

Tribe pulls away from Branch West

Game Stats

Men's Basketball ASU vs. Branch West

Arkansas State 106

Scoring	FG-FGA	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	P
Rivers, N.	9-18	4-8	2-2	22
Jennings, J.	7-10	0-0	0-1	14
Weaver, K.	5-14	0-1	3-3	13
Adams, K.	6-9	0-0	1-2	13
Williams, O.	2-4	0-1	7-8	11
Brown, T.	5-6	0-0	0-0	10
Sokolov, E.	5-9	0-1	0-0	10
Team Totals	43-82	7-18	13-16	106

Rebounding	Off.	Def.	Tot.
Adams, K.	6	7	13
Jennings, J.	5	3	8
Weaver, K.	4	3	7
Team Totals	18	25	43

Branch West 90

Scoring	FG-FGA	FG-FGA	FT-FTA	P
Sanders, E.	9-15	3-4	2-4	23
Watt, M.	3-16	1-5	9-9	16
Burton, R.	6-10	0-1	1-2	13
Team Totals	31-70	6-22	22-27	90

Rebounding	Off.	Def.	Tot.
Brown, D.	1	11	12
Cooper, D.	5	3	8
Team Totals	16	26	42

By Hannah Dolle
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Despite the lack of defense, the Indians dominated the court in its second and last exhibition against Branch West Basketball Academy at the Convocation Center Monday. The Academy lost in a 90-106 game.

"I don't think coach is going to be very happy with our defense," Nick Rivers, a senior guard of Memphis said.

"Most of the (Branch West) points came from dunks and lay-ups and that made us look real terrible on the inside. That's something we gotta work on."

Head coach Dickey Nutt was unhappy with the Indians defensive performance. "We had some good points, and we had some obviously disappointing phases."

"Defensively, I just don't know what to think. I don't think we are very good right now. We've gotta be a lot better defensively. It's a matter of the big guys, they are not sprinting like they should," Nutt said. "All in all it was a win and we did what we had to do to win the game."

The "big guys," specifically seniors Jason Jennings, a center of

Bald Knob and Kolin Weaver, a forward of Cleburne, Texas, both played well in different aspects of the game, but lacked the speed Nutt was looking for.

Weaver, who only downed five of the 14 shots attempted and was aggressive defensively Nutt said. Jennings scored 13 points for the night.

Jennings' scoring was stronger, he made seven of the 10 attempts, but he lacked the aggression of Weaver. "Conditionally, Jason is not ready yet and it really shows, but he did some good things," Nutt said.

The Indians were slightly hurt by illnesses and an injury. Terrence Salisbury was unable to play because of a broken nose sustained in practice last week. Rivers and Nutt both agreed the loss of Salisbury, a transfer guard of Memphis, cost the Indians some points and a lack of defense.

"We missed Terrence tonight. I think he is the difference maker in our team. He's a big 6-5 athlete that can really play on the perimeter," Nutt said.

According to Nutt, Salisbury will probably be out this weekend when the Tribe takes on season openers Central Methodist and Briar Cliff.

Kim Adams, who suffered from

a chest cold and bad cough refused to be taken out of the game. "He really concentrated on finishing the game and had great energy," Nutt said. Adams achieved a double-double with 13 rebounds and points.

Leading the game in scoring was Edmund Saunders of Branch West with 23 points. Athletically, Saunders was a challenge for the Indians.

