

Sports

A&M uses 'right stuff' to down Bears Lady Aggies put end to 5-game losing streak

By Doug Hall
Sports Writer

The Baylor Bears women's basketball team was in the wrong place at the wrong time Tuesday night when they faced the Lady Aggies from Texas A&M in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

The Aggies, who had dropped five consecutive Southwest Conference games prior to hosting the Bears in their first matchup of the season, used strong shooting and tough rebounding to soundly whip the Bears 84-74 and raise their SWC record to 3-5.

Senior forward Paula Crutcher, who came off the bench to score a team-high 20 points, led the Aggies to a 48-34 lead that Baylor could never surmount, despite several second-half runs.

Crutcher's hot hand, plus tough play inside by Evelyn Sanders (13 points and eight rebounds) and Lisa

Jordan (12 points and six rebounds) gave the Aggies what A&M Head Coach Lynn Hickey called a "must win."

"This was a definite have-to-for us," Hickey said. "They were aware of the importance of this game. It's very important we win the Rice game, at Baylor, at SMU and maybe get an upset along the way."

Sanders and senior guard Beth Young combined for the first 10 Aggie points to open up a 10-5 lead at the 16:51 mark. But Baylor, led by the scoring of freshman Maggie Davis, 25 points on 11 of 17 shooting from the floor, battled back to take the lead at 19-18 four minutes later.

After an Aggie timeout, Baylor came back to score three consecutive baskets to lead 25-18. But key baskets by Crutcher, Young and Jordan gave the Aggies back the lead that they would never surrender.

Hickey, who evened her A&M career record at 37 wins and 37 losses Tuesday, was obviously pleased with her team's 55-percent shooting on the evening and also with the play of freshman guard Lisa Herner.

"That (shooting 65 percent in the first half) was nice," Hickey said. "It's been a long time since we did that, but we've been working a lot on our shooting in practice."

Herner, who has seen a lot of playing time since starting guard Donna Roper had her gall bladder removed and was forced to sit out the rest of the season, finished with 11 points and four assists in 29 minutes.

After the halftime show, which featured a three-on-three contest between faculty members and student leaders, (which the faculty won), Baylor began to mount a slow attack at the Aggie lead.

Davis and sophomore guard Bonnie Henson, who finished with 15 points including the game's only 3-pointer, brought the Bears to within five points on two separate occasions. But both times, the Aggies were able to break the Bears' full-court pressure to get easy layups and maintain their lead.

"I thought they did a good job when they tried to jump us out front that we were able to get the ball inside to the baskets and get some layups," Hickey said. "They wanted this one. It would be real easy for them to play scared right now, but they didn't quit."

Aggie notes. . . Young went down at the 15:24 mark in the second half with what Aggie trainers believe to be torn cartilage in her left knee. However, Jen Nixon, the head women's trainer, said she did not think it would be a season-ending injury.

A&M to meet Baylor in do-or-die situation

By Hal L. Hammons
Sports Writer

After Sunday's loss to Arkansas, which dropped Texas A&M's record to 4-3 in conference, every game is critical for the Aggies if they are to stay close in the Southwest Conference race.

Tonight's game against Baylor is no exception. The Aggies return to G. Rollie White with a two-game losing streak and are desperate for a victory.

Baylor, on the other hand, is coming off a big road victory over the Houston Cougars Monday night and are in sole possession of second place behind TCU at 5-2.

A&M assistant coach Jim Feeney said they were glad to be back home after consecutive road losses to Arkansas and Rice.

"We are starting to realize we don't have an overabundance of

talent," Feeney said, "and if we don't work hard every night, we aren't going to win."

Feeney called Baylor "the most improved team in the conference." They are led by guard Michael Williams and center Larry Middleton.

"We've got to contain them," he said about the two players.

Feeney classified Middleton with Houston center Greg Anderson as the best offensive "big men" in the conference.

Aggie guard Todd Holloway said it was good to be home, and he expected a tough game with Baylor.

"We have to come out and play every game," Holloway said.

He said the team was depressed after the two losses, and they hoped a win over Baylor will help remedy that.

Pro Football Hall of Fame adds seven to membership

CANTON, Ohio (AP) — Running backs Larry Csonka and John Henry Johnson, quarterback Len Dawson, defensive tackle Joe Greene, offensive lineman Jim Langer and Gene Upshaw, and receiver Don Maynard were voted into the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Tuesday.

The seven elected, swelling the ranks of the Hall of Fame to 140, will make up the largest single group to be inducted since 1971.

Greene, Upshaw and Langer all made it in their first year of eligibility, the first time since 1977 that three players were inducted in their first year for consideration.

Johnson was the recommended candidate of the Old-Timers Committee, which nominates players who played most of their careers prior to 1962.

Csonka, who rushed for 8,081 yards and 64 touchdowns in his

11-year career, and Langer, who spent his entire 10 seasons with the Miami Dolphins, became the first two players inducted from the Dolphins' championship years.

Langer, a 6-2, 253-pound center, was claimed on waivers by the Dolphins and went on to be named to the Pro Bowl six times. He played every offensive down of the Dolphins' perfect 1972 season.

