

Lady Ags squash Frogs 81-63

By Cray Pixley
Sports Writer

The Texas A&M women's basketball team ended a three-game losing streak Wednesday night at G. Rollie White Coliseum with an 81-63 win over the Texas Christian Lady Frogs.

A&M upped its record to 10-7 overall with a 4-4 Southwest Conference split.

The Lady Aggies won the tip-off and scored quickly to begin a slow-paced first half. Both teams were plagued by air balls and off-the-rim shots as they struggled to put points on the board.

Early in the first half A&M's Nette Garrett left the court with an injury that seemed to shake-up the Lady Aggies.

"We started the first half slowly and when Nette (Garrett) got hurt a panic ran through the team," Head Coach Lynn Hickey said.

Garrett returned to play late in the first half.

In addition to a slow start, early foul trouble kept Lisa Herner, Donna Roper and Lisa Jordan on the bench most of the first half.

Early Lady Aggie action included a Wendy Jennings three-point goal with 4:46 left in the half that was quickly followed by a Roper layup. Jennings had another three-pointer in the second half.

The Lady Aggies maintained a

small but steady lead throughout and ended the opening period with a six-point lead.

Traci Thomas turned in a strong first half, leading A&M scoring with 12 points.

"Traci had a good start and got the rest of the team going," Hickey said.

A&M opened the second half strong and steadily picked up the pace of the game while TCU continued to struggle.

The Lady Aggies pulled away with a 25-point lead with 5:48 left in the second half.

"We came out playing hard and picked up our running game," Hickey said. "Our defense improved, and we had better team communication."

Roper led the team with 18 points followed by Jordan with 16 points. Herner and Thomas rounded out the double-figure scorers with 12 points each.

The Lady Aggies won without Evelyn Sanders, whose right knee was injured against Texas.

Sanders will be out for the next two games but may return for play against Baylor on Feb. 13.

The TCU game ends a streak of 71-consecutive game in which Sanders has played since joining the team in the 1985-86 season.

The Lady Aggies will play two road games and then return to the Coliseum to take on Baylor.

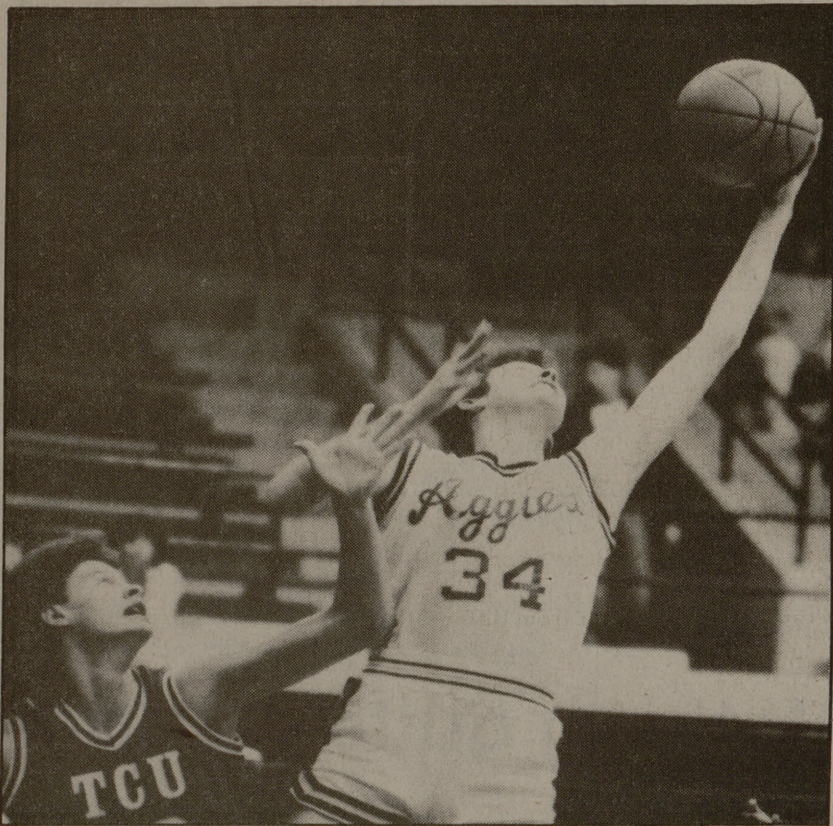


Photo by Jay Janner

Texas A&M's Mindy Neal goes up high to catch a pass during the Lady Aggies' 81-63 win over TCU here Wednesday night.

A&M women's tennis team tops Lamar

By Curtis L. Culberson
Assistant Sports Editor

The gloomy cold weather didn't dampen the spirits or the play of the Texas A&M women's tennis team in their season-opener Wednesday afternoon.

Texas A&M easily handled the Lamar Cardinals in a 7-2 impressive victory in front of a handful of shivering fans at the Omar Smith Tennis Center.

Top-seeded senior Gaye Lynn Gensler lost to Lamar's Isabel Cozzer in straight sets 7-5, 6-3. Gensler wore a brace on the knee that didn't appear to be 100 percent.

A&M's Lisa Keller, second-seed sophomore, had trouble early with Oakenfull but beat her 6-4, 5-7, 6-0 in what was probably the most

exciting match of the afternoon. After just missing the straight-set victory, Keller broke service in the first game of the third set and never looked back. She charged the net effectively and frustrated Oakenfull.

"Lisa played an incredible third set," Kleinecke said. "After she lost the second set it took some of the pressure off, allowing her to settle down and play great tennis in the third."

But the Lady Aggies were most impressive in the last four seeds, dominating the Cardinals in those matches.

Third-seeded Cindy Churchwell beat Lamar's Stefania Laschka 6-4, 6-0. Cindy Crawford whipped Adriana Camacho 6-0, 6-1.

"Crawford had a great match," Kleinecke said. "She was the first person off the courts. She plays at

number four, but she's as good as any we have on the team."

In the other two seeds, Susan Williams defeated Angie Ryan in twin 6-2 sets and Sandi Klein was victorious over Margit Kumersberger 6-0, 6-4.

Crawford, Williams and Klein all defeated their opponents in less than an hour.

Kleinecke said the convincing wins in the lower seeds were evidence of the Lady Aggies' depth.

"Depth is our greatest strength," Kleinecke said. "One girl is just as good as the next. No one will be able to figure us out this year because we can change (seeds) at any time."

The Lady Aggies may be deep but they're inexperienced. Gensler is the lone senior on the team and Klein the only junior.

"All the girls were extremely nervous just before their matches," Klei-

necke said. In between games he said he told the players to relax and to try to hit their best shots.

In doubles play the Gensler-Keller team and the Crawford-Williams team were victorious over their Cardinal opponents, but Churchwell and Nix lost their match.

Kleinecke said he is enthusiastic about taking his young team in to Southwest Conference play later this month.

"Our goal is third, but the all the girls are really hungry so you can't count us out," he said. "Texas and SMU would have to be the early favorites to win the conference."

The Lady Aggies are in action with the men here again Saturday when they face the Bobcats of Southwest Texas State. The men also will face Pan American here on Friday. All matches begin at 1:30 p.m.



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