Sports

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ne g disa Aggies get back to winning ways

s safe," Ms Ga er officials pret ggie men top Red Raiders to win first home conference game

BY AL LAZARUS The Battalion

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n Newbern of Two guys juggling lit torches and ridnt of Transport 3 unicycles were not even the should comangest spectacle at Reed Arena r hospitals aborednesday night.

articular proce. The halftime performers were a mere all of the Texas leshow compared to the unexpected n. Hospitals tics of the Texas A&M Men's Basketof emergency ll Team, which rolled to a 68-47 vicoutages, he said y over Texas Tech University, a team state plans to ge Aggies had not defeated in nearly llion on Y2K of ur years.

2001, said Shar The Aggies (9-8, 2-5 in Big 12) seemed rector of the Wer carry over momentum from Saturday's feat of Baylor, a win that gave A&M its of the bigges st conference victory of the season and public fear st iding a seven-game losing streak. "Wins are the cure-all," A&M coach

elvin Watkins said. "A win can do a

lot of things for you.'

Clifton Cook, who had eight assists and six steals against Tech, said the Baylor victory helped the Aggies prepare for Wednesday's game against Tech

[The Baylor victory] gave us a lot of confidence," he said. "And we took it with us to practice and to the game tonight.'

With Tech long-range specialist Stan Bonewitz injured, the Aggies' priority on defense coming into Wednesday's game was to stop Rayford Young, the Raiders' diminutive point guard.

A&M forward Shanne Jones, who led all scorers Wednesday with 18 points, said the Aggies accomplished this goal. "We knew we had to stop him," Jones

said. "We just focused on trying to shut him down, and we did a good job of it.' Offensively, the Aggies offered a bal-

anced performance, with three players

scoring in double figures and one player,

A&M Men's **Game Leaders**

Points leader: Shanne Jones (18)

Rebound leader: Joe White (6) Paul Jacobs (6)

Assists leader: Clifton Cook (8)

freshman Joe White, with eight points.

Watkins, who with nine games remaining has already led the Aggies to more overall wins and conference wins than last year's team, said he was pleased with the Aggies' offensive performance.

"We had a lot of balance tonight," he said. "The guys from the bench gave us a big boost.

Watkins said the crowd of 4,929 was a factor in the Aggies' victory.

"The crowd was great for us," he said. "We felt that they really helped us out."

After taking a 29-25 lead into halftime, the Aggies appeared headed for another nail-biter when Tech took the lead, 38-37, on a James Ware threepointer with 12:55 left in the contest. The Aggies had other plans, though,

and a 26-5 A&M run sent much of the crowd home early.



A&M women use hot shooting touch to tame Wildcats ankle in the closing minutes

BY MATT WEBER The Battalion

The Texas A&M Women's Basketball Team dropped a last-second decision to Oklahoma State University Saturday, 70-69, marking the sixth time this season the Aggies had lost a game by five points or less.

But Wednesday, versus the Kansas State Wildcats, close finishes were not a concern for A&M.

The Aggies (7-10, 2-5 in Big 12) used 55-percent shooting and 21 points from leading scorer Prissy Sharpe to beat the Wildcats, 73-59, at the Bramlage Coliseum in Manhattan, Kan. in front of a crowd of 2,605.

The sophomore forward, who was listed as questionable for the game after spraining her A&M Women's

Game Leaders

Points leader: Prissy Sharpe (21) Rebound leader:

Three players (6) Assists leader: Brandy Jones (6)

against Oklahoma State, played

a game-high 37 minutes and recorded six rebounds and two blocks.

The Aggies came into the game shooting just 41 percent on the year, but in the first half they connected on 16 of 31 shots, including 2 of 6 from behind the arc, for a field-goal percentage of 51.6 and a six-point halftime

lead The Aggies added to that lead after the break, shooting nearly 60 percent in the second frame to coast to the win.

In addition to Sharpe's contributions, the Aggies also got help from senior guard Kim Tarkington, who scored nine points along with six rebounds and four assists in the winning effort.

Junior forward Kera Alexander, who connected on all seven of her attempts from the floor, and sophomore guard Brandy Jones both scored in double dig-

its for A&M with 14 and 12

points, respectively. The A&M women, who topped Kansas State in every of-Top: Senior forward fensive statistic, also showed Shanne Jones goes some defensive aptitude by holding the Wildcats to 11 points below their season average while forcing 18 turnovers. The Aggies also recorded seven steals and three blocks.

The only statistical category in which A&M did not lead was rebounding. The Wildcats , who to lead the A&M have outrebounded opponents women to a 73-59 by an average of 4.4 rebounds per game, outmuscled the Aggies on the boards, 35-27 cats.

The A&M women will look to continue their winning streak when they take home court this Saturday against the Oklahoma Sooners at 7 p.m. at Reed Arena.



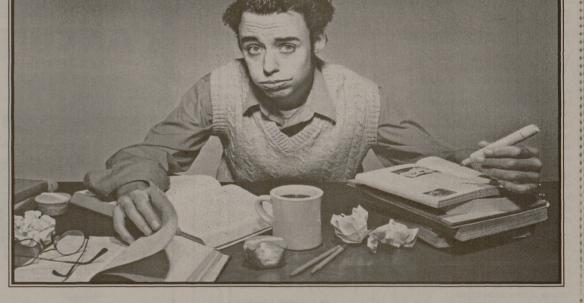
Prissy Sharpe overvictory versus the Kansas State Wild-

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