

Aggie Ladies 4-12 after loss

by Gaye Denley
Battalion Staff
Even with three players in the double figures, the Texas A&M women's basketball team couldn't snap a six-game losing

streak Tuesday night, losing its seventh straight game to Southern Methodist University, 74-68.

An encouraging offensive performance, keyed by forward Kelly Krauskopf and posts Michell Tatum and Ann Trinka, was overshadowed by 34 turnovers, which Coach Cherri Rapp cited as the reason for the loss.

"I think that was the best game we've played all year," Rapp said. "Turnovers were the big problem. But Michell Tatum and Ann Trinka both had real fine games."

Tatum led Texas A&M scorers with 17 points, 12 more than her season average, and accounted for 13 of the Aggies' 42 rebounds, tying her with Lynette Joiner for the season high. Krauskopf added 14

points for the Aggies and Trinka 13.

Though the two freshmen posts probably had their best combined effort of the season, helping give Texas A&M a 42-34 rebounding edge, the Aggies couldn't stop the Mustangs' Rhonda Rompola, who had 26 points and 14 rebounds. Lisa Davis, with 17 points, was the only other Mustang in double figures.

With Tuesday's loss, the Aggies have dropped 12 of their last 13 games. They've won only one game since the University of Texas at San Antonio halted their 3-0 start with a 67-57 win Dec. 3. Now 4-12, the Aggies play UTSA again tonight in San Antonio, and Rapp hopes that a victory will help salvage the season.



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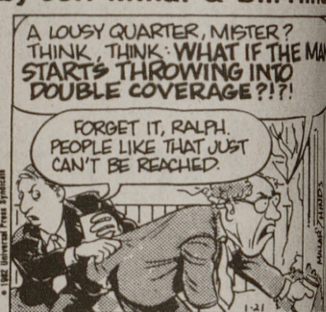
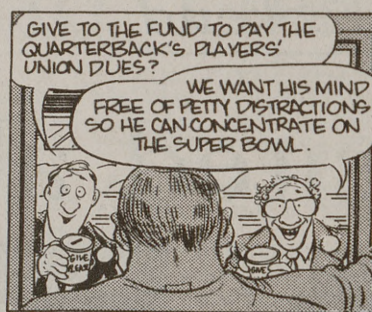
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by Jeff Millar & Bill Hind

Motta's inspiration gives Mavs victory over Bucks

United Press International
DALLAS — In the early moments of the fourth quarter Wednesday night, the Dallas Mavericks' Jim Spanarkel was about to throw the ball in bounds from just in front of the scorer's table when he heard the voice of Dick Motta.

"Look at the scoreboard, Jim," yelled the Maverick coach. "You're still in this thing. Play hard."

The scoreboard, at the time, read Milwaukee 90, Dallas 79.

And despite Motta's belief that the game was still alive, it seemed unlikely the lowly Mavericks would make up such a deficit against one of the best teams in professional basketball.

Eight minutes later, however, Dallas led, 103-95, and the Bucks were scratching their heads.

For the first nine minutes of the final quarter Milwaukee could manage only one field goal while the Mavericks were playing swarming defense and hitting almost every shot they took.

And the final result was a 109-104 Dallas win that was probably the high water mark of the year and a half old franchise.

"The results of this win were more gratifying than any other win this year," said Motta. "We have been working hard in practice and haven't been playing poorly. It was great to see our

kids come back and start to believe."

It was the 10th win of the year for Dallas, which won only three times all of last season, and it was the Mavericks' first victory over Milwaukee.

Dallas led by as many as 14 in the first period only to fall under the barrage of baskets from Marques Johnson, Quinn Buckner and Brian Winters. The Bucks opened as much as a 10-point lead in the final moments of the third quarter at 90-79.

But from that point until the 3:30 mark of the fourth period Dallas outscored Milwaukee, 15-5. The Bucks helped Dallas cause by committing 28 turnovers — 18 in the second half.

"I felt we played an extremely hard game, but not a very smart one," said Milwaukee's Steve Moncrief. "We just couldn't hold the ball down the stretch. Our problem was that we could not hold the defensive rebound."

Rolando Blackman scored 17 of his 17 points in the final period to key the Dallas strategy. Many of those points came from assists from guard Brad Davis who twice left the game with blood streaming down his face. He caught an elbow in the mouth in the first half and cut above the left eye in the second quarter.

"We knew that if we were going to win we had to play good defense," said Blackman. "They feel good about this. They feel good about the way they played defense and the way they played smart in the fourth quarter."

