

Thursday  
October 26, 1995

# Lady Aggies defeat Houston in 3 games

A&M defeated the defending SWC Champion Lady Cougars 15-12, 15-12, 15-8.

Nick Georgandis  
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M Volleyball team must have heard Houston Rockets Head Coach Rudy Rumpel's advice last summer.

The Lady Aggies did not underestimate defending Southwest Conference Champion Wednesday night at the Rolie White Coliseum.

Instead, they overcame a sluggish start and one of the longest 15-5 games in school history to defeat the Lady Cougars 15-12, 15-12 and 15-8 in their SWC home finale.

"I'm really proud of the team for a 3-0 victory over a pretty determined University of Houston team," A&M Head Volleyball Coach Laurie Corbelli said. "Our team was not as sharp as we had been. We were a little sluggish — maybe from the

road trip or maybe because it's midseason."

The Lady Cougars, beaten by A&M 3-0 earlier in the season, jumped out to a 6-2 lead in Game 1 before the Lady Aggies settled down following a timeout.

The Lady Aggies ran off five straight points to take a 7-6 lead, and never trailed again in route to a 15-12 win.

In the second game, junior middle blocker Page White took over the Lady Aggies' offensive attack and punished a Cougar defense that left her open on slants several times.

"Some nights you just get in a groove. I owe all my kills to Suzy," White said. "I owe all my kills to Suzy (Wente), she got me isolated, and I just took care of it."

White recorded seven kills and just one error in the second game, then hit eight more kills in the third game. For the

match, White tied sophomore outside hitter Kristie Smedsrud with 19 kills, collected 10 digs and recorded a .417 hitting percentage.

Wente, the Lady Aggies' All-American candidate setter recorded 65 assists and 12 digs, which moved her into fifth place all-time at A&M for digs.

Also enjoying exceptional games were senior outside hitter Dana Santleben, who recording 16 digs and sophomore middle blocker Cindy VanderWoude, who totaled 16 kills and a team-high .429 hitting percentage.

The Lady Aggies jumped out to a 10-2 lead in Game 2, only to watch the Lady Cougars come back to close within 13-12. A&M was able to regain control however after a timeout, and scored the final two points of the match.

The final game was a true test of wills as the two teams combined for 61 sideouts as the Lady Aggies came away with a 15-8 win. At one point, the two teams sided out a combined 15 consecutive times before A&M broke through for a point.

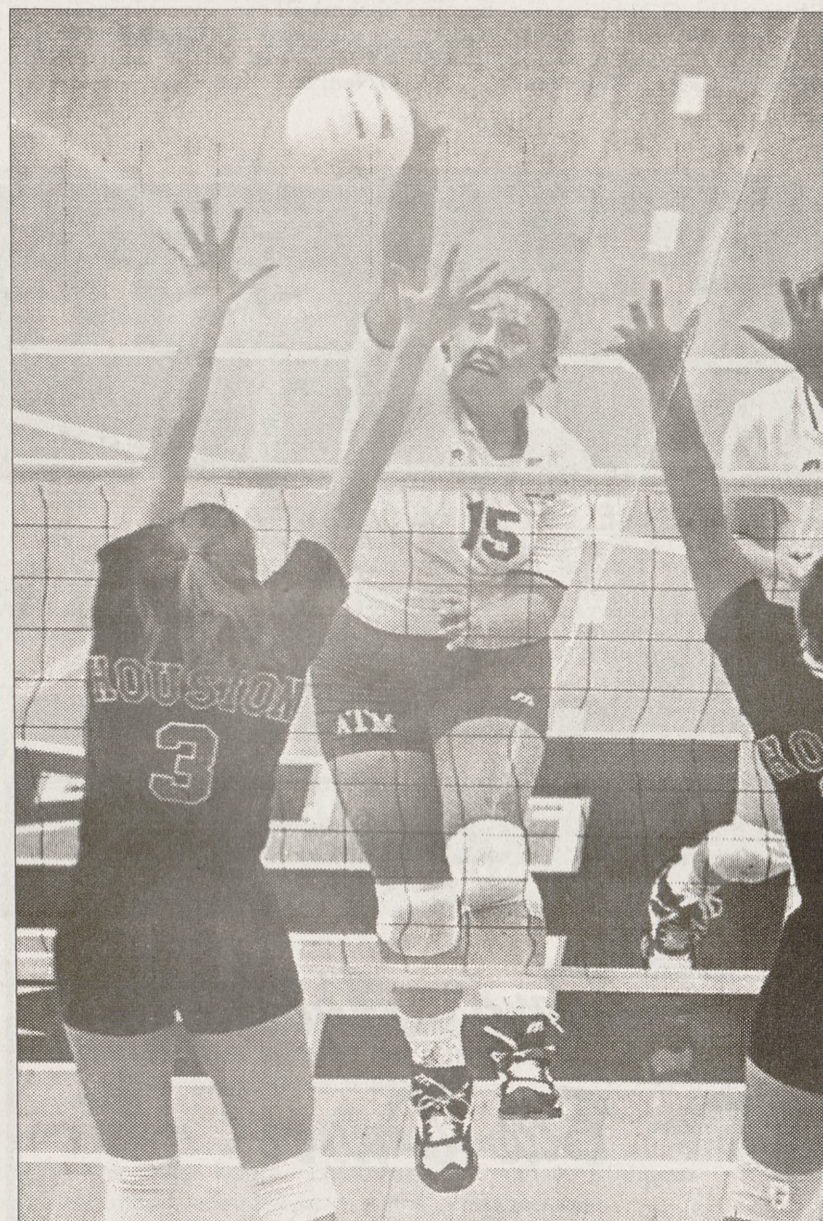
The highlight of the pregame warmups was University of Houston freshman outside hitter Nashika Stokes who soared above the net while executing practice kills.

