

# Ags begin defense of WNIT crown

**□ The Women's Basketball Team hosts Lamar tonight at 7 p.m.**

By Lisa Nance  
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M Women's Basketball Team opens its 1995-96 season tonight in the first round of the Preseason Women's National Invitation Tournament and will need a little 12th Man support in order to keep on moving.

Tonight the Lady Aggies tipoff at 7:00 p.m. against the Lady Cardinals of Lamar at G. Rollie White Coliseum for the Preseason WNIT. The winner of tonight's game will play Friday against the winner of the Virginia Commonwealth-Duke match-up.

Now here's where the 12th Man comes in. The host for the Friday game will depend on which school has the best attendance at tonight's game.

The Preseason WNIT is a 16-team, single-elimination tournament for Division I schools that showcases the top women's basketball teams in the nation. Last year, Washington upset Texas Tech 79-75 at the inaugural tournament to capture the first ever WNIT title.

The Lady Aggies, finished the 1995 season with a 21-9 record after capturing the championship trophy at the Postseason WNIT. They return all five starters, although starting center Martha McClelland is out indefinitely with a back ailment.

Head Basketball Coach Candi Harvey says her team is ready to start the season and is honored that the Aggie team got an invitation to the preseason tournament.

"We're excited about playing our first regular season game," Harvey says. "This is a veteran basketball team, and we've got a group of seniors who have been through a lot of practices and they're working hard in practice and are getting after it but they're ready to play games."

"It's a great honor for our program to be in the preseason NIT. There is a lot of basketball ahead of us, but this is an opportunity to really get off to a good start."

The tournament features many top rated teams, but Harvey says

that her team can match-up with whoever they face.

"I think that we match-up with everyone we play," Harvey said. "There's not a game on our schedule that with the right attitude, and if we play cohesively and well that we can't win. It's a tough field, there are a lot of NCAA tournament teams in it. Of course, we were the NIT champions, so it's almost an NCAA tournament type atmosphere right from the beginning."

A&M leads the series with Lamar 12-9 since the teams first met in 1975. Last time the two teams met was at the 1994-95 season opener for both teams in which A&M came from behind to defeat the Lady Cardinals 90-79.

The Lady Aggies are 7-1 against the Cardinals at G. Rollie White Coliseum. Lamar hasn't won against the Aggies at home since 1979, when they beat A&M 75-63.

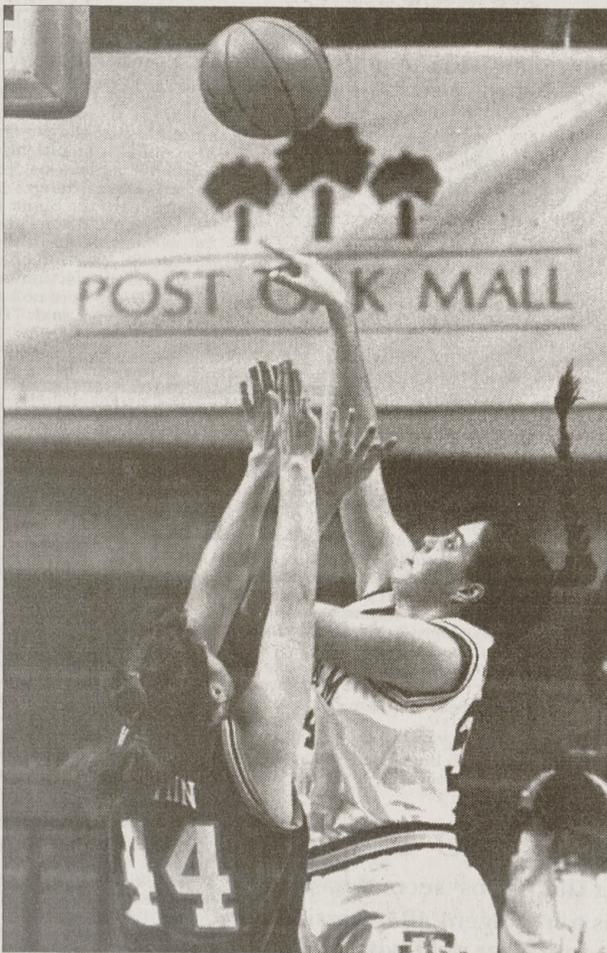
Starting for A&M will be junior forward Melissa Rollerson, a 6-foot 1-inch transfer from Trinity Valley Community College. Rollerson averaged 17.5 points per game and will play her first game in the Aggie maroon tonight. Also starting at forward is Marianne Miller-Sevin, a 6-foot, 2-inch junior who averaged 9.2 points per game last season.

