

# Aggies defeat Longhorns in Big 12 season finale

By NICKI SMITH  
THE BATTALION

Whenever a Texas A&M team plays the University of Texas, the game is bound to be exciting, regardless of the outcome.

The Texas A&M Soccer Team not only provided its fans with an exciting game against the Longhorns, but they also beat them 4-0 Tuesday, for the sixth consecutive time, in front of a crowd of 763 at the Aggie Soccer Complex.

The Aggies ended their Big 12 regular season with their eighth shut-out and 15th straight victory at the complex. The win improved the sev-

enth-ranked Aggies' record to 16-2 overall and 8-1 in the Big 12 Conference, while the Longhorns dropped to 6-7-2 overall, and 4-5 in conference play.

Head Coach G. Guerrieri said Texas played the way the Aggies expected.

"They have had a lot of injuries and are a good team," Guerrieri said. "All four of our goals had to be earned."

The Aggies got on the scoreboard quickly when junior forward Bryn Blalack headed in her first goal 15 minutes into the game.

Guerrieri described Blalack's goal as the best he had seen all season.

"We came in concerned about the winds and keeping the ball

on the ground," Guerrieri said. "But with a great buildup and the Aggies, but the Aggies managed to overcome their attack by holding the Longhorns scoreless the entire game."

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Head Soccer Coach

Senior forward Kristen Koop kept the momentum going when she scored eight minutes later on a pass from junior midfielder Diana Rowe which increased the A&M lead to 2-0.

Blalack, who was not expected to play in the game because of a sprained knee, then added two more goals, earning her fourth hat-trick of the season.

Four minutes into the second half, she scored off a deflected cross from freshman midfielder Julie Pinkerton, and 15 minutes later, she headed in another shot off a corner kick by senior midfielder Tania Castillejos.

Blalack said the Aggies knew that they would have to raise their level of play during the game.

"Although we were ranked higher than them, we knew this was going to be a big game," Blalack said. "We came out to play really hard, because the Texas game is always big-time. We raised our level of play and were very aggressive, which worked well for us."

The Longhorns tried to slow the Aggies, but the Aggies managed to overcome their attack by holding the Longhorns scoreless the entire game.

Blalack said the Aggies had to show the Longhorns they could still score, even though Texas was trying to be physical.

"They tried to be physical, but we showed them that if we played the ball fast, it wouldn't work," Blalack said. "Toward the end, they just started packing it in hoping for a lucky break."

Overall, Guerrieri said the last 30 yards were the best the Aggies played.

"Our attack was well-organized and worked out the way we wanted them to," Guerrieri said. "We took advantage of the small spaces the Texas defense gave us and got a very special shut-out win over the Longhorns."

For now, the Aggies have the next five days off to rest up and recover from injuries and last weekend's two matches.

Their next competition will be at the Post Oak Mall Classic Tournament Nov. 1-3 at the Aggie Soccer Complex, which includes George Mason University, the University of North Carolina-Greensboro and the University of Massachusetts.



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

A&M freshman forward **Becky Peterson** passes the ball past Texas midfielder **Katie Cole** in the Aggie's 4-0 win Tuesday.



Stew Milne, THE BATTALION

Junior forward **Bryn Blalack** heads upfield after passing a UT midfielder Tuesday afternoon in a three-goal performance.

## The 1996 World Series

### Yankees back in the swing of things with 5-2 win

ATLANTA (AP) — Now this was what the New York Yankees were supposed to do all along.

Get six good innings from David Cone. Get a home run from Bernie Williams. And then let the bullpen do the rest.

It all came together for the Yankees on Tuesday night, and not a moment too soon. Their 5-2 win over Atlanta cut the Braves' lead to 2-1, and put the drama back into a World Series that was on the verge of becoming a walkover.

"This was our formula," Cone said. "Get to the bullpen, get Bernie to get big hits, get a key defensive play."

Relievers Mariano Rivera, Graeme Lloyd and John Wetteland finished off a victory that made the Yankees the first team ever to win six straight road games in the postseason.

"Sometimes, playing at home in the postseason isn't an advantage. You get so charged up that you lose focus of what you have to do," Yankees manager Joe Torre said.

"I think any time in a short series when you win, the momentum is on your side," he said. "Hopefully, we can build on this."

The win ended New York's six-game losing streak in the World Series that dated to 1981 and stopped a five-game winning streak by the Braves during which they had outscored opponents 48-2.

"I think the mindset, generally, of the team was that we were a little bit embarrassed," Cone said.

New York will try to make it 7-0 away from Yankee Stadium on Wednesday night when Kenny Rogers pitches against Atlanta's Denny Neagle. Rogers originally was dropped from the rotation, but restored when a rainout took away the travel day and forced the Yankees to use four starters.

No team in baseball has overcome a 3-0 deficit in the postseason, and New York won't have to, either. After losing twice at home, the Yankees shook up their lineup, benching slumping Tino Martinez and hobbling Wade Boggs and Paul O'Neill, and Torre's moves worked.