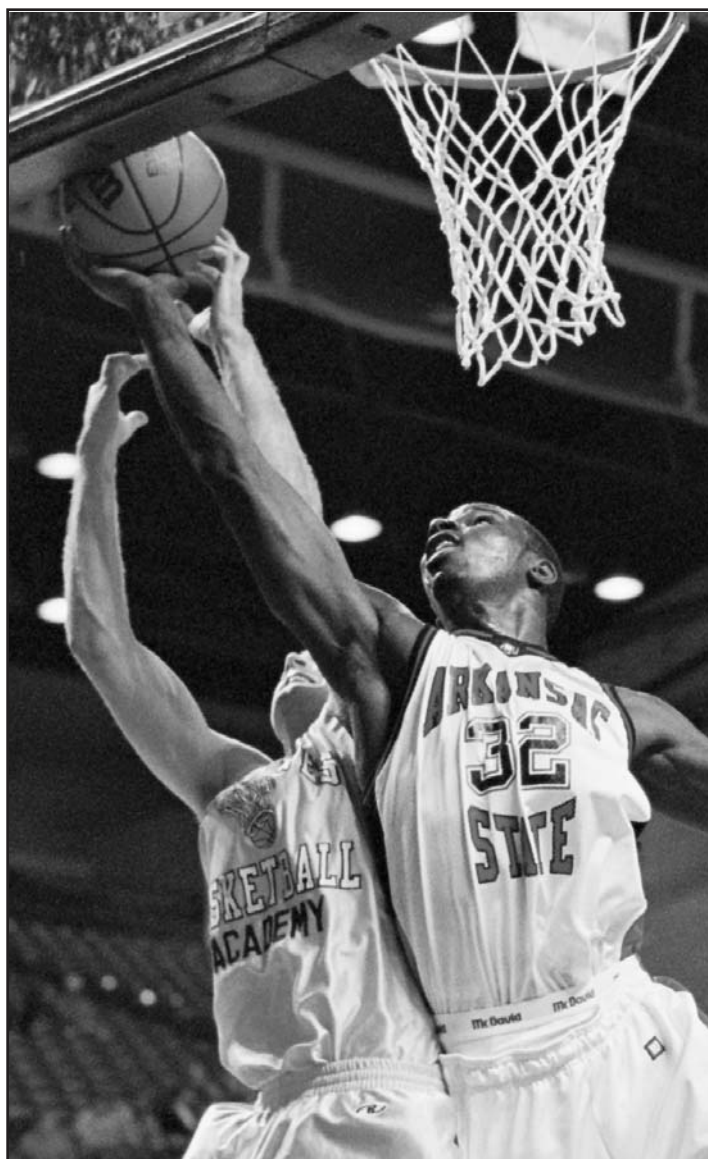
"He's a real strong athlete. For those that don't know he was on the U-Conn team that won the national championship," Rivers said.

Rivers was the leading scorer for the Indians with 22 points and made 50 percent of both his free throws and field goal attempts.

"Nick really had a complete game tonight. I thought he was very patient and very team oriented," Nutt said.

A big surprise to the whole team was freshman Evgueni Sokolov, with 10 points in the game. "I thought Evgueni came in and did some really good things. The thing I like about him, and I've told the team, we've gotta have a better sense of urgency out there."

"It seems like they are little uncertain, and that's when the cool comes out of them. That cool will get you beat," Nutt said.



Indian forward Kim Adams (32) is blocked from behind by a Branch West defender. In the Tribes 106-90 victory, Adams recorded a double-double with 13 points and 13 rebounds. ASU opens their regular season schedule at home against Central Methodist Friday night at 7:05.

PHOTO BY HANNAH DOLLE

The Indians will win this weekend

State of the Program

By Dustin Dearman



This is a sure bet! The Indians will win this weekend. I guarantee it. According to the CBS Sportsline rankings, ASU is ranked 116 out of 117 and Louisiana-Monroe is 117. Ladies and gentlemen, come one come all to the first annual Toilet Bowl brought to you by--it doesn't matter who sponsors it this game is God awful.

How can you miss the hype? Two national non-powers duking it out for the cellar.

Who is the worst team in the country?

That answer is quite simple. The Indians. Whether it is the ASU Indians or the ULM Indians, some team with a Native American mascot will be labeled as the country's door mat.

This is college football at its finest. In front of a hostile crowd of 1,000 (announced as 8,000), each team will be fighting, clawing and scraping to save whatever dignity is left for its team.

Now, to look how both teams have faltered this year, I must begin with the quarterback position.

Who is going to start for ASU Saturday?

Josh Driscoll? No. He had his collarbone shattered in the Tribe's no-show at North Texas, 45-0.

Tommy Miller? No. He had ligaments in his knee shredded in the loss to New Mexico State.

Elliott Jacobs?

He is not hurt, but it seems when he starts he can't move the ball down the field and is eventually replaced.

Bryan Gauthreaux? Probably. Gauthreaux, a redshirt freshman from Marietta, Ga., made his first collegiate appearance last week against New Mexico State and was quite consistent, until he threw an interception late in the fourth quarter to pretty much lock the game in the Aggies favor.

