

AGGIE SPORTS BRIEFS

from staff and wire reports

Tarkington named Rookie of Week

The Big 12 league office bestowed conference Rookie of the Week honors on Texas A&M junior guard Kim Tarkington after a week in which she averaged 15.5 points and eight assists in both Aggie games last week.

Tarkington, a transfer student from Westark Community College, added 16 points and nine assists in the Aggies' defeat of the Texas Longhorns at G. Rollie White Coliseum last Wednesday. Although the Aggies suffered a loss in Lubbock to the Texas Tech Lady Raiders, Tarkington scored a career-high four three-pointers on her way to a 15-point outing. She also had seven assists in the game against Tech.

Tarkington leads the Aggies in assists with 120 for the season and she is the only Aggie to have started in every game this year.

North Texas may hire A&M coach

According to a Saturday report by *The Dallas Morning News*, North Texas Athletic Director Craig Helwig contacted Texas A&M Coach R.C. Slocum for permission to speak to current A&M offensive coordinator Steve Kragthorpe about the vacant head coaching job at UNT.

Former UNT Coach Matt Simon was reassigned within the UNT athletic department and Kragthorpe's name was mentioned as a replacement. Helwig would not confirm or deny reports that Kragthorpe is a candidate. Kragthorpe served as the offensive coordinator at UNT during the 1994 and '95 seasons. During that period, North Texas set a school record for total offense and won the Southland Conference title.

Aggie golfers take 2nd in first round

The No. 16-ranked Texas A&M Women's Golf Team nailed down a first-round 303, putting them behind leader No. 27 Campbell (296) in the Fifth Annual GTE/Mo'Morial Monday at Pebble Creek Country Club in College Station.

Fog delayed the start of the first round for an hour and a half and golfers were only able to complete 34 of the scheduled 36 holes. The golfers will finish the second round at 9 a.m. today. The final round will follow the completion of round two with the pairings remaining the same as the first round.

Texas A&M finished third in the tournament last year, but won the three previous Mo'Morial tournaments.

"I was very pleased with our first tournament," A&M Coach Jeanne Sutherland said. "We are focused and we kept our heads up all day."

A&M preseason All-American Isabelle Rosberg notched a one-under par 71 to head the 87-player field. Texas A&M has three golfers currently in the top 20 in the field. Campbell had four golfers in the top eight overall.

JONES

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At 6-feet-5-inches, Jones is relatively undersized to play a power game. However, Barone is pleased with Jones' output and commitment.

"He's a young guy that's undersized and he's accepted every challenge we've asked him to accept inside," Barone said. "We asked him to lose weight at the beginning of the season

and he did. We asked him to be a post up guy and he's done that. He's a wonderful Big 12 player.

"I think the thing that identifies him more than anything else is his ability to battle with bigger guys inside. He wants to win and he's trying to leave everything out on the court."



Jones

Jones says his biggest strength as a player is his jumping ability.

"That's the reason I think I can score so well. Most people tell me they don't think I can jump," Jones said. "I don't think (teams) underestimate me. I've had a couple of big games and people have realized that."

Jones seems somewhat reserved and quiet, but close friend Steve Houston said otherwise.

"He's pretty humorous. When he goes out he's pretty much quiet, but I've

known him so long that he's usually the one to crack jokes," Houston said.

Houston and Jones became close when both played at The Colony High School.

"Just being on the team we were forced to be friends on and off the court," Houston said. "I talk to his mom, he talks to my mom."

"I really wanted to feel at home (when Houston first came to A&M) and I feel like I have a security blanket now (in reference to his friendship with Jones)," Houston said.

STUFF BREAKS.

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