

SPORTS

THE BATTALION

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Women's basketball team defeats Klondaika



J.P. BEATO III • THE BATTALION

Aggie sophomore guard Mindy Garrison looks to score in Wednesday's game.

By Gary Livingston
THE BATTALION

Five Aggies scored in the double digits as the Texas A&M women's basketball team began the season with a 86-66 win on Wednesday night over RTU Klondaika.

Junior Janae Derrick led the Aggies with 17 points, and senior Kim Moore led A&M with 14 rebounds and added 11 points.

Head coach Peggy Gillom said it was her plan to let everyone play since it was an exhibition game.

"We wanted to play everybody so we could get some things going," said Gillom. "It was good to start with a win and I'm proud of the girls."

RTU Klondaika hails from Riga, Latvia and are professionals who range in ages 17 to 38. It is currently on a Texas college swing playing seven colleges in 10 days.

A&M pulled out the victory despite a poor shooting night and 17 turnovers. For the game the Aggies shot only 39.3 per-

cent from the field, and were 22.2 percent from the three-point line. The Aggies shot only 61.5 percent from the free-throw line.

However, Klondaika had problems of its own as three of its players played more than 30 minutes of a 40-minute game and this was the team's fifth game during the past week. The team's shooting percentage was also low, at only 37.3 percent on the game.

"They played a lot of give and go and it looked like we just weren't ready," Gillom said. "It looked like we had jelly fingers, I hope it's just opening night jitters, or else we are going to be in trouble."

The game started out with the Aggies in control as they built a 10-3 lead, but Klondaika battled back to get within six points of the Aggies. The Aggies increased their lead to 20-10 halfway through the first half.

After a basket by Klondaika, the Lady Aggies went on an 11-point scoring run to increase their lead to 19 and the Aggies entered the locker room at halftime with a 10-point lead.

At the beginning of the second half, it looked as if the Aggies were going to run away with the game as they built a 12-point lead. But Klondaika gave its best run of the night and came within three points of the Aggies with 12 minutes to play. Coach Gillom called a timeout, changed around the defense and subbed her starting players back in.

From that point on, the Aggies were in control as they went on an 18-point run to build a 68-50 lead. A&M continued to turn it on late after Klondaika's top player fouled out.

Zana Teilane led Klondaika with 25 points, 11 rebounds and eight blocks. Teilane is a 6'6" center for the team and dominated the Aggies' defense in the paint.

Other solid players for A&M included guard Toccaro Williams who had 14 points, post player Lynn Classen who scored 10, and guard Mindy Garrison who finished with 13 points.

The Aggies will have a week off before playing their next exhibition game on Nov. 20 against the NWBL Elite team.

Miami University coaches suspended after Marshall melee

OXFORD, Ohio (AP) — Two Miami University assistant football coaches were suspended Wednesday after one was charged with assaulting a fan and another acknowledged damaging a coaches' box at Marshall.

Coach Terry Hooppner apologized Wednesday, saying things got out of control when fans rushed the field following Marshall's last-second, 36-34 win over its Mid-American Conference rival.

Defensive coordinator Jon Wauford and linebackers coach Taver Johnson were suspended with pay while the southwest Ohio school investigates.

Wauford was led off the field in handcuffs and charged with battery, a misdemeanor, for allegedly shoving a fan who ran on the field after the game. Johnson acknowledged damaging the visiting

coaches' box, Hooppner said.

"I don't want to prejudge our investigation of the facts. But I have to tell you, as president, to see one of my coaches led away in handcuffs was one of the most difficult things I've seen since I've been here," school President James Garland said in a phone interview.

"We justify our support of athletics because of the message that it sends about character," Garland said. "These events of yesterday suggest that we've fallen short of our goal."

Interim athletic director Steve Snyder said Miami will pay to repair the coaches' box.

Wauford was released on \$5,000 bond early Wednesday and has a court hearing Dec. 13. The fan, Robert Flaughner, 36, was treated at a hospital

"... the coach basically hit him with a forearm. That knocked him flat. His head definitely hit first on the turf. It was basically a sucker punch."

— Todd Flaughner
brother of assaulted fan

after Marshall scored the winning touchdown in the closing seconds.

West Virginia State Police said Wauford shoved Flaughner, who fell and struck his head on the artificial turf. He was taken away on a stretcher with what was diagnosed as a concussion.

Flaughner's brother, Todd, said that neither he nor his brother used abusive language toward Miami players or coaches.

"He was waving goodbye to Miami's players ... the coach basically hit him with a forearm. That knocked him flat. His head definitely hit first on the turf. It was basically a sucker punch," Todd Flaughner said.

Hooppner predicted that Wauford, a Miami assistant for three years, will be

exonerated because of the circumstances on the field.

"It was emotional in all contexts," Hooppner said.

Marshall coach Bob Pruett said he didn't see the confrontation and declined to comment on it.

Asked about the damage in the coaches' box, Pruett said: "People get excited after games. It's a very emotional game. You put your life and soul into a ballgame, and sometimes you react in ways that would be distressful."

Miami is proud of its history of producing coaching luminaries such as Paul Brown, Weeb Ewbank, Sid Gillman, Ara Parseghian and Woody Hayes, who was fired by Ohio State for hitting a Clemson player who made an interception during a game.

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