

Red Wolves defeated by Little Rock in road game

WILL LIVINGSTON

SPORTS EDITOR

The Arkansas State women's basketball team fell to the Little Rock Trojans, 59-49. The Red Wolves never really got off the ground offensively, and this is now their third loss in a row.

A-State struggled all night in scoring, and went 17 for 54 from the floor and only made 7 of their 33 three-point attempts. The Trojans hardly attempted a shot from the three, but won the turnover battle, committing 21 turnovers to the Red Wolves 22, and got 12 steals to the Red Wolves 8.

The Trojans went on a hot streak in the second quarter, breaking out a 13-4 run. The Red Wolves struggled to respond, and spent 3:49 seconds without scoring a single basket. The entire game was a game of streaks for the Trojans, as an 8-0 run extended the lead

over the Red Wolves to an 18 point difference. This lead proved insurmountable for the Red Wolves to overcome, and A-State fell 59-49.

Guard Kyanna Morgan was the game leader in scoring, getting 18 points, 7 rebounds and a steal. Morgan was the only A-State player to break double digits as the next highest point total on the team was 8. Guard Shaunae Brown scored 8 points and grabbed 2 steals, and guard Kennedie Montue also scored 8 points and 6 rebounds.

Little Rock had four players score in double digits. A-State won the rebound battle, but failed to score as much on second chance opportunities.

The Red Wolves have now fallen to 2-4 with the loss. They are currently ranked 12th in the Sun Belt Conference. A-State will come home on December 12 for their next game, and will take on the Jackson State Tigers.



Guard Kyanna Morgan attempts a shot against Little Rock.

PHOTO COURTESY OF A-STATE ATHLETICS

A-State falls to Monarchs 40-32



PHOTO COURTESY OF A-STATE ATHLETICS

TE Manny Stephenson Jr. fights through the Monarch defense for a touchdown.

ALLIE CARSON

STAFF WRITER

In their last regular season game, Arkansas State fell to the Old Dominion Monarchs (ODU), giving the Red Wolves their only home loss of the year. A combination of A-State turnovers and ODU racking up 406 rushing yards led to this 40-32 loss.

"I give ODU a lot of credit. We knew they were going to challenge us" head coach Butch Jones said. "Football comes down to one-on-one matchups and winning your box. We weren't able to do that tonight."

On the third play of the game, wide receiver Corey Rucker ran the ball for 12 yards to A-State's 31. This play resulted in Rucker becoming the all-time leader for rushing yards at Arkansas State.

On the first Red Wolves offensive drive, quarterback Jaylan Raynor threw an early interception. The pass was intended for wide receiver Adam Jones but was overthrown and was intercepted by Monarchs safety Will Jones II.

The next play, Monarchs QB Quinn Henicle rushed to the right for a 92-yard touchdown. The Red Wolves weren't expecting Henicle to play, as the freshman has only played

in two other games this season.

"It was a different quarterback but he was doing exactly what we expected the other quarterback to do," linebacker Charles Willekes said.

The Red Wolves attempted to respond to the quick score by the Monarchs, and got a decent drive into ODU territory. This drive ended in another turnover as running back Ja'Quez Cross fumbled the ball after a short run up the middle. ODU got another touchdown, making the score a 14-0.

A-State's defense managed to hold the score here for a while, and a spectacular 4th down tackle by defensive end Bryan Whitehead forced the turnover on downs. The Red Wolves marched downfield and got their first touchdown on 4th and 8 after Raynor threw a 36-yard bomb to wide receiver Corey Rucker.

The first half ended with the Monarchs leading 21-14. In the first half, RB Zak Wallace led the Red Wolves in rushing yards with 61 yards. Raynor was 10-18 for passing attempts for a total of 110 yards. Rucker led A-State in receiving yards with 71 for four catches.

Even with two missed extra points by the Monarchs and a touchdown with a two point

conversion by Arkansas State, the Red Wolves were unable to hold ODU defensively, and the Monarchs had ball possession for the remaining six minutes of the game. Old Dominion left with a 40-32 victory.

The Monarchs ran for a total of 406 yards, 205 of those by their quarterback whereas A-State managed 149 rushing yards.

"They're able to come in here and run the ball for over 400 yards and I give them a lot of credit," Jones said. "They won the line of scrimmage. And as we know, football is a line of scrimmage game."

Jaylan Raynor was 22 for 36 for a total of 261 passing yards. Corey Rucker finished the game with 115 receiving yards. Zak Wallace ran for a net gain of 89 yards.

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The Red Wolves will play a bowl game to end the season. A-State will find out their bowl selection on December 8.

WILL LIVINGSTON'S COLLEGE FOOTBALL PICK'EM

NATIONAL CHAMPION: NOTRE DAME FIGHTING IRISH



Yes, I know that the Irish lost to Northern Illinois. But that was a two point loss, and their only loss. They have dominated every opponent since, with extremely convincing wins over Texas A&M, Louisville, Georgia Tech, Army and Navy. I think anything could happen in this playoff format, but the Fighting Irish certainly look locked in right now.

HEISMAN TROPHY: RB ASHTON JEANTY, BOISE STATE BRONCOS

The Heisman race is effectively down to Jeanty and Colorado WR/CB Travis Hunter. I really like Hunter, and think he's extremely talented. But Jeanty is putting up other-worldly numbers, and is carrying Boise State (who doesn't even have another player ranked in the top 50) to a playoff berth.



COACH OF THE YEAR: CURT CIGNETTI, INDIANA HOOSIERS



In his first season with the Hoosiers, Cignetti has already set the record for most program wins in a season. Oh yeah, and the Hoosiers are going to the playoffs, and considering they haven't won a bowl game since the 1991 Copper Bowl, that's a pretty good sign of things to come. Cignetti is a slam dunk for this

FRED BILETNIKOFF AWARD: NICK NASH, SAN JOSE STATE SPARTANS

The award for the best receiver in college football can't go anywhere but San Jose. Nash has the most receptions, the most receiving touchdowns and the most receiving yards. By definition, he's the best in the country.

