

Sports

Brinkman, A&M spikers tie Baylor in knot

Ags put everything on line in last match against 'Horns

By CHAREAN WILLIAMS
Assistant Sports Editor

The Texas A&M volleyball team was within one point of a victory over Baylor Monday night, when middle blocker Sherri Brinkman kneeled down to tie her shoe.

A&M Coach Terry Condon was forced to call a timeout when Brinkman got her shoe strings twisted in a knot.

That was about the only thing Brinkman did wrong all night.

The senior All-American led the Aggies to a 15-3, 15-5, 15-9, win over the Bears in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Brinkman dinked, spiked, blocked and drilled holes into Baylor's side of the floor, leaving the Bears in a daze for most of the 48-minute match.

"Most of the time, there are three blockers on us (A&M's middle blockers) — or on me at least," Brinkman said. "I haven't had two on me all year. You're asking for trouble when you do that. But it sure made me happy."

She finished with a .579 hitting percentage, had 12 kills and seven blocks.

And when Brinkman wasn't doing damage, the Aggies' other middle blocker was.

Margaret Spence got the Ags going at the beginning of the match. With BU leading 2-0, Spence got two kills, sandwiched around a dink, to put the Ags on top for good, 3-2.

For the match, the junior hit .333 with seven kills.

"Margaret and Sherri played well in the middle," Condon said. "Margaret is handling the middle pretty nicely now. They're doing real well in the middle."

A&M's other "Sheri," freshman Cheri Steensma, rebounded from a poor performance Saturday to lead the Aggies in hitting at .750 with 10 kills.

"Anything would be better than Saturday's game (when she hit

.200)," said Steensma. "That was just a game of frustration. This definitely wasn't one of my best games. Some of my hits were lucky."

Even though outside hitters Steensma and Stacey Gildner, who hit .556 with six kills, had good hitting nights, Condon wasn't pleased with their performances.

"The outside hitters aren't playing very well right now," Condon said. "Neither of my outside hitters are getting the job done. They really didn't do much tonight. They were out of position and didn't play any defense."

"Texas (A&M's next opponent) hits hard, cross-court shots. It will be a quick match if they don't play any better. We'll have to work on it tomorrow in practice."

Baylor Coach Mitch Castell wasn't happy either. However, his complaints weren't directed at his players.

At the end of the first game, Castell rose from his chair and loudly complained to officials, A&M coaches, players and anyone who would listen about the yells of the Dunn Hall Bleacher Bums who were standing just behind him.

By the time A&M scored the final point of the match, Castell had already left the court and headed to his team's dressing room.

"He should hear his own crowd," Condon said. "They were saying rude and crude things when we played them there. That shouldn't have any affect on a team. You have to learn to handle the situation."

The Aggies (25-6, 7-2 in Southwest Conference) are hoping to handle the situation in their final match of the season when they host Texas (20-5, 8-0) Wednesday night.

A win by the No. 8 'Horns would ensure Texas of its fourth straight SWC title, and just might signal the end of the season for A&M. The Ags will find out Dec. 2 if they will receive an at-large bid to the NCAA tournament.

