

A&M, UT head All-SWC spiker team

By CHAREAN WILLIAMS
Assistant Sports Editor

The No. 19 Texas A&M volleyball team placed four players on the 1985 All-Southwest Conference volleyball team, selected by SWC coaches on Monday.

Aggie middle blocker Sherri Brinkman was named to the first team for the third year and was a unanimous choice. She was joined on the first team by teammate Margaret Spence.

A&M setter Lesha Beakley and outside hitter Stacey Gildner were named to the second team.

Brinkman, an '84 All-America selection, has led the conference in hitting the past two years, but once again did not win SWC Player of the Year.

That honor went to Texas' Diane Watson, who made the team for the second year and was also a unanimous choice.



Sherri Brinkman

Brinkman, a 6-foot senior from Mt. Prospect, Ill., was the only unanimous SWC selection last season, but the Player of the Year award went to the Longhorns' Kim Larson.

"There's nothing you can do about (not being named Player of the Year)," Brinkman said. "I've learned to live with that. I'm just happy about making the team. I appreciate everything I get and am glad — so yes, I am very happy."

Spence, a 5-foot-11 junior who made second team All-SWC last season, was moved from outside hitter to middle blocker in the 19th match of the season.

"I am so excited," Spence screamed. "That is great. I certainly didn't expect it with the position change and everything that happened. This really shocks me."

Beakley, a 5-foot-5 senior, has been ranked 13th in the nation in assist percentage all season long.

"I think it's exciting," Beakley said. "Knowing this was my last year, I sort of had a goal to make it my best season. This will be something nice to look back on when I'm



Margaret Spence

through playing."

Gildner, a 5-foot-8 junior, transferred from the University of Minnesota-Duluth after her freshman season. This past season was the first time she started every match for the

Aggies. Margaret just called me," Gildner said. "I am very surprised. This just adds one more good thing to the season. I'm glad we got so many on the team. Four is a lot for any team."

But while A&M had four spots on the list, No. 8 Texas claimed five.

Longhorn setter Eva Murray was named to the team for the second straight year. UT outside hitter Laura Neugebauer joined Murray and Watson on the first team.

Houston's Angela Lewis was the only player not from A&M or Texas to be named to the first team.

The Lady Longhorns placed two players on the second team — Karen Kramer and Jackie Campbell.

Completing the second team were Baylor's Susie O'Malley, Houston's Kerry Keith, and two players from Texas Tech — Becky Boxwell and Debbie Crown.

Ag officials: Newspaper series has errors

(continued from page 1)

its reporters — Danny Robbins and Jack Fischer. Tarleton said Sherrill also has made allegations of a \$400,000 war chest which supposedly funded an effort to find rule violations by the A&M Athletic Department.

"I'll be glad to take a lie detector test on that if Coach Sherrill will take a lie detector test," Tarleton said, adding that the A&M articles were part of a continuing series of investigations on Southwest Conference recruiting practices.

Krebs said errors in the newspaper cover everything from allegations that Sherrill is shielding his players and their personal records to

contentions that money was given to recruits and players during his tenure and that of his predecessor, Tom Wilson. Wilson is currently the offensive coordinator at Texas Tech and has declined comment on several occasions.

Responding to the cover-up accusations, Sherrill cited statements attributed to an A&M Twelfth Man kickoff team member, Ronnie Glenn. The *Times Herald* quoted Glenn as saying that Sherrill distributed forms during a practice session for the players to sign. The forms were intended to keep the *Times Herald's* reporters from gaining access to car registrations and other personal records.

According to the news release

Glenn said he was "completely misquoted" by the paper. He also revealed that he did not sign such a form until after the first story was published. Glenn said he wanted to avoid any future harassment by the newspaper's reporters.

However, Tarleton countered again. "We have these interviews on tape. The interviews were tape-recorded if there is any question about their accuracy."

Sherrill said the forms were an effort to curb harassment by the reporters, giving all the players the opportunity to present a united front and avoid being singled out for interviews by the paper.

"We simply decided to combat the paper's disruptive tactics — ha-

arrassment is probably not too strong a term — by the only means available to us, and that was to limit our contact with its abusive reporters and protect the players to the best of our ability so that they could concentrate on their studies and preparation for games," Sherrill explained.

Regarding the alleged payments to players, former A&M student Kathy Leonard, who served as a tutor for ex-A&M player Ernest Jackson, was depicted in the story as knowing of money being given to Jackson.

When Krebs contacted Leonard, he said the woman was "a lot less positive about what she had seen and heard."

