

Sports



Sophomore guard Sheryl Clark eyes the opposition in Saturday's game against New Mexico State University. The women's basketball team opened its season with a come-from-behind 66-63 victory over New Mexico. The Aggies return to action Tuesday night when they travel to North Texas State University to meet the Eagles.

Staff photo by Dave Einsel

Women's basketball team comes from behind to win

By GAYE DENLEY
Battalion Staff

The Texas A&M women's basketball team chipped away a 12-point New Mexico State lead to win its season opener 66-63 Saturday night in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Senior point guard Kelley Sullivan poured in 17 points for the Aggies, and junior Lynette Joiner added 15 points and 13 rebounds to Texas A&M's effort.

"I was really impressed with the play of Lynette Joiner," coach Cherri Rapp said. "And Kelli Harned came off the bench and played a really good game."

The Aggies started off slow, Rapp said, and at one time during the first quarter trailed New Mexico State by 12. By the end of the first half, however, the Aggies were gathering momentum and had cut the lead to 32-29.

"I was pleased with the way the team handled itself as the game went on," Rapp said.

Mistakes hampered the Aggies throughout the game. "We made a lot of turnovers compared to New Mexico, and they shot real well off the floor," she said. "And our defense was not quite what I had hoped it would be."

The Aggies' rebounding, though, was all she had

hoped it would be and then some. With five players taller than 6-foot, three of them at 6-3, the Aggie out-rebounded New Mexico State 47-19. Kelley Krauskopf, a 5-11 junior forward, pulled down 10 rebounds to add to Joiner's 13.

"The best thing about our game was our play on the boards," Rapp said. "That was probably the deciding factor in the game, and the good thing is we weren't that much taller than they were."

Sophomore guard Sheryl Clark scored nine points for the Aggies, as Krauskopf, freshman post player Trinka and Harned, a junior post, added six points apiece.

Ball handling was another of Texas A&M strengths in the game, as Sullivan, Clark, and freshman Romy Candy consistently eluded New Mexico State's press as they brought the ball up the court. "The guards did a good job against the press," Rapp said. "They handled the ball real well."

Although pleased with the win, Rapp said team needs a lot of work on its defense, free-throw and general inconsistent play. She said Saturday's game gave her a good indication of the Aggies' weaknesses early in the season, while there is still time to "settle down and work out the problem areas."

Phillips returns to New Orleans with 'biggest win'

United Press International
HOUSTON - New Orleans Saints owner John Mecom Jr., a Houston resident and avid Oilers fan, said there is only one man who could pull the Oilers out of their current nosedive and that man got on a plane and returned to New Orleans.

Saints Head Coach Bum Phillips, the person Mecom referred to, left Houston Sunday with a satisfying 27-24 victory which soothed a year-long pain inflicted when Oilers owner K.S. "Bud" Adams Jr. fired him last January. Phillips had coached the Oilers the previous five seasons.

"This is the biggest win I've ever had in the building," Phillips said. "I'm as happy as the devil that we won."

His Saints, led by tailback George Rogers' 142 yards rushing and fullback Jack Holmes' two touchdowns, gave the Oilers their fifth loss in six games. Mecom said the Oilers players were dispirited before the game.

"I'm a fan of the Houston Oilers and I hate to have 30 of the 45 players come over to me and ask me for advice how can they survive the season," Mecom said. "I told them the only way is to play with pride, self-pride."

He said the close game did not indicate the job done by the Oilers' coaches.

"It's a hell of a note that Bum coached for both ballclubs. The Oilers were emotionally high today to show Bum they could still play. They weren't trying to impress their own coaches," he said.

He added Phillips, who he hired the day after the firing, "probably is the only coach at the moment who could straighten the Oilers out."

Phillips Sunday walked the Astrodome sidelines wearing an Oilers' blue cowboy shirt amid the black and gold of his players and coaches. He had received a hero's homecoming from fans and Oilers players and after the game almost every Oiler made it a point to shake his hand.

Banners hung in the Astrodome told the mood of the crowd.

"We'll always luv ya Bum!" one said. Another pointed to the Oilers 1980 record, saying "Hey Bud — what was wrong with 11-5?"

The Oilers record is now 5-7 and this will be the first year in four that they do not win a berth in the NFL playoffs.

Saints wide receiver Guido Merkens, who had played for Phillips at Houston, told the truth about what the game meant to Phillips.

"In a team meeting (Saturday night) he told us it was a big game for him. He felt the team was getting too tight so he told us he lied when he said all week it wasn't important to him. He said it's a matter of life and death — my life and your death."

His joke broke up the room and the next day the Saints played loose and played over their heads against a veteran Oilers team which was inspired by Phillips.

The Saints, now 4-8, rode rookie Rogers to a

10-3 halftime lead as the Oilers defensive line failed to challenge him at the line of scrimmage.

Said Ed Biles, the Oilers first-year head coach, "This Saints team is a good rushing team. And today we just didn't control the line of scrimmage very well."

On the other hand, the Saints defense held Earl Campbell to 96 yards rushing on 25 carries.

Campbell scored twice on 1-yard runs but after each score the Saints marched back to take control. They led 24-10 with a minute to go in the third quarter on Archie Manning's 22-yard touchdown pass to tailback Wayne Wilson and then countered with Benny Ricardo's second field goal of the day, a 42-yarder, with five minutes to play after the Oilers drew to within seven points.

The win was the Saints first regular season win over Houston in four tries. They received a solid performance from Manning, who returned to the lineup for the first time in four games and completed 10 of 14 passes for 147 yards.

