

Lady Aggies defeat Club Uralmash, 76-73

Exhibition game against Russians gives team positive outlook for season

By Nick Georgandis
THE BATTALION

If Lisa Branch is just tuning up for the season during the Texas A&M women's basketball team's exhibition schedule, the Lady Aggies' opponents better look out once the regular season begins.

The junior point guard scored 12 points, grabbed 11 rebounds and dished out 10 assists to lead the Lady Aggies to a 76-73 victory over Club Uralmash from Russia at G. Rollie White Coliseum Tuesday night. Of her performance and that of the team, Branch said she is feeling positive with the season opener nearing quickly.

"I feel pretty good about it all," Branch said. "We've got new people who are doing well and our off the bench players are all contributing."

First year head coach Candi Harvey said she was proud of the way her point guard played.

"I was very pleased with her (Branch tonight)," Harvey said. "Lisa did a great job of penetrating and finding (the open player)."

Besides Branch, the Lady Aggies had three other players contribute with double-digit scoring. Junior center Martha McClelland led all scorers with 18 points in 28 minutes and added nine rebounds. Sophomore guard Lana Tucker was deadly from behind the three point arc, hitting four of six treys and adding 15 points. Also contributing to the A&M cause was junior forward Kelly Cerny with 14 points.

Harvey said she was pleased with the Lady Aggies overall effort, but saw room for improvement in several key areas.

"Overall, I'm pleased with a win versus a very good basketball team," Harvey said. "We had some nice runs, but then we'd fall asleep for a three or four minute span. We played much better defense than in our last game (a 109-84 victory over Houston Flight)."

The game appeared to be on the verge of becoming a blowout at the end of the first half with the Lady Aggies ahead 42-26. Club Uralmash was having difficulty stopping A&M's post players in the first twenty minutes, and the Russian team shot an abysmal 11 for 34 (.324) from the field in the first half.

But in the second half, the two teams seemed to switch personalities, with the Lady Aggies unable to connect from the floor (7 of 25), while Club Uralmash converted nearly 48 percent of their shots, including a three-pointer by Anna Arkhipova with 2.6 seconds left to draw the Russian team within 74-73.

The shot was the Club Uralmash's only successful three-pointer of the game. The Russian team was then forced to foul Branch, who nailed both of her free throws to put the game on ice.

"We really did well on execution down the stretch," Harvey said. "In the last two minutes, we ran that little stall tactic very well."

Overall, the Lady Aggies said they were pleased with their offensive production. McClelland said the defensive strategy of the Russian team and the consistency of A&M's long bombers helped ease the post players' scoring burden.

"I was aware that they play behind in the post, and that is an advantage to me," McClelland said. "All our outside shooters were doing real well. The outside game takes the pressure off the inside game. That really gives us a new dimension for this season."

Club Uralmash, who beat the University of Texas last week, was led by forward Tatyana Shepeleva who scored 16 points and snared 11 rebounds. Also reaching double-digits in points was guard Veronika Dudkina, who scored 12.

The Lady Aggies travel to Beaumont to play an exhibition against Lamar University on Friday, then return home to face Arizona State this Sunday at G. Rollie White at 2 p.m.



Martha McClelland, No. 54, gets fouled during a game against Club Uralmash Tuesday night.