"Anybody can be beaten if we showed that tonight."

Dallas opened the fourth quarter with six straight points and then Winters hit a jumper for Milwaukee. The Mavericks then ran off 10 in a row, including six from Blackman, but the Bucks could produce a layup from Winters. Dallas scored six straight to open a 10-point advantage.

Rookie forward Jay Vincent who also had a cut opened on his forehead late in the game, put Dallas with 21 points and center Kurt Nimphius had 19 — 11 of those coming in the first period.

Winters led the Bucks with 15 points while Moncrief had 15 and Johnson 15.

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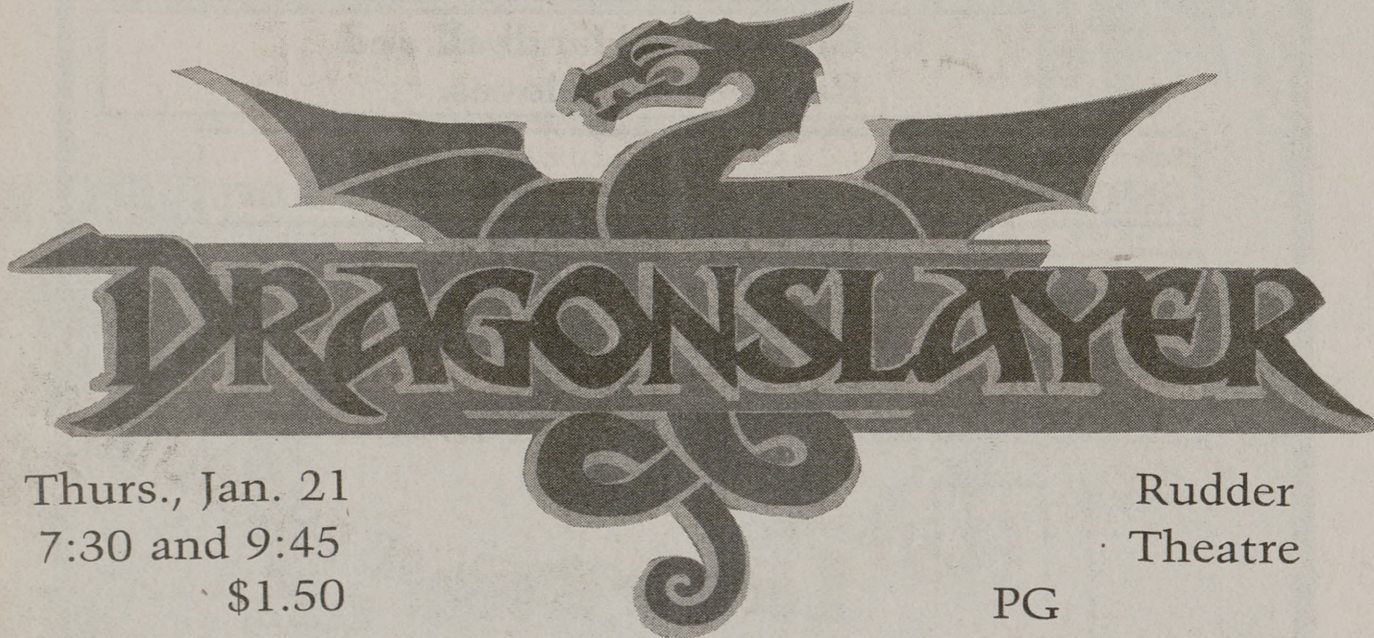
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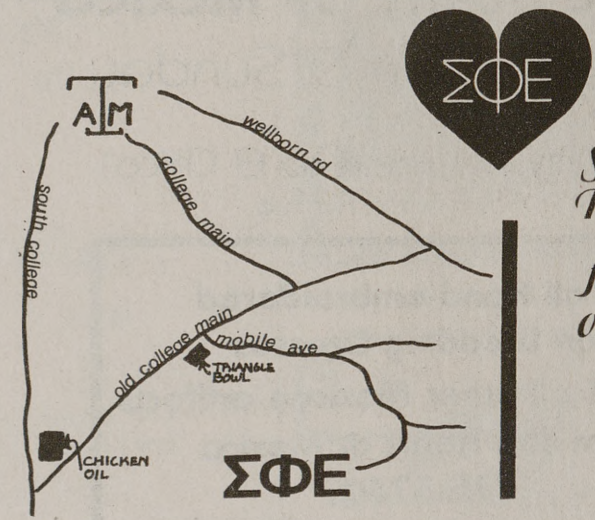
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