

Tuesday • September 9, 1997

Volleyball battles past Southwest Texas

A&M struggles with feisty Bobcats before putting them away in three sets

By TRAVIS V. DABNEY
Staff writer

The Texas A&M Volleyball Team came into Monday night's match looking for a good match but one that they would dominate. What came about was a Southwest Texas team that got stronger every game in the match yet still came up short.

After the Aggies dominated the first game 15-3, the Lady Bobcats came back strong in games two and three with scores of 15-10 and 16-14. After the game Coach Laurie Corbelli said that her team was happy to get the win, but there was room for improvement.

"I am pleased that we won the game," she said. "But we had a real hard time getting into a rhythm tonight."

The Aggies increased their winning streak to four with their win over Southwest Texas State. A&M dropped the first two games to nationally ranked Stanford and BYU. Even with the recent success that the Aggies have experienced they do not seem to be relaxing according to Coach Corbelli.

"I was impressed with our middle attack tonight but our intensity and defense was really lacking."

The Aggies began the first game of the match by coming out and putting the game out of reach quickly. Amber Woolsey, Stacy Sykora and Kristie Smedsrud all contributed four kills each as the Aggies took the game 15-3. "We started the first game real strong and got really comfortable" said outside hitter Stacy Sykora.

In game two the Aggies found out that they were in for a tough match. After taking a 1-0 lead they dropped six points to the Lady Bobcats. The Aggies stopped the bleeding and came back behind the strong play of freshman

Farah Mensik and sophomore Celia Howes to cut the lead to 6-8. The Bobcats again increased their lead to 10-6 when the Aggies came back again to take the lead for good behind a couple of thunderous spikes by Sykora.

Game three would prove to be the toughest for the Aggies as the Bobcats refused to die. The Aggies jumped out to a commanding 9-2 lead with help from sophomore reserve Summer Strickland who had two kills in the game.

"I was pleased that we won the game, but we had a real hard time getting into a rhythm tonight."