Starting at center, for the Aggies, will be Angel Spinks. Spinks is a 6-foot, 1-inch senior who averages eight points per game.

This will be the first start of her career. Starting at the guard position will be Lana Tucker and Lisa Branch. Tucker is a 5-foot, 7-inch junior who averages 9.6 points per game. Branch is a 5-foot, 4-inch All-American candidate who is in her senior year. She averages 17.0 points per game and was named the Most Valuable Player at the post season WNIT.

Branch said she is anxious for the season to begin and hopes to accomplish many goals during her final season.

"I'm excited and nervous at the same time," Branch said. "We've had a couple of exhibitions and now the real thing is here. It's like it has all happened so fast. As a team, I want us to go as far as we can. I want to make the NCAA's. I want to win the Southwest Conference (championship) for the



Battalion file photo

Texas A&M senior post Martha McClelland goes up for a shot against Rice University. McClelland will begin the season sidelined with an injury.

last time. There are so many team goals that I want to do and along with team goals there comes individual goals."

Lamar returns two starters from last years 16-12 team. They went 10-4 last season and placed third in the Sun Belt Conference. They are led by sophomore guard, Lisa McMahon. McMahon was the leading scorer for the Lady Cardinals last season. She earned

all-conference honors and was named the Sun Belt Conference Freshman of the Year.

The Preseason WNIT is not part of the season-ticket package so students can not use sports passes for the tournament games. Tickets can be purchased at the ticket office at G. Rollie for \$5 for students, \$6 general admission and \$8 for reserved seats.

# Bucks dump Spurs, 98-84

**□ Forward Glenn Robinson lit the Spurs up for 36 points in the Bucks' win.**

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Glenn Robinson scored 36 points and keyed a 13-0 fourth-quarter run Tuesday night as the Milwaukee Bucks beat San Antonio 98-84 and snapped an eight-game losing streak to the Spurs.

Despite shooting just 42 percent from the field, the Bucks beat San Antonio for the first time since Dec. 8, 1991, sealing the victory by making 12 of 14 free throws in the final 3:09 of the fourth quarter.

The Bucks also halted their four-game losing streak, snapped San Antonio's four-game winning streak and denied Spurs coach Bob Hill his 200th NBA victory.

Vin Baker had seven points and 15 rebounds and Terry Cummings had 10 points and 10 rebounds against his former teammates.

Sean Elliott had 31 points and nine rebounds for San Antonio and David Robinson, last year's NBA Most Valuable Player, added 26 points and 15 rebounds.

The Bucks went on a 13-0 spurt after Spurs guard Avery Johnson's free throw with 9:11 remaining gave San Antonio a

72-71 lead, its first since 38-37.

Robinson started the run with a jumper and capped it four minutes later when he stripped Elliott at halfcourt and laid it in for an 84-72 lead with 5:02 left.

Baker, who led the Bucks in scoring four times in their first five games, didn't score his first points until 90 seconds before halftime.

But his defense helped hold the Spurs to just one basket over the first six minutes of the second period as the Bucks took a 50-44 lead at the break.

Forward Carl Herrera — who missed the entire preseason an injured hamstring — came off the injured list Tuesday and scored 6 points in 21 minutes in his first game for San Antonio.

The former Houston Rocket signed a free agent contract Sept. 29 but didn't play in the preseason because he was recovering from surgery on his right shoulder.

Herrera was signed by the Spurs to compensate for the loss of All-Defensive team member Dennis Rodman.

Rodman, who has led the NBA in rebounding in each of the last three seasons, was traded to the Chicago Bulls before the season for center Will Perdue.

# King's jury asks to rehear testimonies

NEW YORK (AP) — The jury deliberating the fate of Don King in the boxing promoter's insurance fraud trial asked Tuesday to rehear testimony from a former employee, a current employee and boxer Julio Cesar Chavez.

Then the jury went home in mid-afternoon because of a storm that brought high winds and heavy rains to Manhattan.

It was the second day of deliberations for the jury that is trying to decide whether King filed a false claim that Lloyd's of London owed him \$350,000 for losses from a canceled bout.

The 1991 fight between Chavez and Harold Brazier was canceled after Chavez cut himself training.

The jury in federal court in Manhattan is trying to decide whether King is innocent of nine counts of wire fraud stemming from the insurance claim. If convicted, he could face five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine on each count.

During the six-week trial, Chavez testified that King never paid him \$350,000 in training fees, as Lloyd's was told, and never told him about the insurance policy or paid him any proceeds from it after King was paid by Lloyd's.

The jury also asked for testimony from Gladys Rosa and Richard Hummers.



King

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