

SPORTS

Thursday, November 18, 1993

THE BATTALION

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Now playing: It's 'Dances with Aggies'

Have you ever noticed the somewhat bizarre rituals that take place after a great play on the football field? No, we're not talking about Reveille barking at the other team's mascot, a yell by the yell leaders, or the fans booing another great Southwest Conference referee's call.



MATTHEW J. RUSH
Sportswriter

I'm talking about the individual players strutting their stuff.

Of course every player gets excited after a big play, but there are exceptions to every rule and there are players that have a little more flair for the dramatic than just the average "high-five."

Take, for example, running back Greg Hill. After a touchdown he always takes off his helmet the same way, holds it up with one hand while his arms are raised and gives his typical "Give-it-up-for-Greg" types of hand gestures to the crowd. The 60,000 rowdy Aggie fans whoop it up in response to what he calls "Greg Hill Time."

Sophomore cornerback Ray Mickens waves his arms, shaking his head, as he signals an incomplete pass as if to say, "Not on Ray-Ray." Mickens then walks back to the huddle while

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Lady Aggies hit the hardcourt

A&M women's basketball season debuts against Lithuania team

By Drew Diener

THE BATTALION

The Lady Aggie basketball team tips-off its 1993-94 schedule tonight at 7 p.m. against a touring team from Lithuania, and A&M head coach Lynn Hickey said the Vilnius Rina Basketball Club should give her a team a good preseason test.

"(Vilnius Rina) is going to be very physical and play really rough," Hickey said. "This will be a good situation for our group to see how we react because they pound you."

Sophomore point guard Lisa Branch said the team is ready to play someone else besides themselves.

"Once we start playing different teams, we're going to keep getting better," Branch said.

Branch, the SWC Newcomer of the Year last season,

said the team's strength lies in its inside game which includes the 6'4" tandem of sophomores Kelly Cerny and Martha McClelland. Cerny and McClelland made quite an impact in the paint last season combining for 27 starts, finishing a respective one-two on the team in field-goal percentage and blocks per game. Branch said she expects even more contribution from the A&M "twin towers" this season.

"No doubt about it, the big girls this year are going to help us win a lot of games," Branch said. "We have enough talent to win the conference."

McClelland cites the inexperience of the team as being a possible roadblock to success this season; however she said she remains optimistic that the team will continue to improve.

Ten of the fifteen players on the team are listed as

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A&M women's volleyball gears up for SWC tourney

By Nick Georgandis

THE BATTALION

After four months of hard practice and tough matches, the second season begins this weekend for Texas A&M volleyball as the team travels to Lubbock for the Southwest Conference tournament.

The Lady Aggies are seeded second in the tournament and will play the winner of the Rice-Houston match on Saturday at 5:30 p.m.

Sophomore setter Suzy Wente said she thinks the team is anxious to play Houston first in the tournament.

"It's pretty much revenge time if we play Houston," Wente said.

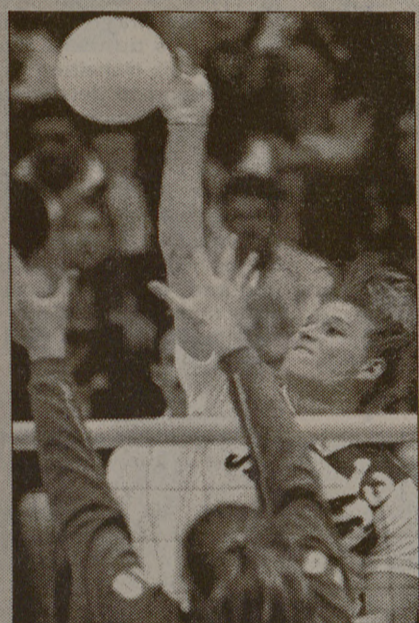
"They killed us the last time we played them, so we're anxious to even that score."