Stew Milne/THE BATTALION

WEEKLY MATCH UPS	Dave Winder	Nick Georgandis	Drew Diener	Stewart Doreen	Tom Day	Mark Smith	Rob Clark	Kim McGuire	Heather Winch	Stew Milne	Commentary...	The Pilgrim	The Turkey	The Indian
Texas vs. Baylor	Texas	Baylor	Texas	Baylor	Texas	Baylor	Texas	Baylor	Texas	A&M	<i>That new Thanksgiving tradition</i>	Baylor	Baylor	Baylor
Texas Tech vs. TCU	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Rice	<i>Tech prepares for Cotton</i>	Texas Tech	Texas Tech	Texas Tech
** Florida vs. #8 Florida St.	Florida	Florida	Florida St.	Florida St.	Florida St.	Florida	Florida St.	Florida St.	Florida St.	Texas Tech	<i>Gators vs. 'Nole: Trials of Life</i>	Florida St.	Florida	Florida
Miss. St. vs. Mississippi	MSU	MSU	MSU	MSU	MSU	MSU	MSU	MSU	MSU	Alabama	<i>Ohhhhhhhhhhh Jackie!!!</i>	MSU	MSU	MSU
Notre Dame vs. #17 USC	USC	USC	Notre Dame	USC	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	USC	Notre Dame	USC	Michigan	<i>Irish prepare for Fiesta ...</i>	Notre Dame	USC	USC
Rice vs. Houston	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	Rice	USC	<i>The Bayou Bucket means war!</i>	Rice	Rice	Rice
B.C. vs. #14 Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Miami	Oregon	<i>Eagles caught in Hurricane</i>	Miami	Miami	Miami
#1 Nebraska vs. Oklahoma	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Virginia	<i>Gibbs quits too late for Huskers</i>	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska
Arkansas vs. LSU	Arkansas	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	Arkansas	LSU	Arkansas	Harvard	<i>Tigers become Hog bait ...</i>	Arkansas	Arkansas	Arkansas
Bills vs. Lions	Bills	Bills	Lions	Bills	Bills	Lions	Lions	Bills	Utah		<i>Bills ram Lions into wall ...</i>	Bills	Bills	Bills
Packers vs. Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	<i>Walking wounded wrong</i>	Cowboys	Cowboys	Packers
Oilers vs. Browns	Browns	Oilers	Browns	Browns	Oilers	Oilers	Browns	Browns	Browns	Giants	<i>McNair, Zeier, Who cares?</i>	Oilers	Browns	Browns
Last Week	8-4	7-5	8-4	9-3	6-6	5-7	7-5	5-7	6-6	9-3	66-54 (L58)			
Overall	93-50 (L50)	83-60 (L60)	88-55 (L13)	100-43 (L99)	91-52 (L37)	90-53 (L29)	96-47 (L27)	93-50 (L50)	95-48 (L44)	97-46 (L70)	912-497 (L447)			

Last Week's Guests: Bill Bellamy: 8-4, Elton John: 6-6, Donkey: 7-5 Total: 132-65 (L70)

Isn't there anything to be thankful for this season?

As sports fans, we have had a great deal to be thankful for this past year...

DREW DIENER
Sportswriter



While it lasted, we were treated to an intriguing baseball season, as many long-standing major league records were put in jeopardy by some of today's brightest stars. On the gridiron, the Dallas Cowboys not only repeated as NFL champions, but provided us with some entertaining off-season drama. PGA Tour pro Paul Azinger made a heroic comeback to the links after a triumphant battle with cancer.

However, the sports world has also given us a great deal to be resentful about as well. In fact, there are so many things we can be resentful about, I will narrow it down to a Top 10.

10. The NHL work stoppage. In this year of labor disputes in professional sports, the up-and-coming National Hockey League has fallen victim to greed, selfishness and lack of understanding between management and

the players. Hockey has really taken off over the past three years across America, but all the sport has gained and stands to gain, it now stands to lose unless there is a stoppage of the work stoppage.
9. The Brent Moss fiasco. As one of college football's premier running backs, Wisconsin's Brent Moss was set for future stardom. Two weeks ago, Moss not only let those children down, not only let his teammates down, not only let his family down, but also let himself down when he was arrested for possession of cocaine.

8. Florida State's tainted championship. A Foot Locker shopping spree headlined a host of wrongdoings in Tallahassee following the Seminoles' national championship victory January 1. Suspensions to a few key players at the start of this season were basically just a slap on the wrist for Bobby Bowden's team. What an injustice that his team is eligible for postseason play this year, while son Terry's undefeated Auburn Tigers will once again be spending college football's annual bowl season in front of the television.

7. Free agency's depletion of the once-mighty Houston Oilers. The demise of this team is directly related to free agency is disappointing, proving that any team in the NFL can suffer a similar fate.
Baseball has had free agency for 18 years. Now the NFL, NHL, and NBA have adopted similar free agency policies. How many strikes and labor disputes has baseball had since 1975?

