A&M (14-5 overall, 3-2 Big 12) led by 10 with seven minutes remaining when the Buffaloes mounted a steady comeback, finally tying the game at 59 with 53 seconds remaining. On the Aggies' next possession, Sloan, who scored a team-high 18 points on 5-of-15 shooting, missed a layup in traffic, but Davis fought off Dwight Thorne for the rebound and dunk.

"Sloan doesn't miss too many shots down there, but I still went to follow it up," Davis said. "(Thorne) had the ball in his hands, but I took it out and finished it."

Two minutes earlier, A&M forward Nathan Walkup, who scored a career-high 16 points, collected his own offensive rebound, and his putback lifted A&M to a six-point lead.

"Those are the kinds of plays we need," Sloan said of the second-chance efforts of Davis and Walkup. "They'll help us win a lot of these close games."

Gaining an edge

In all, the Aggies collected 16 second-chance points and had 14 offensive rebounds to eight for Colorado in denying the Buffaloes (10-9, 1-4) their first Big 12 road victory in nearly four years.

"We need to do a better job on the defensive glass," Colorado coach Jeff Bzdelik said. "That's been our Achilles' heel."

One of the Aggies' frailties has been free-throw shooting (65 percent on the season), but for the second consecutive game Sloan sealed a victory by making his free throws down the stretch. On Saturday, he made four in the final 18 seconds, along with two more by B.J. Holmes in the final second.

[bzwerneman@express-news.net](#)

Share

[Del.icio.us](#)
[Twitter](#)
[Facebook](#)
[Digg](#)
[Yahoo! Buzz](#)
[StumbleUpon](#)
[Like](#)

Be the first of your friends to like this.

Resources

BLOGS AND MORE

[Campbell on Cougars](#)
[Martin on the Owls](#)
[Finger on the Longhorns](#)
[Zwerneman on the Aggies](#)
[Full college scoreboard](#)
[Complete college basketball coverage](#)

BASKETBALL RANKINGS

[AP](#) | [USA Today](#) | [RPI](#)

TEAM COVERAGE

[Houston Cougars](#)
[Rice Owls](#)
[Texas Longhorns](#)
[Texas A&M Aggies](#)

Comments

HOUSTON CHRONICLE

Only \$2 a week

[SUBSCRIBE](#)

SPRING EVENT

2010 SILVERADO

\$5,750 DOWN PAYMENT ASSISTANCE*

ON '10 SILVERADO HALF-TON EXTENDED AND CREW CAB MODELS

[LEARN MORE](#)

*Not available with some other offers. Excludes bonus cash. Must be used on a new vehicle. Standard rate retail contract includes license. See dealer for details. Residency restrictions apply. Take delivery by 4/30/10.

tv

Get TV Weekly for the most complete cable & TV listings

Most read Most commented

[Cocaine trafficking ring in Houston, Sugar Land unraveled](#)
[Two storm systems should escort heavy rain into region](#)
[Continental-United merger may be costly for you](#)
[Crews in a frantic fight against oil spill](#)
[Perry: Arizona immigration law not right for Texas](#)
[Report: 8 cops caught on tape beating suspect \(827\)](#)
[Perry: Arizona immigration law not right for Texas\(444\)](#)
[Lawmakers set probes of oil spill as federal attention intensifies\(290\)](#)
[Continental-United merger could be costly for consumers\(59\)](#)
[Axelrod: No new drilling until answers on accident\(59\)](#)

Fuchsia

adds vibrant colors to your garden

Find out how to make them flourish at

[houstongrows.com](#)

Photo credit: John Everett / Chronicle

Another tight victory for A&M

By RICHARD CROOME

richard.croome@theeagle.com

Published Sunday, January 24, 2010 12:05 AM

Bryan Davis had been dominant on the offensive boards the entire game, so it was only appropriate his follow dunk with 32 seconds remaining gave Texas A&M the lead for a good in a 67-63 victory over Colorado on Saturday at Reed Arena.

