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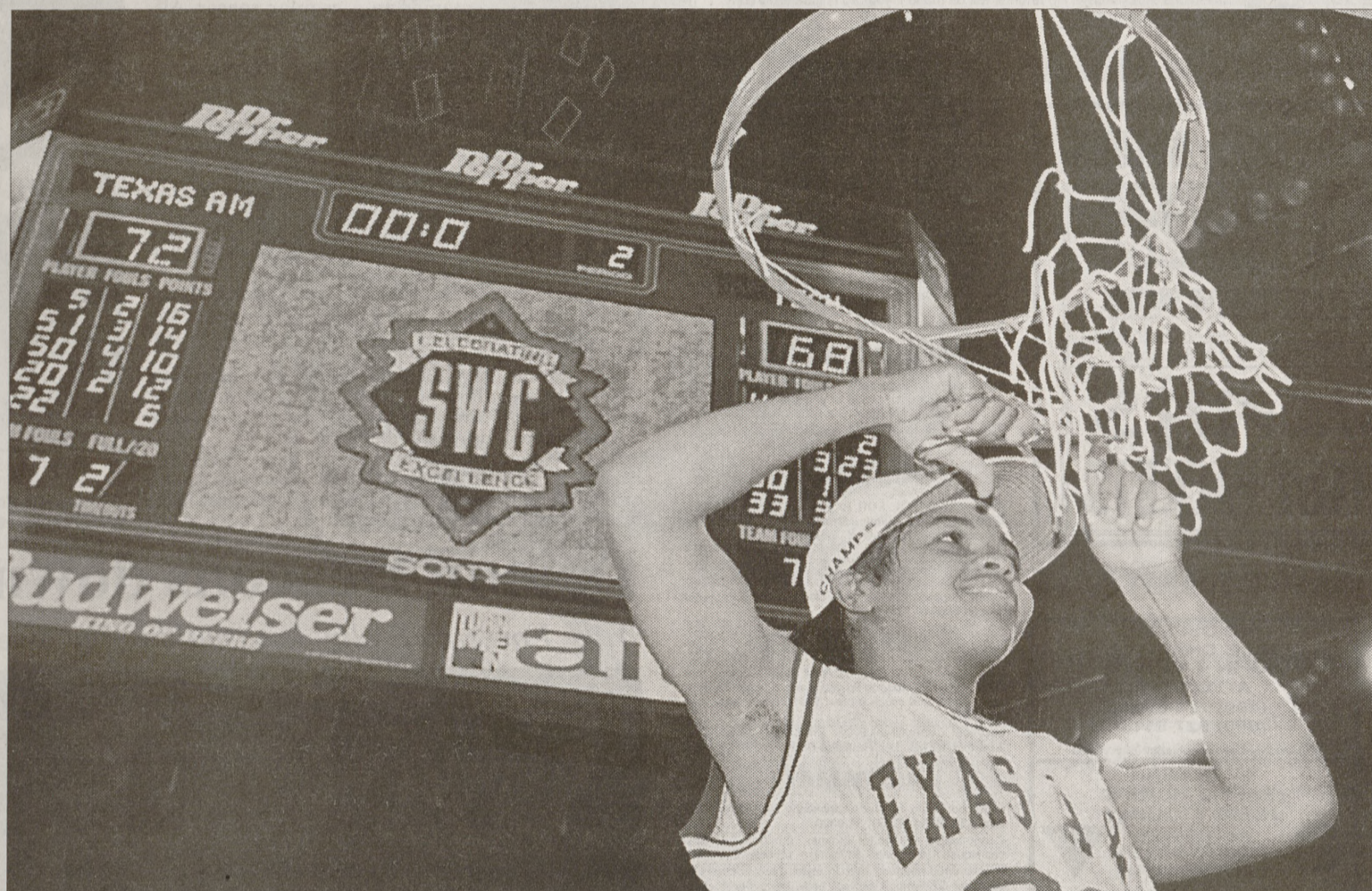
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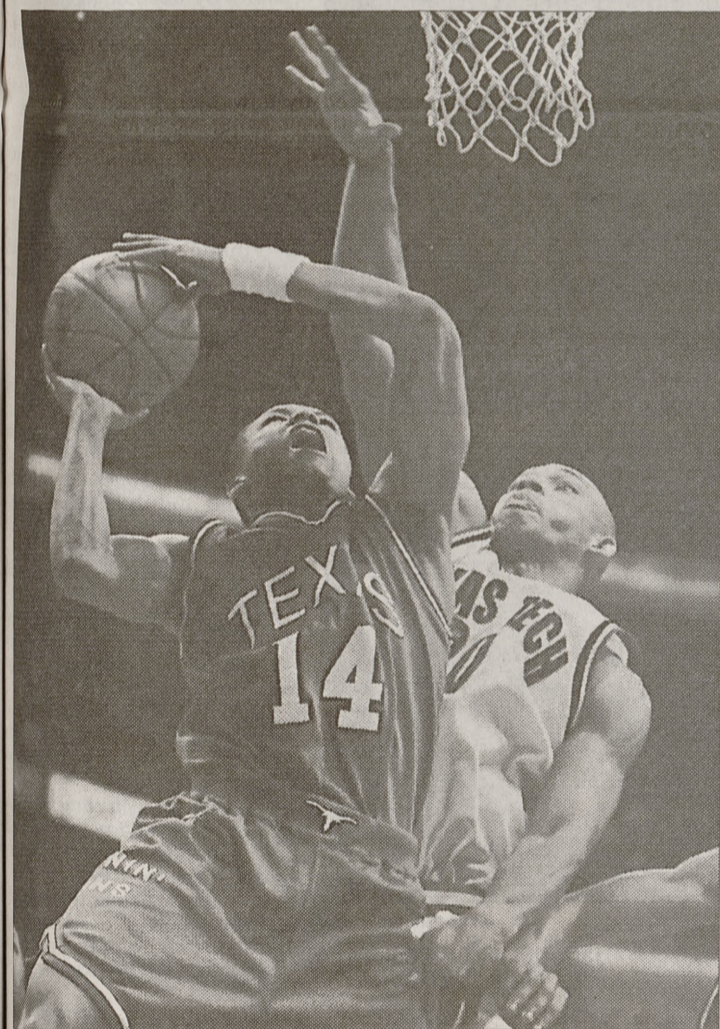
One Last Dance