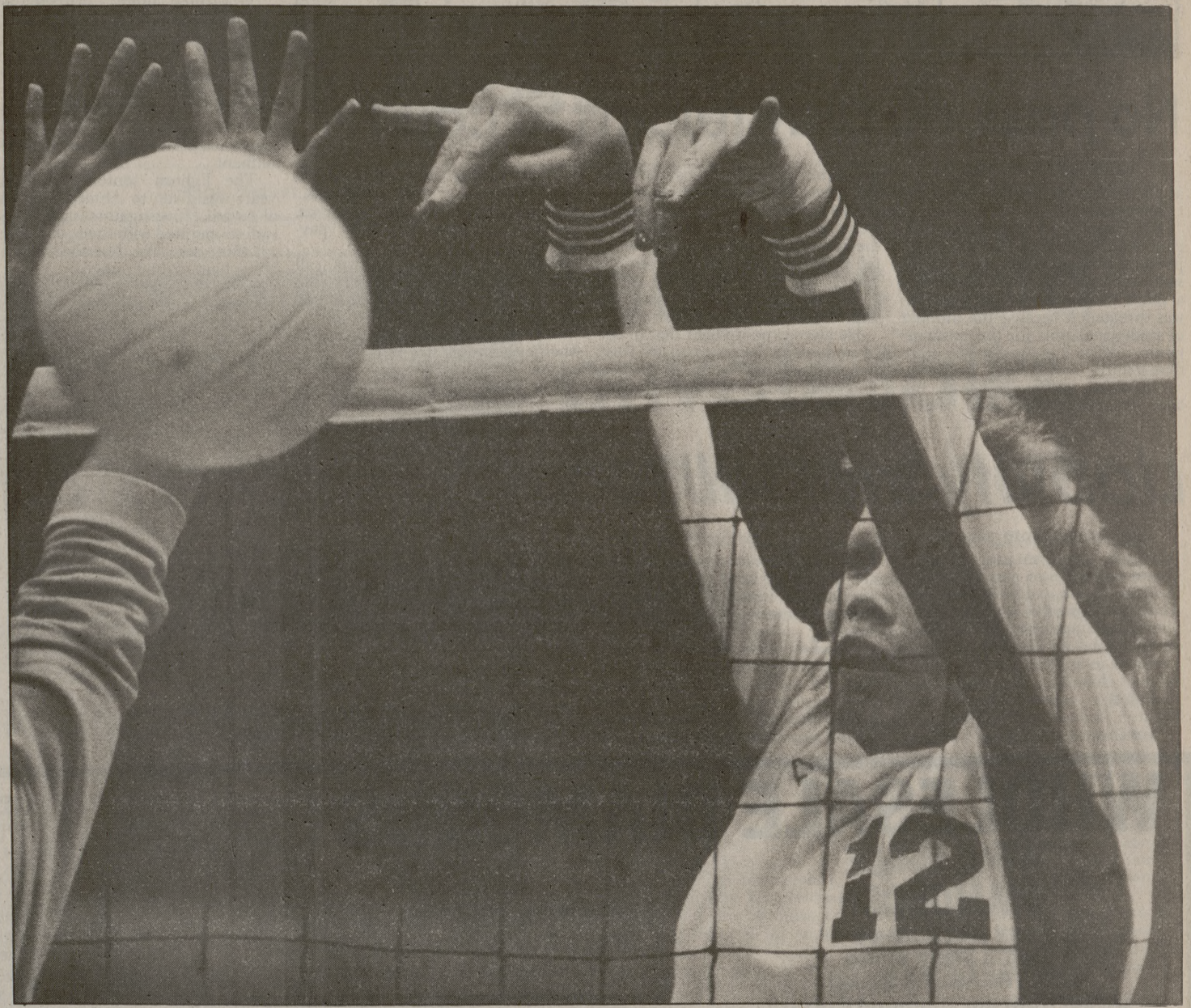
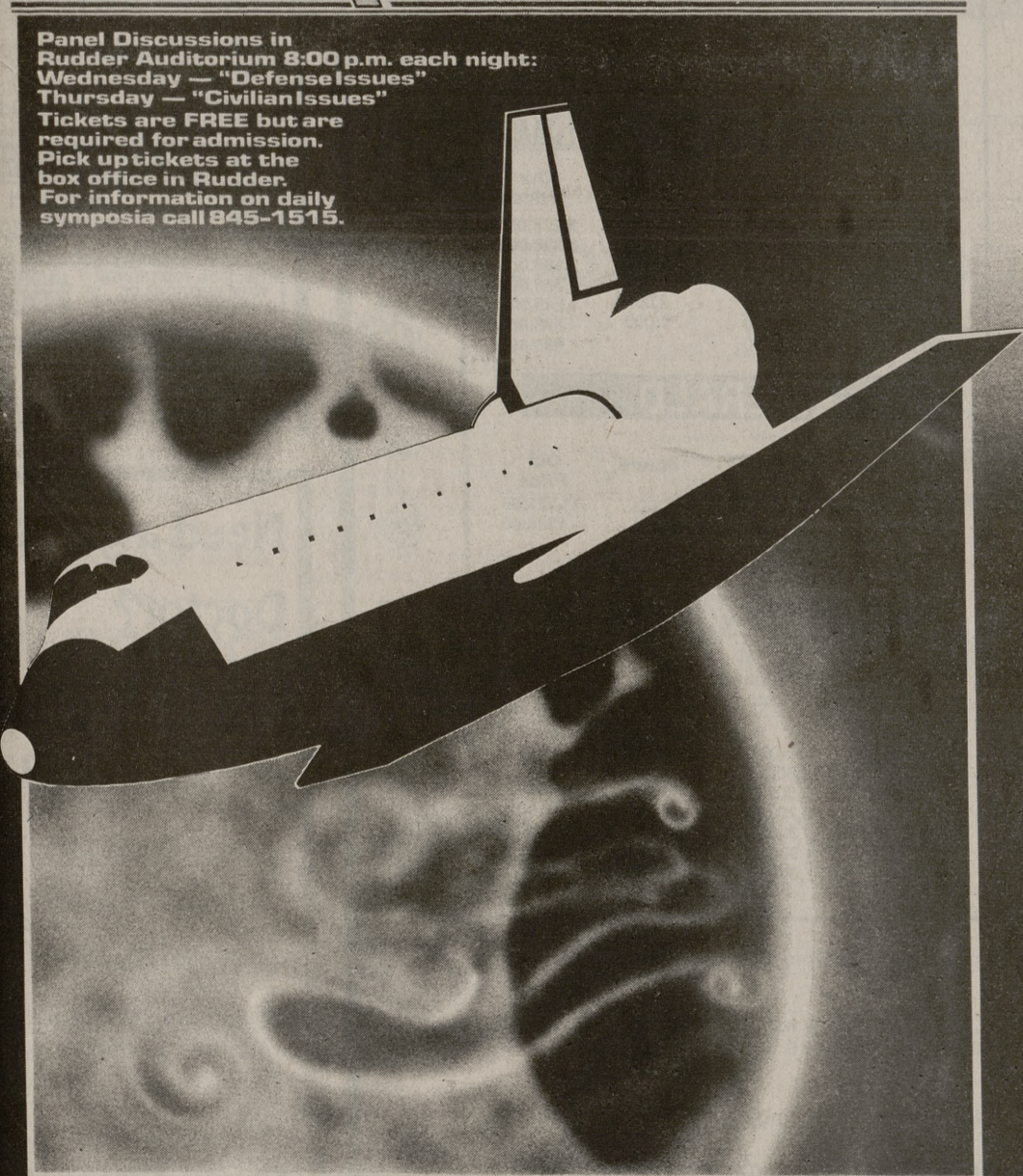