A tournament championship would guarantee the Lady Aggies a berth in the NCAA tournament, but their season record of 25-6 (7-3 in the conference) may be enough to qualify, with a SWC tournament championship or not.

Wednesday, A&M defeated the Southwest Texas Bobcats 15-10, 10-15, 15-7, 15-11 in its final regular season game before the SWC tournament, paced by senior middle blocker Kim Mitchell, who registered a blistering .625 hitting percentage while notching a career-high 23 kills (shots without return).

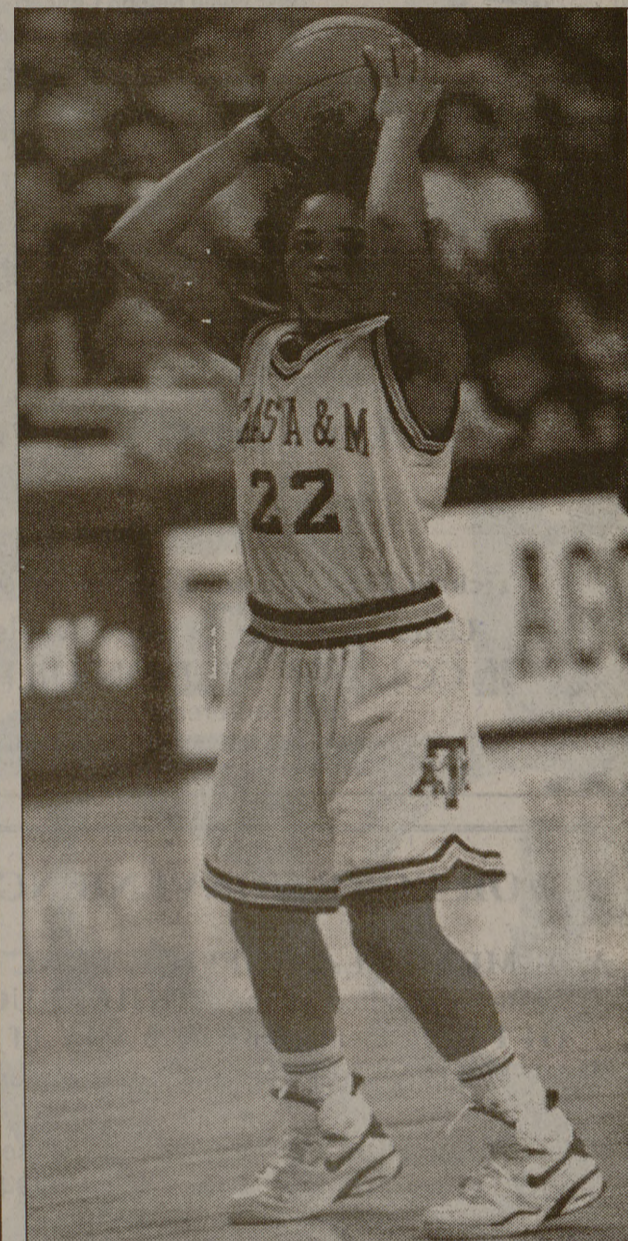
With the regular season over, head volleyball coach Laurie Corbelli

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Mary Macmanus/THE BATTALION

Texas A&M senior outside hitter Sheila Morgan (13) hits hard in A&M's Nov. 3 home loss to Texas.



Kyle Burnett/THE BATTALION

A&M sophomore point guard Lisa Branch was named SWC Player of the Year last season, averaging 13.2 points, 5.5 assists and 1.9 steals per game in '92-93.



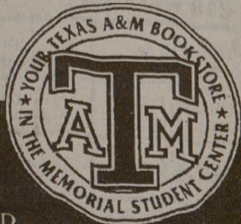
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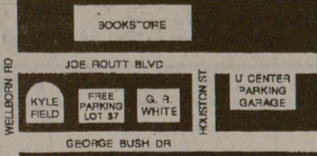
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