TV Comment Fired ORU Victory

By JERRY VERNON
Sports Writer

Oral Roberts University prepared for its 77-70 win over Virginia Tech Monday night in Cassell Coliseum the way most people relax before dinner.

The Titans watched the early edition of local news and it paid off.

"The tube really got us fired up for this game," said 6-7 forward Alvin Scott. "Just before we got here tonight they said on a local station, 'Tech would win because we hadn't played anybody.' Huh, we'd only played the number one (San Francisco) and number four (North Carolina) ranked teams."

The Titans lost to Frisco 86-76 and to Carolina 100-84. The two setbacks hurt the chances of NCAA postseason play for the Okahoma school but after the win over Tech Oral Roberts came back with the chant, "Watch out NCAA. Here we come.

"We needed this win bad," said Scott whose defensive ability frustrated Tech. "Tech is an independent and we're an independent. In the end we'll be vying for a spot in the NCAA."

Ironically, it was a missed dunk by Scott halfway through the first period that put the senior on track for the rest of the game.

"I've done that three or four times this season," he explained. "You get too far under the basket and don't know where you're at. It's not really embarrassing, but it does get you mad."

Anger was one thing the Hokies must wish had never been instilled in to Scott. After missing the dunk, he proceeded to dance around the court during the rest of the game in route to eight points, six blocked shots and seven rebounds.

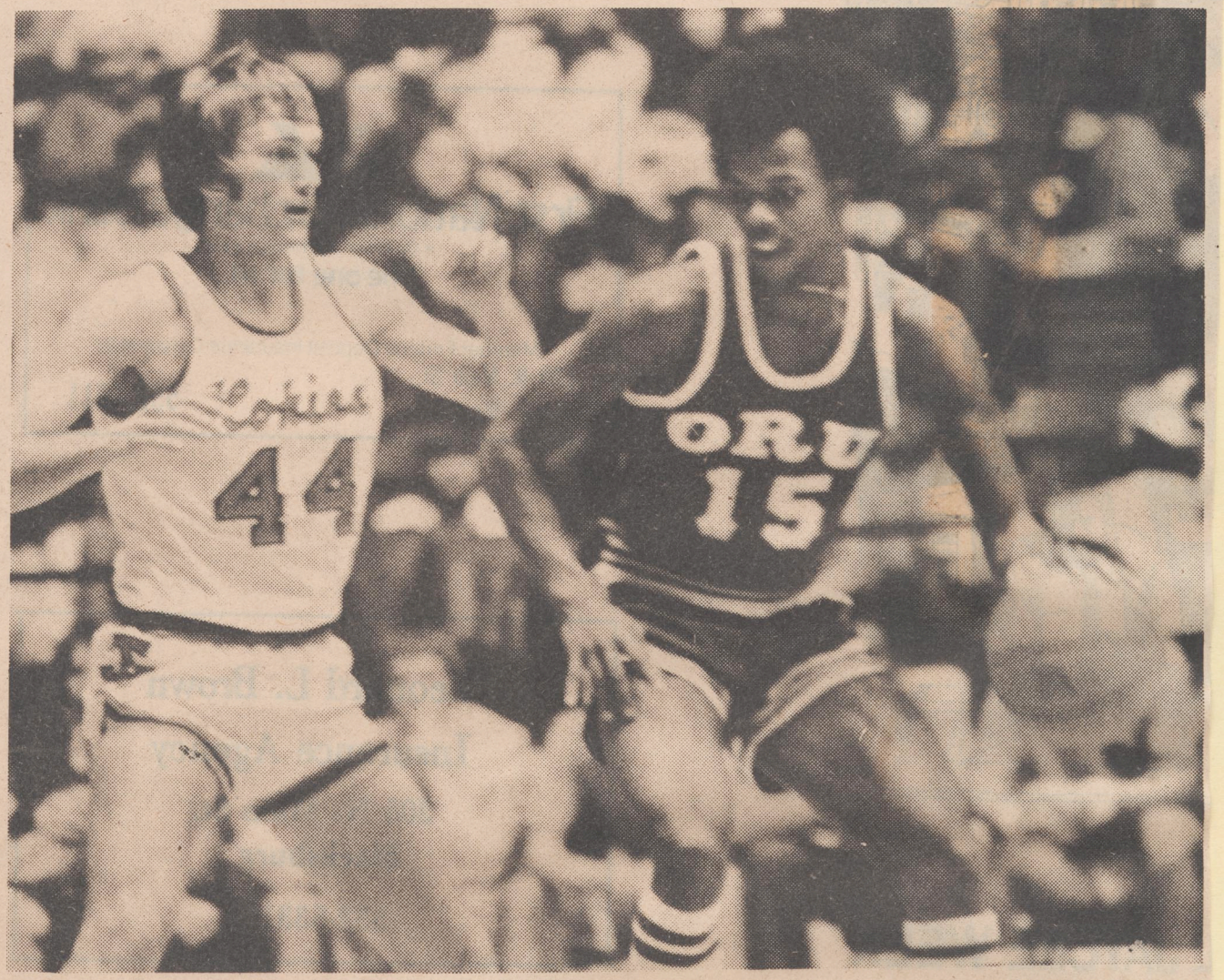
Scott's high flying act almost overshadowed the game high 29 point performance of pro prospect Anthony Roberts. A Los Angeles Laker and Philadelphia 76'er scout dropped in on the game to watch the Titan star who carries a season average of 31.4. He almost reached the mark Monday, even though he played only 23 minutes due to foul trouble.

"They were calling the game to close," complained the 6-6 forward who sat out the final six minutes of the first half. "They were too picky not only on me, but on Tech also."

Another Titan threatened Roberts' star status. Freshman center Chuck Dahms utilized his 6-9 frame to pull down a game high 12 rebounds against his taller opponent 6-11 Ernest Wansley.

"His height didn't bother me," said the frosh. "I'm used to that now."

Dahms' introduction into college basketball has been rapid. He has already performed against two of the top centers in the country, Frisco's 6-11 Bill Cartwright and Carolina's 6-10 Tom LaGarde.



Staff Photo By Donnie Walls

ORAL ROBERTS' STAR ANTHONY ROBERTS (15) DRIVES PAST HOKIE
Tech's Phil Thieneman (44) Couldn't Stop Titans' Top Scorer

"Both of those teams are real though," said Dahms of the nation's top contenders. "San Francisco has more individual talent in every spot and North Carolina is well-drilled and works better as a team. It would be interesting to watch them play."

Roberts agreed a match between these schools would be exciting saying, "If they ever play I hope I can be there. If they get together, I'll have to go with San Francisco because they have three good freshman and just a good team, full of individual talent."

Scott was not as sure whether San Francisco has will come out on top if they meet this season.

"That's a tough decision," he said, "San Francisco has more individual talent and Carolina is more of a team. On any given night either of them could probably win."