

Tuesday • November 25, 1997

Aggies bounce Kangaroos

By JEFF WEBB
Staff writer

The hype surrounding the Texas A&M Basketball Team this year is how improved the team is over last year's product.

The public got a good view of the new-look Aggies Monday night as the Aggies romped the University of Missouri-Kansas City Kangaroos 102-61. This was the same team the Aggies had to come back against in Kansas City last year for a 74-73 overtime win.

Despite the huge one-year turnaround, A&M Coach Tony Barone said this was the same team they faced last year, having added ten new players to the roster.

"This team is much better and more athletic," Barone said. "They shoot the ball better. This team will

finish in the top three in their league."

UMKC coach Bob Sundvold realized his team could have put up a better performance, but needed to prepare for their upcoming conference schedule.

"We probably would have come out in a 2-3 zone and let them shoot away from the three-point line," Sundvold said. "We're playing to win later."

Six Aggies scored in double figures. Leading the way was junior Calvin Davis with 22 points. Sophomore guard Jerald Brown scored only nine points, but made a big contribution with 11 rebounds and seven assists.

After letting Stephen F. Austin back in the game by being tentative in the latter stages of the contest, the Aggies never let the Kangaroos back in the game after the first half.

UMKC saw their last lead evaporate 6:13 into the first half but kept it close until a 9-0 run late in the first half gave A&M the 47-32 halftime lead.

The Aggies put the game away

Women beat SWT

The Texas A&M Women's basketball Team picked up its first win of the season, defeating Southwest Texas State 88-68 in San Marcos last night.

Freshman Brandy Jones led the way for the Aggies with 20 points off the bench.

The Aggies improve to 1-1 on the season.

with a 22-0 run in the second half. In a stretch that spanned nearly seven minutes, the Aggies forced three UMKC turnovers and held their opponents to 0-11 shooting.

"Their spurt came from stealing the ball and pressing," Kangaroo guard Mooch Williams said. "We could have stopped it by setting things up, but we wanted to be aggressive. I think they will be a contender for the Big 12."

Barone said he was concerned it would look like the Aggies were running up the score, but felt it was necessary to get some players

on the floor who need work.

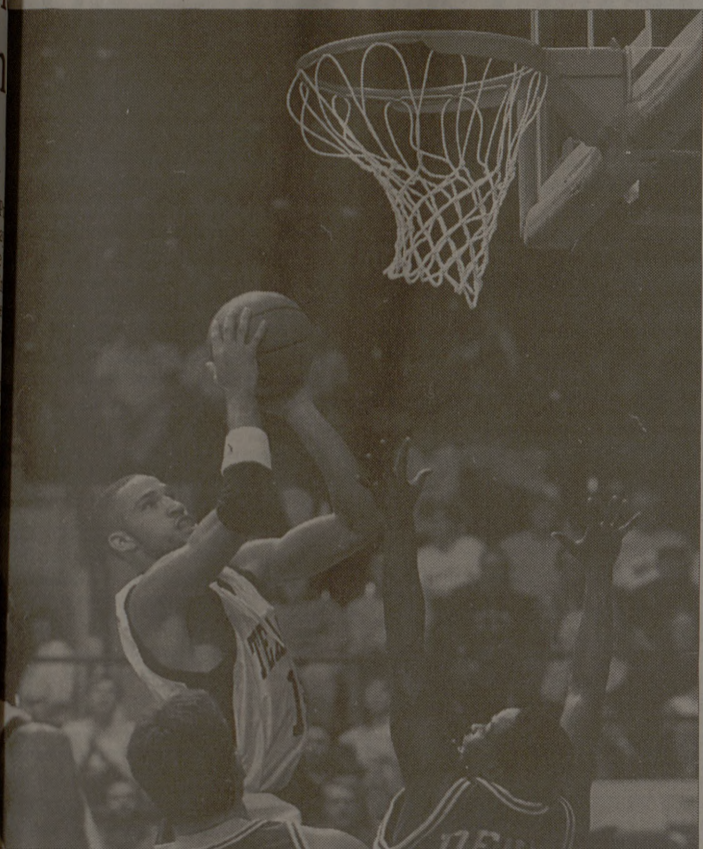
"We don't want to embarrass anybody," Barone said. "We know how that feels. That's why we took the press off."

"Tony was very apologetic, but he didn't need to worry about that," Sundvold said. "It was a thumping. I was still pressing, and his guys were trying to earn minutes. That's the way it ought to be."

The blowout win was the biggest margin of victory for the Aggies since the 1978-79 season, when they beat Prairie View A&M 113-63. It was also the 42nd 100-point game in Aggie history.

Sophomore point guard Brian Barone nailed his first career three-pointer against the Kangaroos. Barone was 0-7 from behind the arc last season and has been hesitant to shoot in the past.