Darryl Strawberry, Cecil Fielder and Charlie Hayes stepped in and each made contributions that helped the Yankees take a 2-1 lead after six innings against Tom Glavine.

The Yankees broke it open with a three-run eighth, highlighted by Williams' homer and Fielder's double off Greg McMichael. Williams' sixth postseason homer tied the record set by Bob Robertson of Pittsburgh in 1971.

Williams, MVP of the AL championship series, had been hitless in the first two games before an RBI single in the opening inning.

Cone stayed ahead with nasty breaking pitches, buckling the knees of several Braves hitters for six innings. He gave up four hits, the same total allowed by Glavine in seven innings.

"David Cone is still tough, even when he's losing his stuff, he can get you out," Braves manager Bobby Cox said. "He's not going to give in, and he didn't give in."

Cone's key moment came in the sixth, when the Braves loaded the bases with one out. He got Fred

McGriff on a popup, walked Ryan Klesko to force home a run that drew Atlanta within 2-1 and retired NLCS MVP Javy Lopez on a foul popup.

It was Cone's first career win in the World Series and his biggest victory since missing four months this season after surgery for an aneurysm in his pitching

arm. The Yankees showed they expected it to be a low-scoring game when they had Derek Jeter, the second batter of the game, bunt following a lead-off walk by Tim Lincecum.

New York, second in the majors in fielding, got surprisingly good defense from Fielder.

Playing first base for only the 10th time since being acquired from Detroit on July 31, Fielder held his own with the glove. He started a double play in the first and handled a couple other difficult chances, although he wasn't able to catch a foul pop near the tarpaulin later in the game.

Ahead 2-1, Jeter hit a leadoff single in the eighth and Williams homered. Fielder followed with a double and pinch-hitter Luis Sojo had an RBI single.

The Braves scored in their eighth on a triple by Marquis Grissom and a single by Mark Lemke, both hits off Rivera.

Cone retired nine in a row early in the game, then faced his toughest spot in the sixth with the Yankees ahead 2-0.

Glavine, who led all pitchers this season with a .289 average — not including a bases-loaded triple in Game 7 of the NL championship series — worked a leadoff walk on a 3-2 pitch.

Grissom followed with a soft fly to left field that Raines, hampered by a sore hamstring, circled and trapped for a single. Cone got a break when Lemke popped up a bunt, but put himself in further trouble with a walk to Chipper Jones that loaded the bases.

With Rivera and Lloyd warming up, Torre went to the mound to talk to Cone. Torre stuck with his starter, and his patience paid off.

Cone retired McGriff on a popup to shortstop Jeter in shallow center field, and thought he'd escaped the inning with the close 3-2 pitch to Klesko. But AL umpire Tim Welke called it a ball, leaving Cone with his hands spread out wondering how it wasn't a strike, and Glavine trotted home with a run.

Cone managed to protect the lead when he retired Lopez, the last batter Cone faced as Torre turned over the one-run lead to his vaunted bullpen.

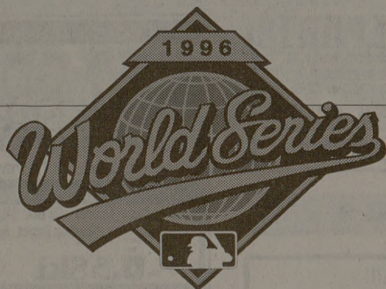
Williams' first-inning hit broke a couple of slumps for the Yankees. It was their first in 10 tries against Atlanta with a runner in scoring position, and also marked the first hit in seven Series at-bats for Williams.

The Yankees converted an error by shortstop Jeff Blauser into a 2-0 lead in the fourth. Williams reached on Blauser's misplay, moved up on Fielder's walk, took third on Hayes' fly ball and scored on a single by Strawberry.

#### World Series Notes

**Andruw Jones**, starting in right field ahead of fellow rookie Jermaine Dye, turned in a couple of nice plays. He ran far to catch Jeter's fly near the line to end the third, and made a running grab at the wall that robbed Williams of an extra-base hit in the fifth. After that catch, Jones whirled and made a strong throw to first base that doubled off Raines ... Martinez has not driven in a run in 44 postseason at-bats. He had 117 RBIs in the regular season ... The last time the visiting team won the first three games in a Series was 1986. Boston won twice at New York, then the Mets won at Fenway Park.

Atlanta



New York



VS.

#### World Series Schedule

Saturday, Oct. 19

Atlanta at New York, ppd., rain

Sunday, Oct. 20

Atlanta 12, New York 1

Monday, Oct. 21

Atlanta 4, New York 0, Atlanta leads series 2-0

Tuesday, Oct. 22

New York 5, Atlanta 2, Atlanta leads series 2-1

Wednesday, Oct. 23

New York (Rogers 12-8) at Atlanta (Neagle 16-9), 8:18 p.m.

Thursday, Oct. 24

New York (Petitte 21-8) at Atlanta (Smoltz 24-8), 8:15 p.m.

Saturday, Oct. 26

Atlanta at New York, 8:01 p.m., if necessary

Sunday, Oct. 27

Atlanta at New York, 7:35 p.m. EST, if necessary