



RYAN ROGERS/THE BATTALION  
Junior guard Kerrie Patterson drives to the basket.

# Vanderbilt tops A&M in opener

BY JEFF WEBB  
Staff writer

The Vanderbilt Commodores turned G. Rollie White Coliseum into a "Brickhouse" for the Texas A&M Women's Basketball Team Saturday night, sending the Aggies to a 78-59 defeat. The tenth-ranked Commodores used their stifling zone defense to hold the Aggies to 28 percent shooting in their home opener. Despite the heartbreaking loss, Coach Candi Harvey felt that her team played hard right up until the final second.

"The positives were that our kids played until the buzzer," Coach Harvey said. "We got off to a shaky start. I thought our

half-court defense was pretty solid. We made them earn everything they got."

One of the players who earned her playing time was Vanderbilt's Beth Ostendorf, who burned the Aggies for a career high 26 points in only 21 minutes. Ostendorf came off the bench to spark the Commodore attack early in the first half. Her first three baskets were three-point plays that took advantage of her quick first step on the perimeter.

"When I stepped outside, I was a little quicker than their post players," Ostendorf said.

"Nothing Beth did tonight surprised us," Vanderbilt coach Jim Foster said. "We knew we

were getting one of the best players in the country when we signed her."

Vandy also benefited from Na'Sheema Hillmon's ten-point, eight rebound performance and Lisa Ostrom's ten-point, six rebound outing. The Commodores shot 50 percent for the game, but misfired on all seven of their three-point attempts, breaking a 40-game streak of making at least one three pointer.

The Aggies found themselves down 10-0 before they could catch their breath. Vanderbilt held the early rebounding edge and got the ball out quick forcing the Aggies to hustle back to their half-court defensive set.

A&M didn't score their first points until an Amy Yates three pointer found its mark 4:29 into the game. The score was 34-21 at the half, and Texas A&M never pulled any closer.

There were many signs of improvement from the Aggies over last year's squad that went 9-18. Freshman Brandy Jones saw her first collegiate action and responded with 11 points, as did Amy Yates. Prissy Sharpe had a double-double in her first game of the season against a top ten opponent. Sharpe tallied 20 points and 12 rebounds, despite sitting down some of the first half due to early foul trouble.

"Brandy Jones had a case of

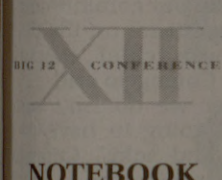
freshman-itis," Coach Harvey said. "Once we got her calmed down, she went in and got 11 points for us."

"Prissy is a model of consistency. She could have done better defensively, but she wants the ball, and that's something you can't coach or teach."

This game was the first in a long line of contests that could see the Aggies face up to six nationally ranked non-conference opponents and eight games against four top-25 Big 12 teams.

"They played the whole game," coach Foster said. "That's a base to start from. Their skills will develop as the season goes along."

# Williams sets sights on Campbell's single-season records



JAMIE BURCH  
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rush for an NCAA record fifth straight 200-yard game last week against Texas Tech, Williams busted loose for 211 yards and three touchdowns in the Longhorns 45-31 win over Kansas. The performance broke 1977 Heisman Trophy winner Earl Campbell's school record of 40 career rushing touchdowns. Williams now stands at 43 touchdowns via the rush for his three-year career.

Williams needs only 34 yards rushing next Friday, against Texas A&M, to break Campbell's single-season school record of 1,743 career rushing yards.

### Misery No More

Missouri quarterback Corby Jones ran for 126 yards on 15 carries and accounted for two touchdowns as No. 25 Missouri beat Baylor 42-24 to clinch its first bowl bid in 14 years. The last time the Tigers reached the promised land, Brigham Young, led by Steve Young, downed Missouri in the 1983 Holiday Bowl.

Jones' 7-yard touchdown run in the third quarter, the 27th of his career, broke the school record held by Bob Steuber (1940-42). Senior running back Brock Olivo later tied Jones' newfound record, however, Jones has one more year of eligibility remaining.

But not all things were grand in Colum-

bia, Mo. The Tigers home finale drew the smallest crowd of the season. A week after 68,846 fans jammed Faurot Field for a near upset of then No. 1 Nebraska, only 43,825 turned out in 31 degree weather accompanied by snow flurries. School officials chose to blame the opening of deer-hunting season rather than the chilly conditions.

### Drought Ends in Manhattan, Let It Rain

Kansas State's 37-20 win over Colorado on Saturday marked the first time since 1984 that the Wildcats had beaten the Buffaloes. Since 1984, K-State was a miserable 0-11-1 against CU.

Colorado (5-5,3-4) will have to beat No. 3 Nebraska in its regular season finale on Nov. 28 to avoid its first losing season in 14 years.

"I told them we've got another ballgame left and I expect them to fight hard and still have a winning season," coach Rick Neuheisel said.

### I Heard That

Kansas State running back Mike Lawrence following the Wildcats 37-20 win over the Colorado Buffaloes:

"It meant a lot for the simple fact we have never, never, ever beaten Colorado since I've been here."

Oklahoma State coach Bob Simmons following the Cowboy's 27-3 loss to Texas Tech that ended his teams hopes of winning the Big 12 South:

"We couldn't get anything going and our execution was not sharp. It was probably one of our poorer performances all season."

Oklahoma linebacker Travian Smith after the Sooners 51-7 loss to Texas A&M:

"Texas A&M just came out and countered the mistakes we made. Next thing you know, you're in a hole."

### Games of the Week

Oklahoma (3-8,1-6) at Texas Tech (6-4,4-3) — Memorial Stadium

The Red Raiders are playing for bragging rights on Saturday. Tech can win the Big 12 South outright with a win over the Sooners, even though the Red Raiders are ineligible for a bowl game due to a self-imposed ban on post season play because of NCAA rules violations. If Tech defeats Oklahoma on Saturday, coach Spyke Dykes might consider taking a page from the R.C. Slocum book of coaching and have Big 12 South Champion rings made for his team.

The Sooners are simply playing for pride. A wretched debut season for

coach Jon Blake has left the team searching for answers. He installed an option style of offense, a system he played under while at OU, to take advantage of speedy quarterbacks and a destructive back field. But injuries to star tailback De'mond Parker, inconsistent play from the three field generals and a slew of turnovers in all three phases of the game have demolished any hopes of a competitive year.

#10 Kansas State (9-1,6-1) at Iowa State (1-9,1-6) — Jack Trice Stadium

K-State heralded quarterback Michael Bishop is looking to close out a near flawless year. After a perfect 24-0 record at Blinn Junior College in Brenham, Bishop's sole loss on the 1997 season is to then No. 1 Nebraska. The Wildcats are looking for their first 10-win regular season since 1910.

The Cyclones will just try to hang on to sole possession of the Big 12 cellar while attempting to break the Wildcats 25.4 points average margin of victory over nine of its 10 opponents.

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For more information visit [www.studentadvantage.com/showdown](http://www.studentadvantage.com/showdown)

Be there. Sunday, Nov. 23 at 2pm.  
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