Monday night's win provides cautious optimism concerning this edition of the Texas A&M Basketball Team. The Aggies hope to continue their success Saturday night against Bethune Cookman at 7 p.m. at G. Rollie White.



RYAN ROGERS/THE BATTALION

Jones puts blame of Packer loss on coaching staff

IRVING, Texas (AP) — Owner Jerry Jones blames his coaches more than his players for the Dallas Cowboys' worst regular-season defeat in franchise history.

Jones worked from Sunday, trying to rally his players after they were routed 45-17 in the Green Bay Packers game.

"Our coaching staff should take a significant part of the blame for the loss," Jones said Monday.

"If we had a chance we'd do some things all over again coach-wise. Watching films today was embarrassing. We should have

made adjustments."

Jones singled out the defensive coaching staff headed by Dave Campo for most of the blame, saying the Cowboys blitzed too much in the second half after holding Green Bay to a 10-10 tie after two periods.

"If we could have played it (the defense) straight we would have been a lot more effective," Jones said. "Our players competed at a top level."

Jones went from player to player, trying to revive their spirits for the Tennessee Oilers on Thanksgiving Day in Texas Stadium. Both teams are 6-6.

"We need to win our last four games to get into the playoffs," Jones said. "So far this season has been extremely disappointing. But we know what our players are capable of doing."

Coach Barry Switzer said Jones just said what the coaches were saying during a Monday morning film session.

Of particular dismay to the coaches were the 11 consecutive third downs the Packers converted.

"We couldn't make third downs, and we couldn't stop them on third downs," Switzer said. "That was incredible. But let's give the defense a break one time. They've played well this season. Jerry just said what the coaches were saying while we were watching film. We were criticizing ourselves."

The Cowboys got hurt on numerous blitzes.

"We had the wrong personnel in the game at times," Switzer said. "We turned the tight end loose a couple of times. We had a combination of mental (mistakes) and

sometimes our guesses didn't work. We called some blitzes and got burned by the running game."

Switzer and his entire coaching

"Our coaching staff should take a significant part of the blame for this loss."

JERRY JONES
DALLAS COWBOYS OWNER

staff are under the gun. Jones has yet to promise anybody is going to be back.

Jones said of Campo: "I have a lot of confidence in Dave Campo. I'd like to be on the same team with Dave Campo for a long time. I'd like to keep this defensive staff

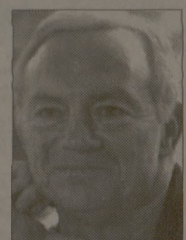
Big 12 rewards top performers

DALLAS (AP) — Oklahoma quarterback Justin Fuente, and Oklahoma State strong safety Ricky Thompson and free safety R.W. McQuarters were named the Big 12 players of the week.

Fuente paced the Sooners to a 32-21 victory over Texas Tech by coming off the bench to complete 14 of 21 passes for 218 yards and one touchdown for offensive honors.

Defensive honors go to Thompson, who recorded seven total tackles and a pair of pass interceptions in OSU's 24-14 win over Baylor.

McQuarters, the special-teams player of the week, returned two punts for a combined 93 yards. He also had two pass interceptions for 54 yards and made five tackles.



Jones

Beat the Hell Outta t.u.!!

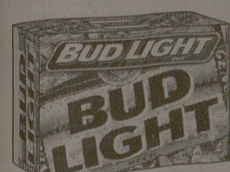
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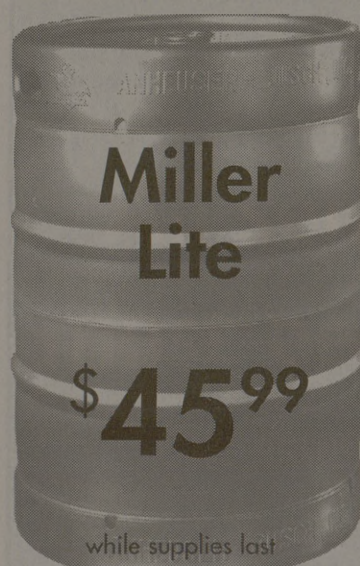
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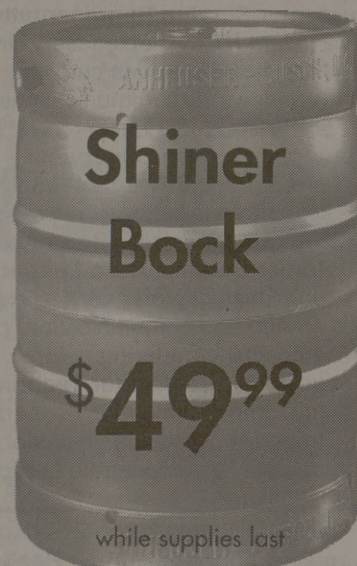
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