Mike Clark? No. Head Coach Joe Hollis has decided to redshirt the JUCO transfer out of California. Plus, playing him would waste his redshirt year.

James Morales? WHO?

With Driscoll hurt, Miller hurt and Clark redshirted, Hollis needs an emergency quarterback, and he has called Morales' number.

Morales, a true freshman out of Houston, Texas, was originally recruited as a quarterback in the spring but since then has been shuffled as a wide receiver near the bottom of the depth chart.

If we see Morales Saturday, I can

confidently say I don't like ASU's chances.

So as it looks now, ASU will either start Elliott Jacobs, "Mr. Inconsistency," or Bryan Gauthreaux, who only has 27 career snaps. Both are "Mr. Inexperience."

And you thought we have it bad? ULM doesn't need six quarterbacks to mess things up, they just need two.

Quarterback Andy Chance is out for the remainder of the season after receiving his third concussion in 12

months against Louisiana-Lafayette.

Chance's replacement Andre Vige has stepped in as ULM's newest flop at quarterback.

In last week's loss to Division I-A powerhouse Troy State, Vige had a prolific night completing nine of 26 passes including five more completions to the wrong team. What a talent.

So who is going to flush who down the "Toilet Bowl" this season?

All I have to say is I'm looking forward to the rematch.

What's the Score?

Women's Basketball

Lady Indians make first early signing period acquisition

Arkansas State women's basketball landed its first player of the early signing period as Mount Pleasant guard Katie Caraway signed a letter of intent Wednesday.

The 5-7 Caraway is a three-time all-state selection and was the most valuable player of the Class A state tournament as a freshman. She averaged 23.5 points and almost eight rebounds last season.

Volleyball

Rough season ends in SBC tournament against Denver

Arkansas State's stay in the 2001 Sun Belt Conference Tournament was a short one as host Denver handled the Lady Indians, 30-19, 30-27, 30-24, in first-round action at Hamilton Gym.

With the loss, ASU fell to 7-19 overall. The Lady Indians had finished the regular season with a 3-11 Sun Belt record and went into the tournament as the No. 5 seed out of the East Division.

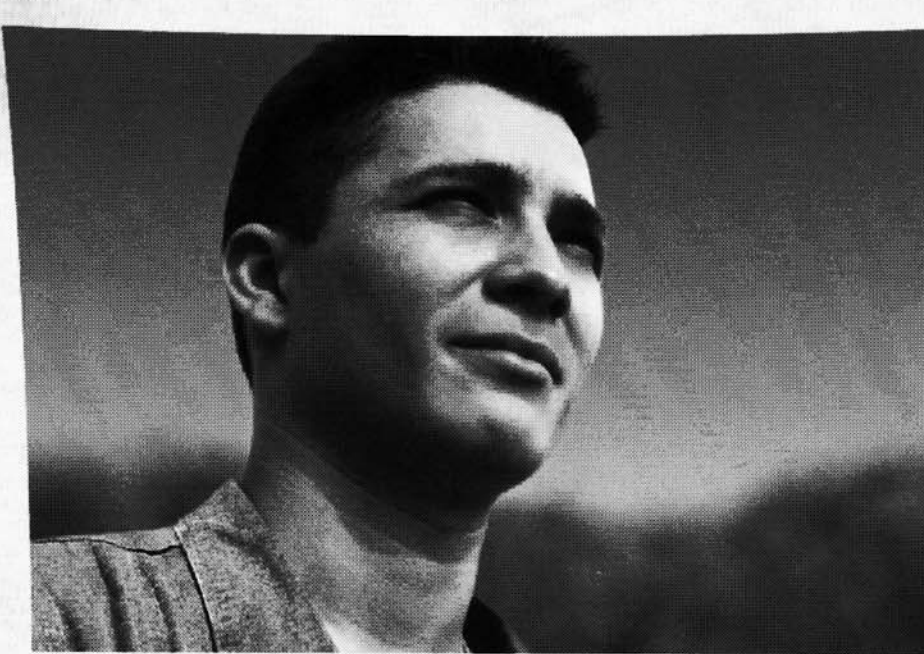
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