

Sports

Lady Aggies bomb Baylor

By Brad Marquardt
Reporter

The Texas A&M volleyball team continued its winning ways as it breezed by the Baylor Bears, 15-8, 15-9, 16-14 Wednesday in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

The Lady Aggies (12-19 overall, 2-5 in the Southwest Conference) have won their last two conference matches by defeating teams that had previously beaten them.

"They made a goal not to lose to anyone twice," A&M Coach Al Givens said. "All but one of the matches in conference could have easily went the other way."

Sophomore setter Yvonne Van Brandt said, "We know we can't win the conference and we're just trying to be a spoiler. We are ready to play in the second half of conference play."

The Lady Aggies not only had overcome the Baylor Bears, but also mental errors in the third game. The team had to come back to win as untimely service errors hurt it.

"I was disappointed with that aspect of the match," Givens said. "I think if we hadn't had that many errors, the third game wouldn't have been so close."

Kelli Kellen, who was last week's SWC player of the week, led the Lady Aggies with 10 kills and two solo blocks. Vivian Viera also had 10 kills and Cheri Steensma added eight.

As usual, the Lady Aggies were led by Van Brandt with 33 digs. Van Brandt leads the SWC in digs and assists percentage.

"Yvonne has been consistently setting in the .400 mark and you almost have to set at that level to be successful," Givens said. "When you have that kind of percentage you're going to win some ballgames."

One week ago the Lady Aggies were mired in a six-game losing streak, and now they have won three of their last four matches.

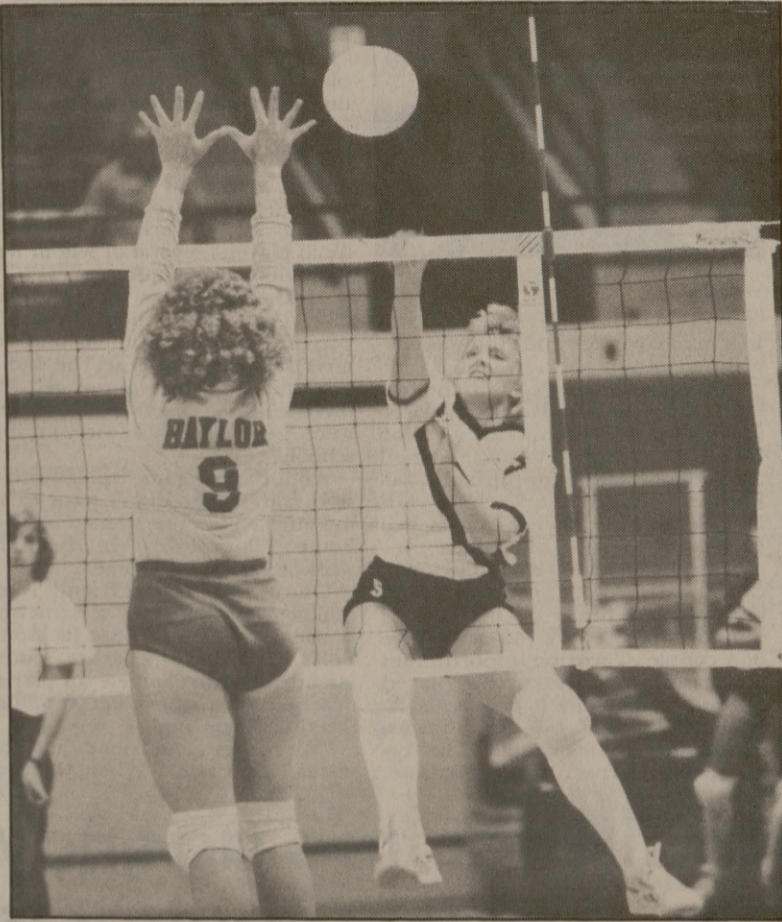


Photo by Robert W. Rizzo

Texas A&M's Krista Hierholzer hits the ball over the net while Baylor's Jennifer Putty attempts to block it. Hierholzer spurred the team with 11 digs and had five kills in nine attempts in A&M's win.

"I think the key is that we're playing better as a team," Givens said. "The chemistry on the court is really good right now. They are much better now and that comes through maturation and just spending time on the court together."

Freshman outside attacker Amy Cumings missed the match

due to an illness and was replaced in the lineup by sophomore Dena Zalesky.

"Dena did a real nice job of stepping in and taking the responsibility," Givens said. "She did a good job for not having started and not finding out about Amy until Tuesday."

Mathews signs 4-year contract despite displeasure over terms

HOUSTON (AP) — The Houston Oilers signed Bruce Mathews Wednesday to a contract worth nearly \$1.6 million over four years, ending the veteran offensive tackle's season-long holdout.

Mathews signed with the NFL team Wednesday morning and worked out at the Oilers training facility, Oilers spokesman Gregg Stengel said.

"We got it done for what we said back in May we would do it for," General Manager Ladd Herzeg said. "We said we would not pay him as much as we were paying (guard) Mike Munchak, and we signed him for \$1.55 million for four years, and that's less than \$400,000."