6. The futility of Scott Mitchell and Erik Kramer. Neither has proven himself over a long stretch of time in an NFL uniform. However, both were rewarded with high-dollar free agent contracts during the off-season. Oh, the un-

certainty that accompanies free agency.
5. The Big Dog's \$100 million dollar dilemma. Glenn Robinson played his first game as a Milwaukee Buck last week. Or should I rephrase that? Glenn Robinson played his first game as a professional basketball player last week. After holding out all summer, throughout training camp, and into the first week and a half of the NBA season with a \$100 million dollar price tag attached to his 6 foot, 9 inch frame, Robinson finally "settled" on a deal \$30 million dollars less than his asking price. I wish I could turn my back on a free college education, go play a game for a living and make more money in one game than most Americans make in one year.

4. The NFL passes on a proven black quarterback. Charlie Ward is one of a rare breed of athletes. It's hard to tell whether the 1993 Heisman Trophy winner is a better quarterback than he is a point guard. Not drafted because the NFL brass supposedly questioned his desire (the Heisman trophy winner?) to play football, the Knicks snatched Ward in the first round of the NBA Draft. Since he was ever given a choice of sports, the world will be denied of ever watching Charlie Ward, NFL quarterback. Would the

same thing have happened to oh say, Troy Aikman?

3. The salary cap forces one of the NFL's most heroic field generals into an unplanned retirement. You must realize the injustice the salary cap inflicted upon the longtime New York Giant quarterback Phil Simms. When everyone wrote off Simms prior to last year, the cagey veteran responded by putting together one of the best seasons of his storied career. A year later, an ESPN studio is Simms' Sunday afternoon home, not Giants Stadium.

2. A glorious baseball season came to an abrupt end due to greed and selfishness. We are teased with what could have been a miraculous season. The owners are greedy. The players are greedy. Scrooge no longer just lurks during the Christmas season, he also lurks during the baseball season.

1. A Thanksgiving Day tradition is sidelined. Money and greed ended A&M's football season November 19, and rescheduled the annual Texas-Texas A&M rivalry to November 5. I found out that A&M and Texas don't play on Thanksgiving every year for rivalry's sake. It's all to blame on television revenue, and Aggies, we ain't on TV this year.

THE BATTALION

is announcing a

Batt Staff Job Info Forum

THE BATTALION is accepting applications for all staff positions for the Spring 1995 semester. If you would like more information about THE BATTALION and the job we do, please come to

Room 003 Reed McDonald on Wednesday Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m.

There you can meet with the Spring '95 section editors, where they will answer any questions you might have about the positions available.

For more information call, Mark Smith at 845-3313.

THE BATTALION

is accepting applications for the following staff positions for the spring semester:

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|--------------------------|---------------------------|
| Asst. City Editor | Photographer |
| Asst. Aggeliflife Editor | Copy Editor/Page Designer |
| Asst. Opinion Editor | Feature writer |
| Asst. Sports Editor | Sports writer |
| Cartoonist | Opinion columnist |
| Graphic Artist | Clerk |
| Reporter | Editorial cartoonist |
| Science Reporter | |

Applications are available at the front desk of Room 013 Reed McDonald Building. All majors are encouraged to apply.

Deadline: Monday Dec. 5 by 5 p.m.

Applicants must be Texas A&M students in good standing at the time of employment and remain in good standing while employed.

For more information, call Mark Smith at 845-3313.

THE BATTALION

is accepting applications for the following editorial board positions for the spring semester:

- Managing Editor
- Night News Editor (2)
- City Editor
- Sports Editor
- Aggeliflife Editor
- Opinion Editor
- Photo Editor

Applications are available at the front desk of Room 013 Reed McDonald Building. All majors are encouraged to apply.

Deadline: Tuesday Nov. 29 by 5 p.m.

Applicants must be Texas A&M students in good standing at the time of employment and remain in good standing while employed.

For more information, call Mark Smith at 845-3313.