The young Saints team, which includes 22 first and second-year pros, showed it has not adapted completely to Phillips' style of low-risk, running football.

Saints punter Russell Erxleben tried to run on fourth down early in the third quarter and was tackled. Campbell scored two plays later to tie the game 10-10.

"Looking out of the corner of my eye," Erxleben said, "I thought they could block the punt. That's my mistake. I shouldn't have been looking."

Later, with a 24-10 lead, Saints free safety Frank Wattelat let rookie Oilers receiver Michael Holston get behind him and turn a Ken

Stabler pass into a 50-yard touchdown.

The mistakes, however, did not tone down Phillips' postgame comments.

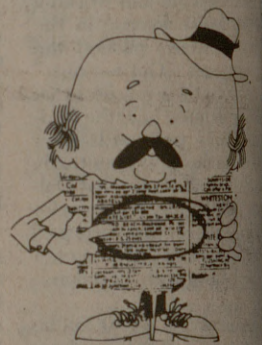
"I'm proud of the whole team. I don't know whether this was our best effort of the year or not. We've got a good football team and I think showed today," he said.

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WANTED: BASKETBALL OFFICIALS

MEETING: November 7:00 pm
162 East Kyle
CONTACT DAVE KERR IN THE INTRAMURAL-RECREATIONAL SPORTS OFFICE

Maricio Castro drives for Schlitz during Class A soccer action.

Don't Miss It!

The 12th Annual Aggie Turkey Trot Thanksgiving Day, 8:00 a.m.

C. Rollie White Coliseum Open to the public of all ages. Certificates to all finishers

Sponsored by Health and P.E. and Intramural-Recreational Sports.

The Volley Is Over!

The volley is over. After eight weeks of play, the Tennis Singles Champions have been determined.

In the Men's Division, Joe Aldalpe defeated Steve Spalding in the Class A finals. Ricky Ramos won the Class B award after he outplayed David Struble in the finals.

In the Women's Division, Susan Foxworth and Sherle Web met in the Class A finals. Susan is our championship T-shirt winner. Marla Boland defeated Betty Stieber in the Class B final. Congratulations to all the 1981 winners!

John Pierce watches Mike Arcos try for two long points.

Wheelchair Workouts — Working Out!

This will be the 12th week of wheelchair workouts sponsored by the Intramural-Recreational Sports Office especially for the disabled population of Texas A&M. There are approximately 17 wheelchair-bound individuals on campus, but this program is not restricted to the handicapped.

About 8 to 10 people regularly attend the workouts which are held twice a week in East Kyle. The purpose is to provide an opportunity for participants to explore and test their abilities while in a wheelchair.

Each session begins with an exercise period to warm-up the muscles of the upper body. Participants then do isometric exercises before engaging in more interesting activities. Usually they maneuver through a 130 ft. obstacle course, and sometimes play racquetball, badminton, and basketball. The rules are adapted for wheelchair players.

Workouts usually end with a "cool down" period consisting of a couple of laps around the gym.

All individuals are invited and encouraged to attend the workouts whenever possible. They are held Mondays and Fridays from 3:00 to 5:00 pm in Room 304 East Kyle. For further information, contact Eric Hunter in the IM-REC Sports Office.

Super League Basketball

The Intramural-Recreational Sports Department is offering Super-League basketball again this year. Entries open for this highly competitive division November 30 and run through December 8.

The National Federation of State High School Association rules for basketball will be used. The only change will be that two technical fouls by any one player will constitute an ejection instead of three. Dunking will be allowed during the games. Quarters will be 8 minutes long.

University faculty, staff and their spouses along with current students are eligible. The only exception is that players listed on the TAMU basketball team after the first game are not allowed to play. Former varsity and professional athletes are allowed to participate.

Players participating on Super League Teams cannot play on any other Intramural basketball team except a CoRec A team.

A minimum of four entries in either Men's or Women's Super League is necessary to play. If this entry level is not met, the teams will be placed in Class A. The entry fee is \$25 per team. Each team must provide its own jerseys of uniform color with numbers on the front and back of each jersey.

Four Women's teams competed in Super League last year. "In Your Eyes" won the championship. As last year, T-shirts will be awarded to each member of the playo championship team, up to a maximum of 12 shirts.

Thanksgiving Hours

WEDNESDAY, November 25

DeWare 4 pm-11 pm
G. R. W. & E. Kyle 5 pm-8 pm
Pool 6 pm-7 pm
Tennis Courts 5 pm-11 pm

THURSDAY, November 26

DeWare Closed
G. R. W. & E. K. 6 pm-10 pm
Pool Closed
Tennis Courts 8 am-10 pm

FRIDAY, November 27

DeWare Closed
G. R. W. & E. K. 10 am-10 pm
Pool 12-2 pm
Tennis Courts 8 am-11 pm

SATURDAY, November 28

DeWare 10 am-10 pm
G. R. W. & E. K. 8 am-Midnight
Pool 1 pm-3 pm
Tennis Courts 8 am-11 pm

SUNDAY, November 29

DeWare 10 am-10 pm
G. R. W. & E. K. 8 am-Midnight
Pool 1 pm-5 pm
Tennis Courts 8 am-11 pm

CORRECTION:
There was an error in last week's McDonald's® Highlights. The outdoor pool hours are Monday - Friday, 12 - 1:30, NOT Monday and Wednesday 12 - 1:30.

Acknowledgements

McDonald's® Intramural Highlights is sponsored each Monday in the Battalion by your local McDonald's® Restaurants at University Drive, Manor East Mall and Texas Ave. Stories by John Bramblett; photos by David Einsel and Bob Sebre.

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