

Baylor survives Aggie comeback, 85-82

By MICHAEL TAGLIANTI
Staff writer

Texas A&M Women's Basketball lost to the Baylor Bears, 85-82, Tuesday night at G. Rollie White Coliseum. The loss was a disappointment for the Aggies who had hoped to extend their home winning streak to three games.

The Aggies struggled in all phases of the game in the first half, shooting 36 percent from the field, 40 percent from the foul line, committing 10 turnovers. The Aggies led 35-28 at halftime.

The Aggies came out in the first half playing "loosely," Coach Candi Harvey said. "We were not as hard in practice as we were in the game."

The Aggies' slow start spurred on a confident Baylor team.

"We just came out tentative. Baylor came out with confidence, and my team and I didn't come out like we were going to win," Sophomore

forward Kera Alexander said. "The second half we played like we thought we were going to win, but in the first half, we let the pressure get to us. We didn't come together as a team, we weren't intense and we didn't have enthusiasm."

The Aggies (6-13, 2-7) trailed by as many as 17 points before mounting a second-half comeback. With 9:05 left in the second half, Alexander three-point play cut the Baylor lead to single digits at 58-50. The Aggies and Bears continued to trade buckets until Alexander stole the ball and was fouled with 1:39 left in the game and Baylor ahead by nine points. Alexander sank both of her free throws cutting the Baylor lead to seven.

The game became a free-throw contest down the stretch as Baylor went eight for ten from the line to preserve its lead. Sophomore guard Amy Yates hit a three-pointer as time expired to pull the Ags within three.

Baylor Coach Sonja Hogg said she was not surprised that A&M came back from such a large deficit.

"I knew it was going to be a tough game,"

Hogg said. "I told our players that A&M would never give up and keep coming at us. Our players did a good job down the stretch and made some free throws. You have to give A&M a lot of credit for the way they came back in the second half."

Junior guard Lara Webb led three Baylor players in double figures with 26 points. Junior point guard Toya Ellis scored 25 points, and junior post Kacie Moffitt rounded out Baylor's scoring with 23 points to go along with 10 rebounds.

A&M was led by Alexander, who scored a career- and game-high 32 points. Amy Yates continued her chase of the A&M record book scoring 15 points with three three-pointers. The three-pointers give Yates 108 for her career. This ranks second in the Aggie record book.

Prissy Sharpe had her 14th double-double of the season with 14 points and 11 rebounds. In 19 games, Sharpe has 14 double-doubles which leads the Big 12.

A&M's next game is against Texas in Austin at the Erwin Center at 7 p.m.



Brandon Bolloom/The Battalion
Sophomore Kera Alexander scored a career-high 32 points against Baylor and had six rebounds.

AGGIE SPORTS BRIEFS

from staff and wire reports

Karnes garners Big 12 honors

Texas A&M senior Stacie Karnes was named the Big 12 Conference Women's Swimmer of the Month on Wednesday. Karnes won the 200 freestyle against No. 2 SMU, No. 3 Southern California and No. 23 LSU.

Karnes was victorious in the 200- and 50-yard freestyle against No. 7 Nebraska and No. 10 Minnesota. She also won the 200-butterfly against the Cornhuskers and claimed both the 100-butterfly and 200-freestyle against TCU.

Karnes led the 25th-ranked Texas A&M squad to a 3-4 record in the month of January, including victories over LSU, Cal-Irvine and TCU.

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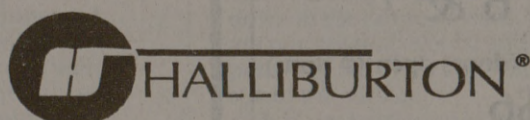
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