

The paradox of hunting: sport or senseless?

Stepping slightly upon the carpet of leaves covering the dark forest floor, the huge buck sifts through bushes and trees in search for a breakfast of berries. His grand set of antlers sits like a crown atop his head, and his white tail adds a touch of contrast to his brown body.



JULIE CHELKOWSKI
Sportswriter

The buck suddenly senses danger, but there is no time to escape. The loud cracking of a rifle overhead breaks the silence of the peaceful forest, and the once mighty animal collapses like rag doll.

The sport of hunting is in full swing as deer season is upon us, and many hunters flock to the woods to bring down the biggest and best. But is this really a "sport?"

To the general public hunting is considered a sport, and, according to Webster's Dictionary, the definition fits.

But the playing field is not level - not when you have a gun, and the defenseless animal has only legs that don't move as fast as bullets. It's like beating up on a younger brother or sister when you are two feet taller and 50 pounds larger.

It might be a little different if hunters threw down their weapons and wrestled down their prey.

Although the hunting strategy varies with each type of game, deer hunting is the most guilty of this

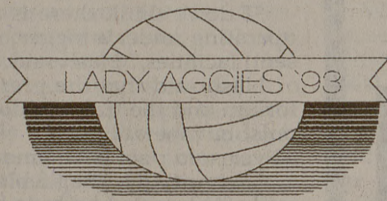
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Lady Aggies claim Round One

A&M spikers earn rematch with Texas this weekend at Austin, as outside hitter kills George Mason's season in NCAA tourney opener

By Nick Georgandis

THE BATTALION



Lady Aggies' hit for a .520 percentage.

Playing in its first NCAA post-season game since the 1986 season, the Texas A&M volleyball team advanced to the second round of the tournament by beating George Mason University Wednesday night at G. Rollie White Coliseum, 15-5, 15-5, 11-15, 15-6.

The Aggies were led by sophomore outside hitter Dana Santleben who recorded a .488 hitting percentage, while racking up a match-high 25 kills. Santleben said she thought her performance resulted from a combination of her own excitement and a weakness in the Patriots' defense.

"They didn't have a stable block on my side, plus I was pretty fired up," Santleben said.

The Lady Aggies exploded out of the gate in the first match, jumping out to a 7-0 lead and limiting the GMU to a .027 hitting percentage in the first game. The drubbing continued in the second game as the

A&M faltered in the third game, but rebounded to take the fourth game to clinch the match.

George Mason head coach Pat Kendrick said her team caught A&M off-guard in the third game, but praised A&M - especially the offense.

"I think we surprised them that third game," Kendrick said. "We're a pretty good blocking team, but this is definitely the best offensive team we've seen all year."

"I thought Dana played a great match. She hurt our block, and we weren't able to contain her."

Volleyball head coach Laurie Corbelli said she was extremely

pleased with the team's overall performance in the second season where teams need to be on their toes.

"The team executed our game plan beautifully," Corbelli said. "The key to every game is always whoever can execute that night, and tonight it was us."

"When it comes down to this level now, it comes down to how smart you're going to play."

The win puts A&M into the second round of the NCAA tournament for the first time since 1985. No Aggie volleyball team has ever made it past the second round of the tournament.

The win also moved the Lady Aggies' season record to 27-7 and earns them another rematch against second-ranked Texas in Austin on Saturday night. A&M was 0-2 against the Lady Longhorns in conference play this season, but Santleben said a victory in Austin is certainly within reach.

"All we have to do (to beat Texas) is play just the way we did tonight, and I think we can beat them."

Coach Corbelli agreed with her player, and said she thought that the team's familiarity with Texas will help them in the match to make the third time a charm.

"We've seen Texas play some awesome matches, and we've seen them play some awful matches," Corbelli said. "Every time we have played them, we've gotten better and better, and have had more and more confidence. The more times we play them, the better we get."

"If we are sharp and thinking and hitting the ball hard, then we can score just as many points as they can."



Kyle Burnett/THE BATTALION

A&M senior middle blocker **Kim Mitchell** (left) and sophomore outside hitter **Dana Santleben** (right) look for a dig in A&M's victory over George Mason Wednesday night. Santleben paced the Lady Aggies with a match-high 25 kills, while Mitchell added 10.

A&M men's basketball loses off the glass to Kansas State, 63-54

From Staff and Wire Reports

The Texas A&M basketball team was out-rebounded 18 to eight in offensive rebounding and 40-31 for total rebounds against Kansas State, as the team fell, 63-54, leveling the Aggies' record at 1-1.

A&M was led by junior forward Joe Wilbert, scoring 12 points and seniors David Edwards and Damon Johnson, each scoring 10.

Askia Jones led Kansas State, scoring 27 points and hitting four-of-seven from three-point range.

A&M's next game is scheduled at home in G. Rollie White Monday, Dec. 6 at 7 p.m. against Montana State.

You're supposed to get a lot out of college, but this is ridiculous.



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