Despite her marked athleticism, Stokes finished with only 14 kills and made six errors in the three-game match.

Corbelli said stopping the high-flying junior was one of the Lady Aggies main' defensive goals for the match.

"We really tried to focus on her," Corbelli said. "We always had two blockers on her and on No. 3 (junior outside hitter Marie-Claude Tourillon)."

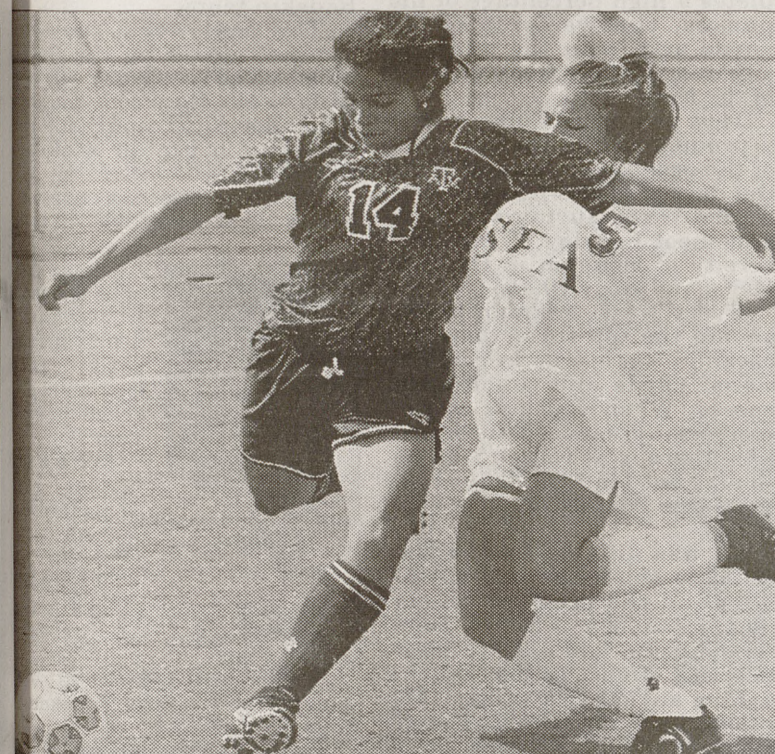
The Lady Aggies now take a respite from SWC play to travel to Utah and take on Brigham Young University and Utah. They will play No. 23 BYU Friday night in Provo, then travel to Salt Lake City to take on unranked Utah Saturday.



Evan Zimmerman, THE BATTALION

Texas A&M freshman outside hitter **Kim Tipton** knocks one over the net against the University of Houston Wednesday night.

# Soccer team falls to SMU



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Sophomore midfielder **Sonia Ibanez** evades a defender in the Aggies game against Stephen F. Austin Sunday at the Aggie Soccer Complex.

□ The Mustangs will have the No. 1 seed in the Southwest Conference Tournament.

Staff and Wire Reports

It was the game of the year in the Southwest Conference because it was the game that would determine the No. 1 seed in the tournament to be held November 2-5.

Unfortunately for the 12th-ranked Aggie Soccer team lost to the 4th-ranked Southern Methodist Mustangs 3-1 last night at Westcott Field.

The Mustang win snapped the 10-game winning streak for the Aggies who dropped to 14-4, 3-1. SMU improved its record to 17-0-1, 4-0.

A record crowd of 1,021 saw a high-pace and energy packed game. SMU scored first off of a tap in by senior Courtney Linex. The momen-

tum carried on for the Mustangs throughout most of the first half until A&M junior Kristen Koop capitalized on a defense breakdown by SMU to score her 18th goal of the season.

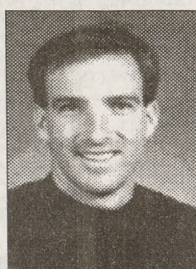
In the second half, the Aggie defense came out strong creating many offensive breakaways but did not score another goal in the game.

Linex scored her second goal of the game off a pass from Danielle Garrett.

The Aggies tried to steal the ball away and managed five corner kicks in the second half.

However, Linex scored her third goal of the game with less than two minutes in the game to seal the Mustang victory.

The victory gives the Mustangs, the No. 1 ranked team in the Central Region, the top seed in the SWC Tournament, which will be held in Dallas next weekend. The Aggies will have the No. 2 seed in the tournament.



Guerrieri

# Astros owner agrees to sale

□ The deal would have the Astros moving to RFK Stadium in 1996.

WASHINGTON (AP) — Telecommunications executive William Collins III is close to completing a deal to buy the Houston Astros and move the team to RFK Stadium next spring, The Washington Post reported Thursday.

The newspaper said Astros chairman Drayton McLane has agreed to sell the team to Collins' group of local investors, but the

price is under negotiation. The Post, citing local officials familiar with the talks, said the price probably will be between \$150 million and \$160 million. The Astros have lost \$65 million during the past three years.

"An agreement in principle has been made," said George Barton IV, chairman of the Virginia Baseball Stadium Authority. "There has been a handshake."

Astros spokesman Tyler Barnes said there have been "initial talks" between the team and Collins, but "it is not a done deal."

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