Images of the Final Southwest Conference Tournament



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

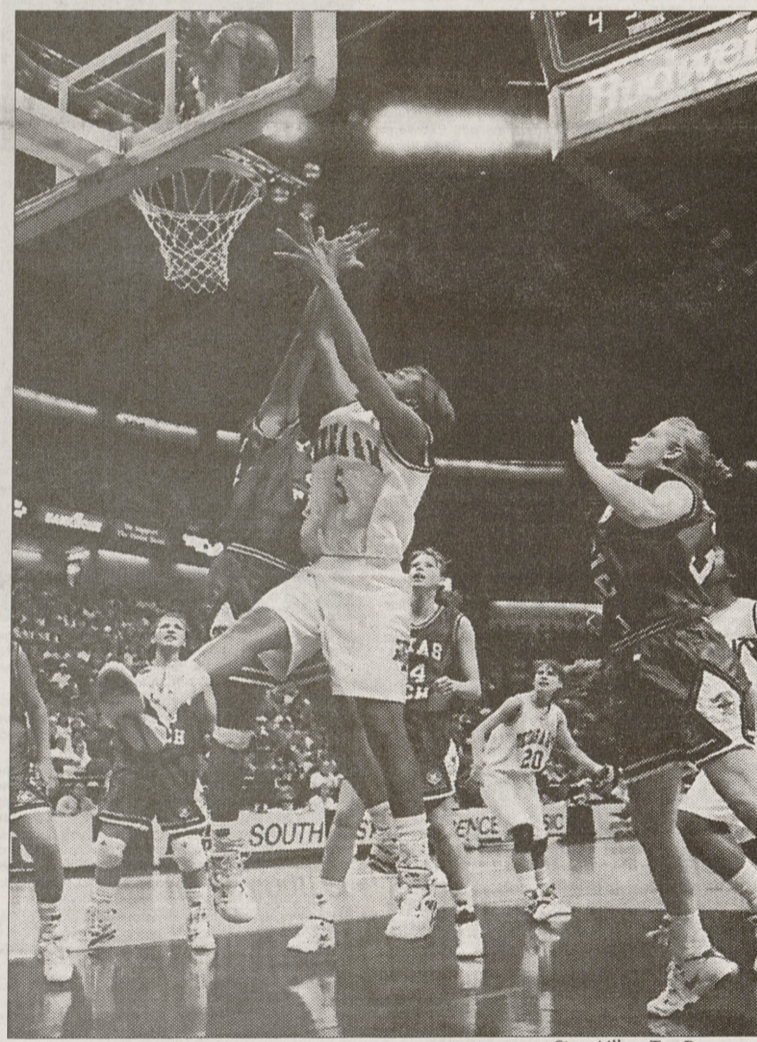
Texas A&M senior point guard Lisa Branch cuts down the net following the Lady Aggies' 72-68 upset of No. 6 Texas Tech on March 9 in the Southwest Conference Tournament Final at Reunion Arena in Dallas.