A&M President Frank E. Van-

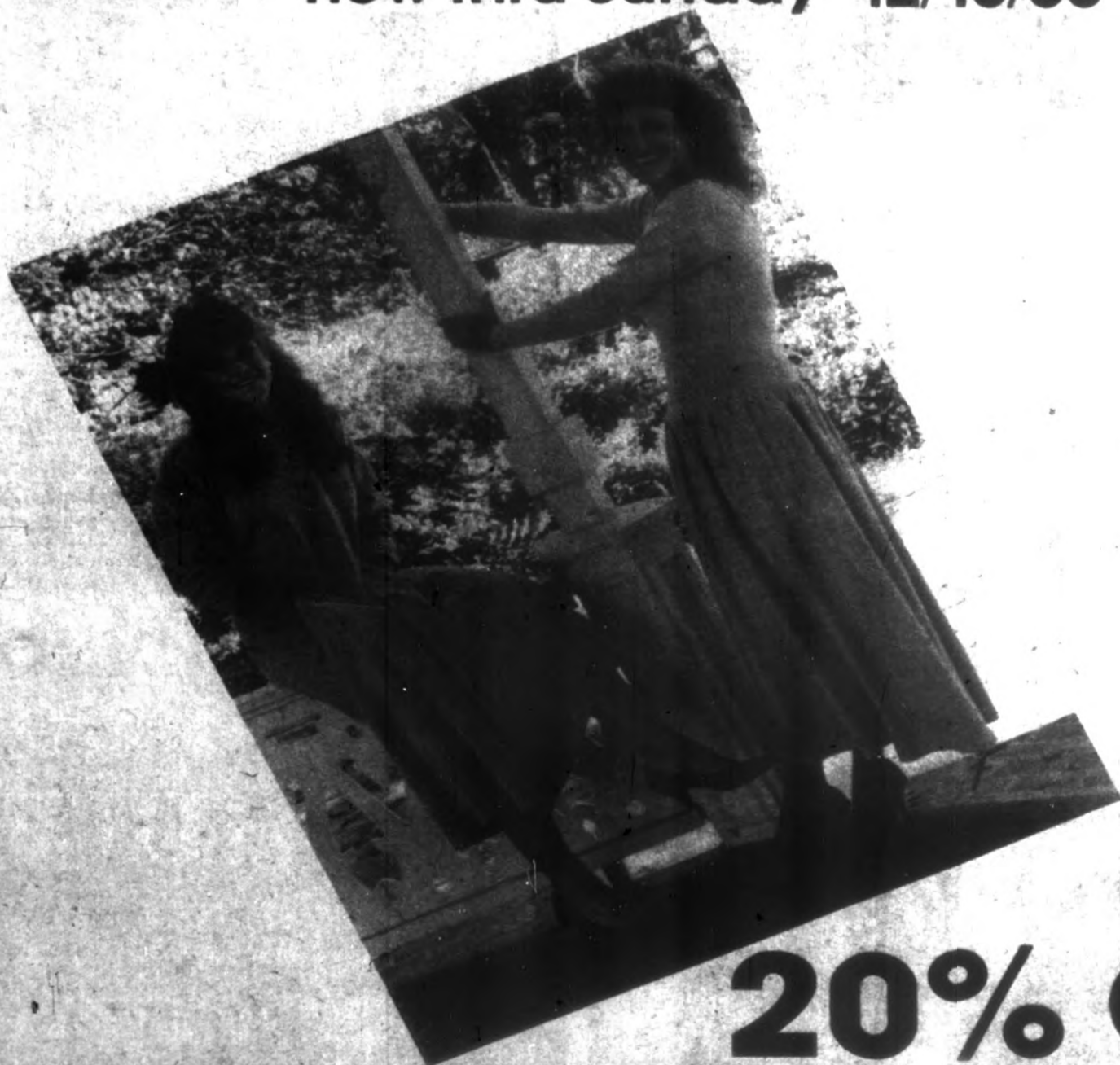
diver said he had seen the *Times Herald* stories and insisted the University was not taking the allegations lightly.

"... I do not find any new information there (in the newspaper's articles), and much of what is there has been brought to our attention previously," Vandiver said in a prepared statement. "Some of it has already been studied by the National Collegiate Athletic Association and the Southwest Conference and some of it was under investigation before the *Times Herald* stories appeared."

"I do want to state emphatically, however, that Texas A&M has always been and always will be firmly committed to honesty and integrity in all of its (athletic) programs."



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