

Aggies Win Home Opener, 75-65

[box score](#)

LAS CRUCES, N.M. (AP) - Freshman Wendell McKines scored 17 points and had 9 rebounds to lead New Mexico State to a 75-65 win over UC Davis on Wednesday night, marking the first win for new Aggies coach Marvin Menzies.

New Mexico State (1-2) jumped to an 11-0 lead less than 5 minutes into the game and led the rest of the way. Davis (1-1) cut the NMSU lead to 22-17 toward the end of the first half but never challenged again.

After leading 36-22 at the half, New Mexico State opened the second period with a 10-4 run on three baskets by McKines, who was making his first start.

New Mexico State's zone defense took away the inside game, forcing Davis to shoot from outside the 3-point line. Davis shot 44 percent from the floor compared to NMSU's 52 percent.

New Mexico State also outrebounded Davis 47-20, but committed 22 turnovers to Davis' 14.

Justin Hawkins finished with 15 points for New Mexico State, and Jonathan Gibson added 12 points and Hatila Passos had 9 points and 13 rebounds. In all, New Mexico State's starters contributed 61 of the team's 75 points.

Vince Oliver led Davis scorers with 17 points, Ryan Silva had 12 and Shane Hanson added 11.

The game was the home opener for NMSU and also the first regional round of the Legends Classic. The championship round will be in Newark, N.J., on Nov. 23-24.