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

University of Texas guard Lamont Hill goes strong to the basket against Texas Tech's Darvin Ham during the SWC final on March 9.

From March 7-9 at Reunion Arena in Dallas, the eight schools of the Southwest Conference enjoyed one last tango for the final SWC basketball championships. The Texas Tech Men's Team took the crown over the University of Texas, and has since advanced to the Sweet 16 of NCAA Tournament. Meanwhile, the Lady Aggies upset both UT and Texas Tech to claim the final women's title, with a 72-68 win over the Lady Red Raiders.



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

The Texas Tech defense collapses too late on A&M junior forward Melissa Rollerson during the SWC final March 9 at Reunion Arena.

How Sweet it is: Red Raiders rout Tar Heels, advance to final 16

Darvin Ham's shattering slam provided the spark for Texas Tech in the win

RICHMOND, Va. (AP) — First, Darvin Ham shattered the backboard. Then he and his Texas Tech teammates destroyed North Carolina's hopes of returning to the Final Four. Jason Sasser scored 27 points and Ham swung the momentum in the Red Raiders' favor with his resounding first-half dunk as Texas Tech reached the final 16 of the NCAA tournament with a 62-73 victory Sunday. Third-seeded Texas Tech (30-1) will bring a 23-game winning streak, best in the nation, into Thursday's East Regional game against Georgetown. It's the first time in school history that the Red Raiders have won two NCAA tournament games in the same year. Sasser and Cory Carr each made four of Texas Tech's 12 3-pointers, and the Red Raiders shot 59 percent overall.

North Carolina (21-11) failed to reach the Sweet 16 for only the second time in the last 16 years. The Tar Heels made it to the Final Four last season before losing to Arkansas in the semifinals. Ham demolished the backboard with a devastating follow-shot with 12:06 left in the first half, tying the score at 16. The game was delayed 26 minutes while crews at the Richmond Coliseum cleaned the glass off the floor and replaced the basket. When the game resumed, Texas Tech went on a 10-0 run to take the lead against the Tar Heels for good. Sasser and Carr hit successive 3-pointers, Carr followed with a layup and Tony Battie scored from the baseline to make it 26-16. Ademola Okulaja then made two free throws for the Tar Heels, ending a four-

minute drought following Ham's dunk. North Carolina eventually closed to 29-27, but Carr had three 3-pointers in a 15-5 run that gave the Red Raiders a 44-32 halftime lead. Texas Tech erased any doubt early in the first half, using a 10-0 spree to go up 56-34 with 15:19 left. Moments later, a four-point play by Koy Smith made it 60-36. The Red Raiders, who entered the game as underdogs despite being seeded higher and owning a better record than North Carolina, got 19 points from Carr and 14 from Ham. The victory was the 100th of Texas Tech Head Coach James Dickey's career (against 48 losses). The win was also the 30th of the year for the Red Raiders. Jeff McInnis led the Tar Heels with 19 points and Antawn Jamison had 16.



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Texas Tech Head Coach James Dickey is lofted on the shoulders of two players after defeating Texas in the final of the SWC Tournament.