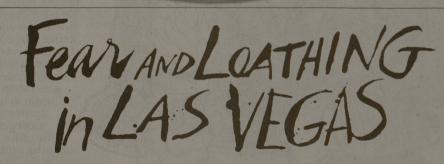


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by HUNTER S. THOMPSON

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THE BATTALION PORTS

Aggie Basketball opens at home against N.C. A&

"I'm really, really

excited. It's bas-

and I'm looking

Tony Barone

A&M head coach

ketball season

forward to it."

BY MATT MITCHELL THE BATTALION

At long last, it is finally here.

After months of speculation and anticipation, the Texas A&M Men's Basketball Team will tip off its regular season Saturday against

North Carolina A&T at 7 p.m in G. Rollie White Coliseum.

The Aggies finished their exhibition season 1-1 against the Australian tandem of the Townsville Suns and Melbourne Magic and are eager to start playing the games that count.

"We're looking forward to the first game," A&M Head Coach Tony Barone said. "I'm real pleased with where our team is. I think defensively right now we're at a very, very high level.

"Offensively, we're kind of crawling right now. Our half-court stuff isn't good yet and it will get better, and I'm convinced that we can do some things on the halfcourt that will really create problems for teams.

The starting rotation for the Aggies looks to be the same as for the exhibition games with the possi-

Volleyball heads to Kansas for pair of gan

By Ross Hecox THE BATTALION

So much for stayin' and sittin' a spell.

The 14th-ranked Texas A&M Volleyball Team, after one match at home, heads back out this weekend to play the University of Kansas tonight at 7:30 and No. 24 Kansas State University Saturday at 7 p.m.

The Lady Aggies (22-5, 13-3 in the Big 12 Conference) rank third in the Big 12 behind the University of Nebraska (15-1) and the University of Texas (15-2). A&M lost its last two away matches to the University of Baylor (Nov. 9) and the Longhorns (Nov. 13), and must now face the road again, where they own a 6-5 record.

Freshman outside hitter Summer Strickland said the two consecutive losses probably resulted from the rigorous season, but the team is recharged after its three-game win over the University of Oklahoma games Oct. 25 in G. R Sunday in G. Rollie White Coliseum. 'We kind of slowed down,'

Strickland said. "It's a long season, and we were getting a little tired. But now we're

coming back.' Farah Mensik said the quick stop in College Station helped the team regroup for its final two con-

ference away Strickland games.

"It was refreshing," Mensik said. The three-game win will help us for this weekend. We're ready to go back out on the road and show that we can travel and win. The Wildcats (22-7, 10-6) stand up,"

at fourth place in the Big 12. They

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ble exception of sophomore Calvin Davisa who is questionable for Saturday's gar bruised tailbone.

"I think you just have to take those a games with a grain of salt," Barone said exhibition games, we didn't play as man as long as I wanted to. W

some too long." Senior Tracy Anderson wi point guard for the Aggies, By JOANN guard position he played las bill that w

Friday • November

"It's been a learning exp me," Anderson said. "Coa real patient with me and the right way in practice. make the transition smoot

Not everything will go st the Aggies. It is a long se many peaks and valleys. goal is to improve during season in hopes of securing

games Oct. 25 in G. Ro

said her team is unsure

State's potential, since it

the light at the end of the

Head Coach Laurie

son berth at one of the two major tournan "We're not anywhere near finished i Barone said. "I'm really, really excited. It's

season and I'm looking forward to it.' In addition to Davis' questionable sta guard Derrick Hart is on administrative

also questionable for Saturday's game

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wen will p 'Kansas State kind of a Use Fee (C us," Corbelli said. "We we p osal and a appointed because we wa bout its i see them play hard." ublic heari The Jayhawks (9-22, 3- Rudder The a to A&M in three game Two year

and now rank ninth in the tate Legisla After the trip to Kanse in ncreasing Lady Aggies have only tate-funded rsities by son against the Com edit hour and the University of Co. er credit h Mensik said the team is a egislature

GUF cap, allo up for the final stretche regular season. Regents to equal tuition 'We're keeping Mensik said. "We

Board of R GUF be inc semeste II 1997. TH apport fa ary raises With eac oposal, a p ired by la Dr. Bill K ice presider airs, said th

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