Greene, nicknamed "Mean Joe," played in 10 Pro Bowls and four Super Bowls during his 13-year career with the Steelers. He played in 91 consecutive games from 1969 to 1975 and was twice named the NFL Defensive Player of the Year, in 1972 and 1974.

Johnson rushed for 6,803 yards and 48 touchdowns during a 13-year career spent with the San Francisco 49ers, Steelers and Houston Oilers.

Dawson became the third former Kansas City Chiefs player voted into the Hall, joining Bobby Bell and Willie Lanier. Dawson passed for 28,711 yards and 239 touchdowns during a 19-year career with the Steelers, Cleveland Browns, Dallas Texans and Chiefs.

Upshaw, now the executive director of the National Football League Players Association, spent his entire 15-year career as a guard with the Oakland Raiders.

Maynard joins his old New York Jet battery-mate, Joe Namath, as the only former Jet players in the Hall of Fame. Maynard spent 15 seasons with the New York Giants, New York Titans, the Jets and the St. Louis Cardinals, catching 663 passes for 11,834 yards and 88 touchdowns.

Enshrinement of the 1987 class will take place at the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Aug. 8.

New York fans gather in stadium to celebrate Super Bowl victory

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP) — Snowballs and confetti rather than ticker-tape hailed the Super Bowl champion New York Giants as they returned to their stadium Tuesday to celebrate their first NFL championship in 31 years.

More than 30,000 braved 10 degree temperatures for the festivities which team officials decided to have at Giants Stadium after a controversy developed over whether to give the club New York's traditional heroes' parade through the canyons of Manhattan.

The frigid weather limited the crowd. Organizers had prepared for 125,000 people, raising \$650,000 from private donations, ordering 100,000 kazooes and stuffing bags with pompons, buttons and confetti.

The first diehard fans, thinking they would have to compete for seats, spent the night in the icy parking lot. More gathered at dawn, lighting bonfires and cooking tailgate breakfasts.

Those who were there got what they came for.

"I have a little something to show you," Coach Bill Parcells said as he held up the silver Vince Lombardi Trophy earned for the team's 39-20 victory over the Denver Broncos Sunday.

Parcells was showered with confetti from a Gatorade bucket, symbolic of the soft-drink shower he received after most Giants victories.

"I hope that sometime in the near future we can all get together and do this again," said quarterback Phil Simms, the Super Bowl MVP who joined his teammates on the stage to receive gold medallions from New Jersey Gov. Thomas H. Kean.

Fans provided some of their own entertainment, chanting "We're No. 1," singing "We Are The Champions" and "Go Giants Go" and getting into wild snowball fights.

About 100 National Guardsmen were called in to guard the snow piles on the field and several people were escorted out of the stadium. There were no arrests.

About 20 people were treated for minor injuries from snowballs, falls on the ice and exposure, authorities said.

"The Giants are the first world champions from the state of New Jersey," Kean said.

He added that "the Giants are a team which knows no formal boundaries," but there was no doubt the fans rejected any claims by New York City, where Mayor Ed Koch at first snubbed the team by refusing a ticker-tape victory parade.

Koch, vacationing in Poland, compounded the insult this week when he called the official Giants Stadium celebration "practice" and kept open an offer for a corporation-sponsored parade down Broadway.

The players praised all their fans for patient loyalty through the losing seasons.

The crowd responded with a chorus of kazooes playing "California Here I Come," an optimistic reprise referring to the Super Bowl next year in San Diego.



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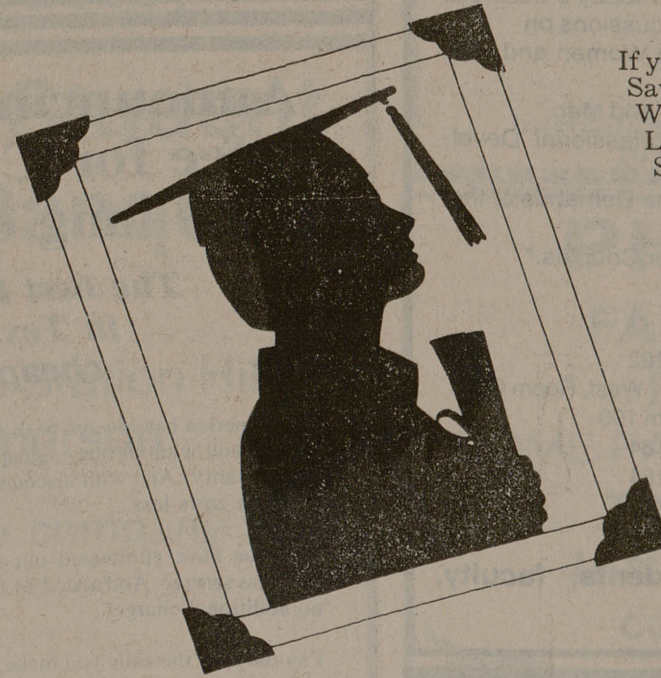
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