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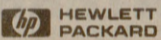
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# Sports

August 28, 1991

The Battalion

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## Alumni, local celebrities help volleyball team open season

by Chris Whitley  
The Battalion

It's not very often that one can see the President of Texas A&M University, Dr. William Mobley, spike a volleyball.

Yet more than a hundred people saw him, as well as other area personalities at the Alumni/Celebrity Volleyball Games at G. Rollie White Coliseum Monday night.

The event, to promote support for the Lady Aggie Volleyball team and their upcoming season, also featured Larry Ringer, mayor of College Station; Dr. John Koldus, A&M Vice President for Student Services; Kerry Cox, A&M Head Yell Leader, and many others.

Mobley said he enjoyed the evening of light-hearted competition.

"It's a lot of fun, but it makes me feel a little older," he said after his team lost a grueling match to the team that his wife, Jane, played on.

"We have a good mix here of students, former students, and folks from the community, and it gives some encouragement for the team," Mobley said. "Playing volleyball is really a fun spectator sport."

Mrs. Mobley said the victory over her husband's team was exciting.

"It felt good - but not because I had anything to do with it," she said. "I was on a good team."

A&M head volleyball coach Al Givens seemed pleased with the evening as a whole.

"I think everyone had a great time," Givens said. "It's a great

way to kick off the season and make them more aware of volleyball at A&M."

After the mini-tournament, Givens announced the members of the Lady Aggies to the crowd.

"We have twelve players from last year," he said. "From that nucleus, we're pretty excited about our team this year."

"After over two weeks of practicing, we are anxious to start playing."

The Lady Aggies open up the season this weekend with the Texas A&M Invitational. The tournament will feature the University of Mississippi, the University of Alabama-Birmingham, and Sam Houston State University.

"We're starting off with a five-match homestand to get us going," he said. "We love playing here, and we hope to have great support this season. We want G. Rollie to truly be a 'Hollerhouse.'"

A&M's first match will be Friday night against Mississippi at 7:00 at the Coliseum.

**Volleyball notes:** Lady Aggie Elizabeth Edmiston has been selected to the All-Southwest Conference pre-season team. The junior outside attacker from Kingwood led the Lady Aggies last year with 1007 attacks and was second on the team with 346 kills.

Junior middle blocker Kim Mitchell has been selected to the 1991 Volleyball GTE/SWC Academic Honor Team. The junior accounting major from Marshall sports a 3.98 grade point average. Mitchell started 19 matches last season and led the team with 20 block assists in SWC action. She also lettered in track last year.



FREDERICK D. JOE/The Battalion

## Russo cleared to play

From Staff and Wire Reports

Texas A&M women's basketball player Dena Russo has been given medical clearance to continue her basketball career after undergoing treatment for chronic pain in both knees.

A&M announced Feb. 11 that Russo, the 6-1 junior from Friendswood, Texas, was ending her basketball career early because she suffered from inflammation and severe pain due to the abnormal positioning of the kneecaps.

Russo started the first 20 games last season for the Lady Aggies and was leading the team in rebounds and was second on the team in scoring.

The pain became so intense midway through the season that her knees locked and she was temporarily unable to walk after a game against Texas Tech on Feb. 5. At that time doctors recommended ending her basketball career to lessen the pain.

Dr. J.P. Bramhall suggested directly injecting fast-acting cortisone into the knees to lessen the pain and inflammation, instead of using oral medication which Russo had done in the past. Russo will still have to alter her practice and playing time.

Russo was ecstatic with the news as was her coach Lynn Hickey.

Left: Dr. John Koldus, A&M Vice President of Student Services, slaps the ball back across the net during the Lady Aggie Alumni/Celebrity volleyball tournament held Monday at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

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