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## Lady Ags look to regain winning form in weekend series



Sophomore outside hitter **Stacy Sykora** elevates for a kill at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

By SARA DUESING  
THE BATTALION

The light at the end of the tunnel shines brighter for the Texas A&M Volleyball Team as it prepares for its last two matches of the regular season. The Lady Aggies face the University of Colorado at 7 p.m. Friday and the University of Nebraska at 7 p.m. Saturday. Both games will be held at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Hoping to gain momentum for the NCAA playoffs, which begin Dec. 6, the Lady Aggies are focusing on getting two victories to ensure a higher seed for the first round of competition.

"We're not overlooking these games," Head Coach Laurie Corbelli said. "But the excitement for the playoffs is definitely there."

Earlier in the season, A&M defeated the Buffaloes in a three-game sweep, but fell to the Huskers 3-1.

"Nebraska is just a solid team," senior middle blocker Page White said. "They're going to play well, but we didn't play our best last time, so it should be a good match-up."

"Colorado has changed their offense and is on a tear right now so we really have to be on top of things to win."

junior setter Farah Mensik said the Lady Aggies' main focus is to capture an offensive rhythm, something that has been a factor the team has struggled in recent games.

"We've lost that [rhythm] in the weeks," Mensik said. "We're going to concentrate on that and on staying focused as a team."

Coming off a split last weekend, but the University of Kansas losing to Kansas State University, Mensik said she hopes to prove to herself and to the other teams they are still a contender in the Big 12 Conference.

"We didn't have showings the first time we faced these teams, but match up well against both," Mensik said. "Since we can't win the Big 12, we're going to go out and try to win."

With Colorado's quick offense and Nebraska's confidence, Corbelli said she plans to focus on the team's performance and not on the outcome.

"To win both games would be a luxury. It's just a matter of staying focused for two hours."

**"To win both games would be a luxury. It's just a matter of staying focused for two hours."**

Laurie Corbelli  
Volleyball head coach

## UT - vs - A&M

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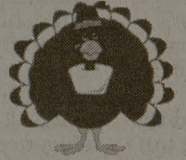
ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS AND STAFF!

The following services will be closed during the Thanksgiving holiday:

A.P. Beutel Health Center & Dial-A-Nurse

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5 p.m., Wednesday, November 27 to 8 a.m., Monday, December 1



Ambulance Service/EMS will remain in service during the holiday. Call 9-911 for assistance.

## Reeling Spurs shell-shocked

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — As the losses mount for the San Antonio Spurs, David Robinson can only sit on the bench and watch.

"This is the worst," he said after watching the Spurs lose to lowly Vancouver 96-91 Sunday night. "I don't think I've ever been on a team 2-10."

He's not on this one, either. And that's the problem.

Robinson came on this two-game road trip to the West hoping that he'd be able to begin playing. But when he visited specialists at the Kerlan-Jobe Clinic in Los Angeles, they told him to wait awhile longer, that

the lower back strain that has kept him out all season needed a little more time.

"This is the kind of thing you really don't want to rush back and hurt it and have to be out even longer," Robinson said. "The team is being extra cautious."

Without Robinson — and with the rest of the Spurs' front-line (Charles Smith and Chuck Person) — also out with injuries, San Antonio has tumbled to unaccustomed depths.

"We're so used to winning," said Vinny Del Negro. "We've been so spoiled. This is my fifth year now winning 50-plus, 60 games, whatever we win every year."

## Bickerstaff steps down

DENVER (AP) — Bernie Bickerstaff resigned today as coach of the Denver Nuggets, three days after his team scored a franchise-low 65 points in a loss to Portland.

He remained with the team as president and was replaced as coach by assistant Dick Motta. Motta, the longtime NBA coach who last season was with the Dallas Mavericks, was to coach the Nuggets tonight against Phoenix.

The resignation ended a tumultuous tenure for Bickerstaff, who had a 59-68 record in parts of three seasons.

After Saturday's 106-65 loss, Denver was 4-9 this season, eight games behind Houston in the Midwest Division.

"I feel good about this decision," Bickerstaff said at a conference.

The move marks the second NBA coaching change this season, following Cotton Fitzsimons' resignation in Phoenix.

Charlie Lyons, chief executive officer for Ascent Entertainment, which owns the Nuggets, said Bickerstaff and Motta were "in complete agreement that the right thing for him to go to his original job."

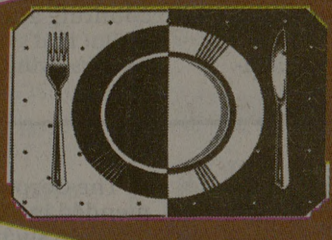
"At the same time, we're lucky to have Dick Motta here," Lyons said.

"I have totally mixed emotions today," Bickerstaff said. "I feel bad it didn't work out quite the way I envisioned it would. I also feel Bernie well enough to know where he wants to be in his life."

## The Battalion's 1996 Staff Picks

The Match-Ups	Tom Day	Kristina Buffin	Jamie Burch	Sara Duesing	Jeremy Furtick	Colby Gaines	Ross Hecox	Matt Mitchell	Dennis Ramirez	Nick Smith
Texas A&M at Texas	A&M	A&M	Texas	A&M	Texas	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M	A&M
#5 Colorado at #4 Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska	Nebraska
#20 Virginia at #17 Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Virginia	Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Virginia	Virginia Tech	Virginia Tech	Virginia
#1 Florida at #2 Florida State	Florida	Florida	Florida State	Florida State	Florida State	Florida	Florida State	Florida State	Florida	Florida
Georgia Tech at Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia	Georgia
#23 Miami at #16 Syracuse	Syracuse	Miami	Miami	Syracuse	Syracuse	Syracuse	Syracuse	Syracuse	Syracuse	Syracuse
Mississippi State at Mississippi	Mississippi St.	Mississippi St.	Mississippi	Mississippi St.	Mississippi St.	Mississippi St.	Mississippi St.	Mississippi St.	Mississippi St.	Mississippi
#10 Notre Dame at USC	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame	Notre Dame
#19 LSU at Arkansas	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU	Arkansas	LSU	LSU	LSU	LSU
Washington at Cowboys	Cowboys	Washington	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys	Cowboys
Oilers at Jets	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers	Oilers
Buffalo at Indianapolis	Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo	Buffalo
Last Week	7-5	6-6	8-4	5-7	6-6	6-6	7-5	6-6	6-6	9-1
Cumulative	98-46	89-55	87-57	95-49	93-51	94-50	93-51	91-53	92-52	91-4

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