

the sports

Jones mysteriously quits Ags

By MARK W. PATTERSON
Battalion Sports Staff

As a move as sudden and hard hit as a Rudy Woods slam-dunk, Jones has quit the Texas A&M basketball team.

Jones, a sophomore out of Austin High School, made a fast home and left the Aggies two weeks before they open play this season. Jones left the team for reasons still not clear to head coach Metcalf.

He came in and told us he was leaving for personal reasons," Metcalf said of the high school all-state

forward. "He told me that he had played basketball for his family and friends all his life and now he was going to do something that he wanted to do.

"He said that he had been thinking about quitting the team for about a month. Bob (Cobin, assistant coach) and I both talked to him about the decision he made but we didn't try to talk him out of it. Once someone decides that he doesn't want to play, I don't try to talk him into playing.

"But I can't get concerned about it. My concern is with the team and

we have to go with the people that we have here."

Jones was unavailable for comment Wednesday, but his mother said her son hasn't said a thing about why he quit the team.

"We're in the same boat as everyone else," she said Wednesday night. "He hasn't said a thing to us about why he came home. His father and I aren't going to back him into a corner and find out why.

"He's old enough to make his own decisions.

"As far as we knew, everything was fine. But we're here (in Austin) and he was up there. The first time I heard about it was when he called and said he was coming home. We didn't ask why.

"When he gets ready to say something about why he came home, he'll tell us. Right now, he seems comfortable just being home."

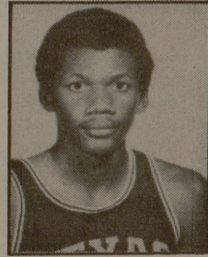
Jones played a backup role last season at the wing and forward positions in the Aggies' offense. In the 18 games he appeared in, the 6-foot-7 freshman scored 58 points and pulled down 24 rebounds.

"We were looking to Roy to give us depth inside this season," Metcalf said. "We were also considering the possibility of developing him into a second guard in our offense. He was playing good ball for us. He was doing fine this season."

Jones's sudden departure left his teammates confused as well. His roommate, freshman Claude Riley,

was as shocked as everyone else on Jones's decision to quit basketball.

"I found out about him quitting two days before he left," Riley said. "He never did discuss anything about it with me. He said that he wanted to talk to his mother before he said anything to anyone.



Roy Jones

"He shocked me. He said that he just wanted to get away from it (basketball) for a while because he wasn't enjoying it like he used to.

"He never did say he didn't want to play here. I know that no one on the team was a problem, or the coaches, either."

Rudy Woods, the other freshman on last year's squad besides Jones, tried to talk to Jones before he left A&M. Woods's attempt to persuade him to stay were in vain.

"It shocked me when I heard his decision," Woods said. "I heard about him leaving and I had to see if I could say anything to keep him here.

"I thought we were pretty tight but I found out that we weren't. He didn't even say a thing to me about

it. The first I heard about it was when Coach (Metcalf) called us together at the end of practice and told us about Roy leaving."

Jones's days as an Aggie may not be over. Metcalf said he talked to Jones about transferring to a junior college, playing for a year and returning to A&M to finish his college basketball career.

"I would definitely like to see him go to a junior college and come back here," Metcalf said. "A&M is the only NCAA Division I school that he could play for, without graduating from a junior college first.

"He talked on the phone to two junior college coaches in my office before he left. He can't play this year but he could transfer and play at a junior college next year and return to A&M."

Aggie gymnasts to compete here

By CAROLYN BLOSSER
Battalion Sports Staff

A&M's women's gymnastics team will host Texas Woman's University in a dual meet tomorrow at 6 p.m. in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

More than any other collegiate gymnastics involves a never-ending change in its overall format, including scoring, intricate routines, and an increasing risk factor in many maneuvers.

This constant changing adds more excitement to the sport, and also puts added pressure on gymnasts to keep up with the developments and newest

performers will get a chance Friday to see A&M's gymnasts keeping with the times as two team members perform a couple of firsts for

Mahe, a 4-foot-9 freshman from Bryan High, will do a standing flip on the balance beam. The maneuver was first brought onto the international scene during Olga Korotkova's memorable performance in the 1972 Olympics.

Mahe's roommate, 5-foot-10

Pratt, will perform another

Aggie wrestling

G. Rollie

hosting the Texas A&M Wrestling Club. The club is hosting the Maroon-White wrestling tournament in the wrestling room at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

The matches will be between

members competing for 10 var-

team positions.

returning state champions, Bill

John Sweatt, Curtis Tem-

wrestling will be two Dallas

Phil Schuer, and Jay

man, said Santini, the club's

of last year's intramural

ions, Don Parsons, will also

lete.

Aggie wrestling club has

imately 50 members, said

ti, a junior engineering tech-

ny major.

the matches will start at 7 p.m.

initial matches will consist of

rounds of one minute each.

final matches will have a two-

te first round, and then two

and-a-half-minute matches.

of-state talent and some of the

ing Texas wrestling talent

and ensure good caliber wrest-

Santini said.

at don't expect the "Killer

Abdominal "law" or any

professional wrestling antics.

Aggies wrestle according to

rules.

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