# Trickey's Titans Played Scientific And Won Big One

By DONNIE WALLS
Times Sports Writer

"Phew! That was a helluva game!"

With sweat pouring from his brow and sipping on a coke, Oral Roberts head coach Ken Trickey stood outside his cager's locker room and began to comment on their last second victory over Tech.

"For 4½ years I have been accused of playing unscientific basketball," he began. "People say that we can only beat teams that play like we play. So we had a point to prove; that we could play a scientific game and win."

"Back at Tulsa (Oklahoma) if we played a game like this we would not have much of a crowd. People there come to see us play run and shoot basketball. And it is tough on the kids for people to think like this."

"We wanted to play this game as close as we could. We usually get in foul trouble early when we play on the road and we didn't want that to happen here. They have a great coach, great team, and a great crowd; we didn't want to fall behind by 15 or 20 points at the half."

"Everyone says that I go out and get players and don't do any coaching. So we just wanted to prove that we can play like we want to!"

"We played three different zones tonight. This was to keep us from getting into foul trouble." "We tried to hold it for the last shot. The best I can remember, we've never held the ball that long before," he concluded as he left for a radio interview.

For Gobbler coach Don DeVoe, this had to be somewhat of a disappointment. For this two point loss not only snapped an 18 game win streak on the Hokies home floor, but the opposition won this game exactly the same way that West Virginia did two years ago (a shot in the last seconds of the game).

"When we had a two point lead, we just couldn't deliver," DeVoe said. "We were doing just what we wanted to do but we just couldn't buy a basket."

"We needed more quickness. . .Ed (Frazier) and Kyle (McKee) weren't getting inside. So, we went to Dennis (Pulaski's Dennis Shrewsberry). He gave us a lift; he played spirited and made the big plays (a steal at midcourt in which Shrewsberry was involved was considered by the Tech mentor to be the biggest)."

"We controlled the tempo of the game until the end. We went right to Craig (Leider) inside but we couldn't get the ball in the hoop. It was the same on the last play; we were in scoring position but just couldn't cash in," the young and aspiring DeVoe commented.

"I definitely think I played well, but it was for a lost cause. We didn't win," Shrewsberry reflected.

"After I made one shot, I loosened up. I had a lot of confidence in the shots I took," the Pulaski transfer from Appalachian State said.

"I like to play in this type of game. . .they have a real good team. This has to be one of the toughest teams I've ever played against. They have great shooters and leapers."

"We played a good defensive game to hold them down (the Titans had been averaging 980 points per outing)."

I was just glad I got to play: Experience always helps."

Dennis Shrewsberry has always had experience. But he lacked the confidence that only playing under certain conditions and in clutch situations will bring. Saturday night he experienced these instances for the first time (at Tech) and he showed everyone what he can do if given the chance. The sophomore will be around for a long time, and it should pay dividends to the Hokies.