"I set the ball screen, and as we've all seen [Donald] Sloan doesn't miss too many shots but I still had to go follow it up," Davis said. "It came off the left side the rim and [Dwight Thorne] had the ball in his hands and I just saw it and took it out of his hands and finished it."

Sloan then chimed in.

"That was the biggest play of the game by far," he said. "We needed it."

Davis' basket put the Aggie men (14-5 , 3-2 Big 12) up 61-59, and after Alec Burks was forced into an unorthodox shot in the lane that missed horribly, Sloan made four straight free throws as the Buffaloes (10-9, 1-4) were forced to foul. B.J. Holmes made the final two free throws with less than a second remaining.

"They tried to box Bryan out, he just got around him and tip dunked it," A&M coach Mark Turgeon said. "That was the difference in the game, if they box Bryan Davis out ... Bryan just didn't allow them to."

Davis had a near-perfect afternoon, pulling down six offensive rebounds for a total of nine boards and going 6 for 6 from the field for 12 points.

The Aggies were able to get inside the Buffs' zone for 14 offensive boards, which they turned into 16 second-chance points.

"If you go through our entire season, it's been our Achilles' heel," Colorado coach Jeff Bzdelik said. "Trust me, we work at it every day. We got them to miss on the last possession and Davis comes running in and you've got to put a body on him. It's all we talked about for 72 hours."

The Aggies needed the second-chance points. They had another poor day from behind the 3-point line (2 for 23), the third time in five Big 12 games -- two of which A&M has won -- they've shot less than 20 percent from behind the arc.

A&M mostly made up for the misses by shooting 72 percent from inside the arc, but it was still a frustrating new low from long range.

"We are just a basket case shooting the basketball," Turgeon said. "Guys, I've got good shooters and we had good looks [Saturday]. The thing I like is we are getting good shots, sharing, executing inside-out, and we are just not making them. I keep telling you we are going to [make them], and we are at some point."

Colorado led 32-30 at halftime thanks to the trio of Cory Higgins, Austin Dufault and Burks, who combined for 23 points on 10-for-16 shooting.

A&M scored the first three baskets of the second half and held CU to eight points in the opening 10 minutes, taking a 47-40 lead on a dunk by David Loubeau off a crafty pass inside by Dash Harris. Harris had seven assists for the second straight game and added seven rebounds, two more than any Buffalo.

A&M held its biggest lead at 53-43 with 6:57 remaining after a Nate Walkup layup off another feed by Harris.

"For about an 8-minute stretch our defense was phenomenal," Turgeon said. "I thought Dash Harris was at another level. If we could make a shot the kid would have had 12 or 13 assists. He was out there spoon-feeding guys. He was guarding, rebounding, everything."

Harris' lone hiccup came late in the game when he turned the ball over twice, allowing Thorne to score on a putback and permitting Higgins to get to the free-throw line and tie the game at 59-59.

Walkup had another stellar game for the Aggies, setting a new career high in points with 16 while adding eight rebounds.

"My jump shots weren't going down so I tried to stay active" Walkup said. "I tried to get on the offensive glass and finish. We shot 9 percent from the 3-point line, so you have to get rebounds and put them back in for easy points."

Sloan led the team with 18 points but was only 5 of 15 from the field. He did make 8 of 9 free throws, including the four at the end.

"Sloan was as bad as he can be and I think he had 18 points," Turgeon said. "Sloan knows he wasn't any good today, but he's becoming a much better defender."

The Buffs got 19 points each from Higgins and Burks and 13 from Dufault.

Colorado had an opportunity to run the clock down and win with a 3 or tie with a 2, but Burks only took about 10 seconds off the clock before driving the lane for an off-balance shot.

"He's a freshman and is a very talented young man, and he's gaining wisdom, experience," Bzdelik said of Burks. "How you do that, you just have to do go through the moment."

*

NOTES -- Colorado had 10 steals, the most against A&M this season. ... **Sloan** had three rebounds, putting him over 400 for his career. He and **Bernard King** are the only Aggies with at least 1,200 points, 300 assists and 400 rebounds.

[See game video.](#)