

the line of scrimmage before meeting up with Moore.

# Late Vanderbilt Splurge Rocks Sooners, 78-69

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(Daily Oklahoman Sports Writer)

NASHVILLE, Tenn., Dec. 10—

Oklahoma slowed down Vanderbilt's racehorse basketball team for about 30 minutes here Saturday night, before the Commodores cracked the game apart with a torrid 4-minute burst to win, 78-69.

Vandy outshot the Sooners 11-2 during that 4-minute stretch to rocket ahead by 14 points at 69-55.

The unbeaten Commodores, now owning four victories this season, pushed the lead to 15 points with 2½ minutes remaining, but Oklahoma fought back to trim the lead to nine at the final buzzer.

It was the first basketball meeting of all time between the schools and drew a crowd of 6,000, largest ever to see a non-conference game in Nashville, in fact, only arch foes Kentucky and Tennessee have ever drawn more in Vandy's 4-year old fieldhouse.

## Sooners Stay Close

Oklahoma, dropping its second game on the current road trip which ends at Ohio State Monday night, trailed only 58-53 when the Southeastern conference club caught fire late in the game to wrap it up.

The Sooners never were able to take a lead after Vanderbilt burst in front 6-0 at the outset, but ral-

## The Box Score

OKLAHOMA (69)	G-GA	F-FA	PF	TP
King, f-c	4-11	6-7	1	14
Abbey, f	1-5	3-4	5	5
Bacher, c	4-9	6-9	5	14
Peck, g	8-20	2-2	3	18
Jones, g	3-7	0-0	4	6
Pinkerton, f	3-7	0-0	2	6
Balding, g	2-6	2-2	3	6
TOTALS	25-65	19-24	23	69
VNDRBLT (78)	G-GA	F-FA	PF	TP
Thym, f	3-12	9-13	1	15
Gibbs, f	2-6	2-3	4	6
Harrison, c	1-13	0-2	3	2
Taylor, g	8-19	7-4	1	20
Rochelle, g	10-17	5-8	1	25
Gregor, f	1-5	2-3	1	4
Riley, f	2-4	0-0	2	4
French, g	0-0	2-2	0	2
Keller, c	0-0	0-0	0	0
TOTALS	27-76	24-40	13	78
Oklahoma			32	69
Vanderbilt			36	78
Officials—John Fraser (Big Seven) and Clyde Castle (Southeastern conference)				

lied to cut the gap to two points on four occasions late in the first half.

Al Rochelle, Vandy's hot-shooting guard who paced the winners with 25 points, canned a 30-foot set shot just before the halftime buzzer to send his team to intermission with a slim 36-32 margin.

Jimmy Peck, Leroy Bacher and Joe King all hit twin digits to pace the Sooner offense. Peck topped OU with 18 points and Bacher and

## Taylor Scores 20

Rochelle's running mate on Vandy's back line, Babe Taylor, chipped in with 20 points as the

pair hit 18 of the 36 shots—mostly over the top of the Sooners' improving defense.

For the second game in a row coach Doyle Parrack used only seven of the 10 men making the squad. In addition to starters Bacher, Peck, King, Ed Abbey and Joe Jones the only Redshirts to get in the milling were Gary Balding and Bill Pinkerton.

The Sooners missed their first seven shots and didn't score from the field until Peck connected on a jumper from the top of the circle with 6½ minutes gone.

However, during that stretch Oklahoma hung in close with deadly free throw shooting, missing only one of eight four shots during the early drought from the field.

## Bacher Cools Off

Bacher paced the Sooners with 12 points the first half, but got only one goal thereafter and it came less than 4 minutes after intermission. The big guy's failure to hit the rest of the way hurt the Sooners' chances of catching up.

Vanderbilt dominated the backboards with a 57-46 advantage as Charley Harrison, 6-6 center, and Bobby Thym, 6-1 forward, grabbed 17 and 15 rebounds respectively. King was high for the Sooners with 13, while Abbey and Bacher, the other two men on OU's front line, gathered in but six and five against the vicious ballhawks of Vandy.

For nine minutes in the second half before the Commodores broke away the score teetered between Vandy leads of 5 to 9 points. The Sooners couldn't pare the margin to less than five, although at least four times they went down with the ball while trailing by five. Each time a wild shot or mechanical error would spoil the bid.

## Bacher Fouls

A crucial play occurred to start the Vanderbilt surge. Behind 58-53 the Sooners swept down and Bacher sped under the goal but was in no position to shoot. He passed off to King, who had a close shot, but Bacher fouled Thym in the process.

Thym converted two free throws and Vandy led by seven rather than Oklahoma moving within three points of a tie.

That was the spark Vandy needed and from then on the Commodores set sail for their fourth straight triumph.

White Is Named