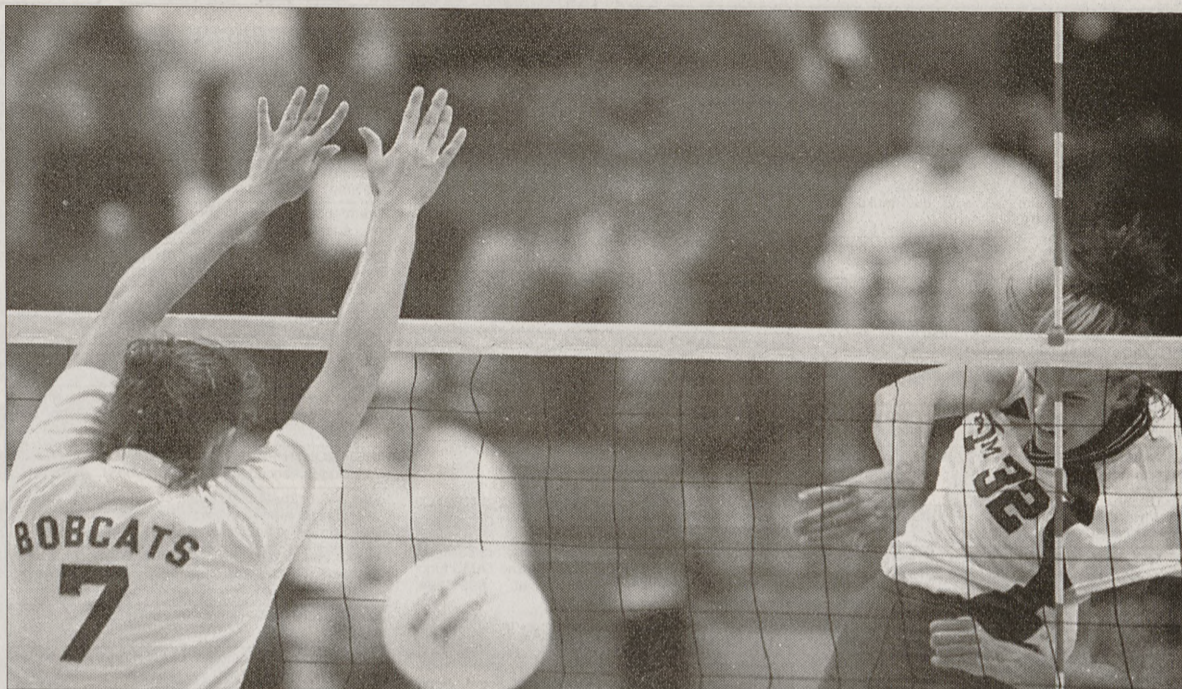
Laurie Corbelli



The Bobcats fought back to make the score 9-5 before the Aggies took the score to 14-9 and match point.

Then the Aggies seemed to lose all intensity and Southwest Texas took the game all the way to a 14-14 tie. Mensik and senior Kristie Smedsrud reentered the game and the Aggies went on to win 16-14.

Coach Corbelli put the game in perspective. "Our players put a lot of pressure on themselves," she said. "But they want to have fun as well, we are going to have to find a balance in there somewhere."



Rony Angkriwan/The Battalion

Texas A&M junior Stacy Sykora spikes a ball on Southwest Texas State's Erin Baetge Monday night at G. Rollie White Coliseum. The Aggies won 15-3, 15-10, 16-14.

Honor Rowe

Senior takes on challenges

By MARGAUX HARRIS
Staff writer

Diana Rowe, senior forward on the Texas A&M Soccer Team has never cowered down from a challenge. She has been playing soccer since the age of five and she is one of the star players on Texas A&M University's soccer team.

Rowe attended Bryan High School where there was no female team. Confident in her ability, she decided to play on the male soccer team.

"I wasn't intimidated by my teammates because I had played with these guys for a long time," she said.

She admits that she received a lot of grief from her opponents who made fun of her being the only female on

an all-male team. She used her opponent's doubt in her ability to her advantage because they did not see her as an essential part of the team. Rowe said that her experience in high school taught her to play more aggressively. She attributes a lot of her talent to this experience.

As a freshman, Rowe started out as sweeper. Her sophomore year she moved to outside midfielder and last year she played the center midfield position. Rowe admits that she likes the center midfield position the best, but she is gradually adjusting to her new assignment as forward.

Rowe is somewhat following in the footsteps of her two older siblings. Her sister also played on the Aggie Soccer team.



Dave House/The Battalion

Senior Diana Rowe has played a Big role in the Aggies 4-0 start

Aggie soccer tough to beat



NOTEBOOK



Stephen Boudreau
Staff writer

Let there be light.

With the addition of lights to the Aggie Soccer Complex the convenience of night games is now an option. A&M will play five of its eight scheduled home games after sunset.

There's no place like home.

Since the inaugural season in 1993, A&M holds an amazing 35-2 record in home matches. Their last home loss came at the hands of San Diego in the first round of last year's NCAA playoffs.

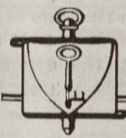
Crowded house.

The season opening game against Oklahoma marked more than just another opportunity for the Aggies to display their dominance against Big 12 foes. A record-breaking crowd of 1,350 packed the Aggie Soccer Complex to cheer the team to a 2-1 victory. Now if we could just get a yell leader to show up...

American Girl.

Senior midfielder Bryn Blalack was named to the Soccer America All-America team.

PLEASE SEE BOUDREAU ON PAGE 10.



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Koch cordially invites you to attend an Open House Information Session.

Who: College of Business Graduate/Undergraduate Students
Positions: Summer Internships and Full-Time
Where: College Station Hilton
When: Wednesday, September 10, 1997 From 7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

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Give tours of art exhibits! Meet artists! Socialize with alumni! Travel to artists' studios, collectors' homes, galleries and museums! Membership is free!

Everyone is welcome to find out more at our informational meeting, Tuesday, September 9, 6-7pm in the MSC Visual Arts Gallery, room 289 MSC. Refreshments served.



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