Photo by JOHN MAKELY

Texas A&M's Cheri Steensma dinks the ball around the outstretched arms of a Baylor player Monday night. The Aggies defeated the Bears in G. Rollie White Coliseum, 15-3, 15-5, 15-9 to improve their Southwest Conference record to 7-2, 25-6 overall.

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"Philosophical Implications of the Future in Space"
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"The Strategic Defense Initiative"
Mr. James Oberg of McDonnell-Douglas
1:30 p.m.--701 Rudder

"The Future in Space: The Strategic Defense Initiative"
A panel discussion with:
Dr. Robert Bowman of the Institute for Space and Securities Studies
Lt. General Daniel Graham of High Frontier
Dr. Robert Lawrence of Colorado State University
Brig. General Malcolm O'Neill of the Department of Defense
Moderated by Mr. Jules Bergman of ABC News
8:00 p.m.--Rudder Auditorium

Thursday, November 21

"Bio-Support Systems"
Dr. Bill Scheld of PhytoResource Research, Inc.
9:30 a.m.--701 Rudder

"Artificial Intelligence"
Dr. Jon Erickson of NASA, Johnson Space Center
11:00 a.m.--701 Rudder

"Biological and Pharmaceutical Experimentation"
Dr. Marian Lewis of Technology, Inc.
1:30 p.m.--410 Rudder

"Advanced Manned Spacelight"
Mr. Hubert Davis of the Institute of Space Research
1:30 p.m.--701 Rudder

"Prospects for the Use of Lunar Materials in Space"
Mr. Thomas Glass of the Space Foundation
3:00 p.m.--410 Rudder

"The Space Launch Vehicle Industry"
Mr. Earl Reese of TranSpace Carriers
Mr. Mark Daniels of Space Services, Inc.
3:00 p.m.--701 Rudder

"The Future in Space: Space Commercialization"
A panel discussion with:
Dr. Joe Allen of Space Industries
Mr. Art Dula of Dula, Shields and Egbert
Mr. Bill Huffstetler of NASA, Johnson Space Center
Moderated by Mrs. Nancy Wood of the Space Foundation
8:00 p.m.--Rudder Auditorium

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