Mathews, who had filed suit seeking to become a free agent this year, was not enthusiastic about the deal.

"If circumstances were different, I wouldn't have come," Mathews said. "I mean, if I had a big old bank

wad set away I think I'd still be fighting it."

Earlier this week, a judge in Los Angeles turned down Mathews' request for a temporary restraining order against the Oilers to sign with any team in the league. A Nov. 23 hearing date also had been set on his request for a temporary injunction.

"There was a lot of uncertainty on how the court was going to rule," Mathews said. "I really felt the percentages weren't in my favor in trying to get me something that would help me for this year."

Under the collective bargaining agreement between NFL players and owners reached in 1982, Mathews had the right to negotiate with other teams until April 15.

But after that date, he was required to accept employment with the Oilers or sit out the 1987 season before becoming a free agent.

The complaint he had filed said at

least four other NFL teams had expressed an interest in negotiating with him, but were unable to do so because Houston insisted that he remain on its reserve list.

Mathews' attorney had alleged that the Oilers and the National Football League were engaged in a price-fixing conspiracy to set his salary at less than he is worth.

On Wednesday, Stengel said the Oilers will seek a two-week roster exemption for Mathews and it is then up to the coaching staff to decide when he will be able to play.

"He most likely will miss this week's game," Stengel said. "He may be ready to play against Pittsburgh in two weeks."

Mathews, a 6-foot-5, 280-pound former University of Southern California standout, was the Oilers' No. 1 draft choice in 1983. Prior to his hold out, Mathews had been a starter with the offensive line for 63 consecutive games.

Rockets' McCray agrees to undisclosed 6-year deal

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston Rockets forward Rodney McCray agreed to the terms of a 6-year contract and will be in uniform for Friday night's season opener, General Manager Ray Patterson said Wednesday.

The Rockets' Twin Towers, Ralph Sampson and Akeem Olajuwon, earlier signed long-term contracts and McCray's agreement will reunite the nucleus of the Rockets' starting unit.

"We've reached agreement and all that has to be done is draw up the contract for me to sign," McCray said. "It's basically a relief. It seems like a long time since I've played a game."

Terms of McCray's contract were not announced.

He had been seeking \$1 million per year and the Rockets had been offering \$700,000 when McCray was

represented by Howard Slusher of Los Angeles.

But McCray replaced Slusher with David Falk and negotiations resumed at a faster pace.

"The attorney I had at first had a different strategy," McCray said of Slusher, known for holding his clients out as a bargaining chip. "I decided a change was necessary for the benefit of Rodney McCray."

McCray, starting his fifth season with the Rockets, led the club in assists and free throw percentage and established a club record by hitting 54.2 per cent of his field goals.

McCray reported to the Rockets' offices Wednesday and later talked with Rockets Coach Bill Fitch.

"Coach Fitch just told me that, once the contract was signed, he'd expect me on the court and I'm really happy with that," McCray said.

Guest columns

All right Aggie sports fans, here's your chance to express your views in print.

Just like *The Battalion* Editorial Page that runs guest columns, the Sports Page is open to any interesting or exciting sports topic you feel deserves a comment.

To submit a sports topic, please submit the article (either typed or printed legibly) to the sports department (Room 216 Reed McDonald Building) at least two days before you'd like it to run.

Please include your name, major, classification and phone number so you can be reached in order to verify the column.

Please try and keep columns around 750 words.

Like the editorial page, the sports department reserves the right to edit a story for style and length. We will refrain, however, from changing the meaning of the story whenever possible.

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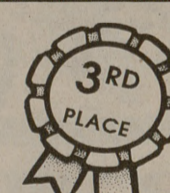
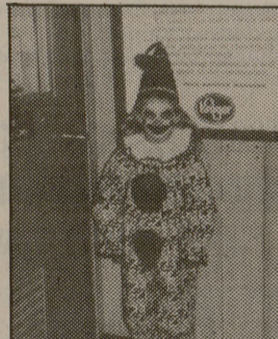
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Entry Form

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Part of Proceeds to Benefit 12th Man
Entry fee \$12⁰⁰/team

Hog Calling Contest featuring - Clayton Williams, Jr. Alumni,
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Divisions	Team Name	Team Members
Co-Rec	_____	_____
(2 men, 2 women)	_____	_____
Women's (4)	_____	_____
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1. May enter each division only once
 2. Limited to the first 100 teams
 3. Turn in entry forms to Vet school foyer between 12:00-1:00 p.m. Mon.-Fri.
 4. Last day to enter will be Friday, Nov. 13th, 4:00 p.m.
 5. Prizes will be awarded for first three places in each division
- For more information call Bryan Neff or Pete Hey at 846-8449 or Michelle Hlavinka at 693-9657 between 8:00-10:00 p.m.

I hereby release the College of Veterinary Medicine, Texas A&M University and all persons involved with the 1987 All University Greased Pig Chase from responsibilities due to injuries or accidents that may occur during said event to be held on Nov. 13th, 1987.

Signatures of all participants _____

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