

Women head to Oklahoma look to improve record with win over OU Sooners

BY TRAVIS HARSCH
The Battalion

The season ended today, the Sooners (13-11, 7-7 Big 12) would be seeded fifth and would take on the Sooners (7-17, 2-12 Big 12), who will be the twelfth regardless of the outcome of their last two games. The seven A&M wins, five have come on the A&M coach Peggie Gillom said the disparity in record is due to an easier pace when the Aggies hit highway.

"When we go on the road we're more relaxed," Gillom said. "You don't have the classes, you can sleep in, you're more relaxed and ready to play." The game will be the last regular-season contest on the road for the Aggies, who will finish the regular season Saturday at home against the University of Colorado. The Aggies' last game was a 65-56 loss to the University of Texas Longhorns on Saturday. The game was a 65-56 loss to the University of Texas Longhorns on Saturday. The game was a 65-56 loss to the University of Texas Longhorns on Saturday. The game was a 65-56 loss to the University of Texas Longhorns on Saturday.

Kera Alexander led the Aggies with 14 points, and Celeria Washington got her first start on the team, scoring nine points. Gillom said Washington's stats are improving. When she learns what to do on the court, she will be more comfortable out there, and her confidence is going to build. She's showing that she can play. The Aggies' effort will most likely be led by Prissy Sharpe, who ranks second in the conference in rebounds per game. Sharpe also puts points on the board for A&M, averaging 18.3 points per game.

A&M has continued to play teams close, with eight of the team's 17 losses coming by five points or fewer. They are playing teams much closer this year than last year's average margin of loss this season is 8.6 points, compared with the 14.7 point margin of loss last year's 9-19 campaign. Oklahoma had its five-game winning streak



MIKE FUENTES/THE BATTALION

Junior forward **Kera Alexander** and the Texas A&M Women's Basketball Team will close out the regular season Wednesday at the University of Oklahoma.

Oklahoma
(13-11, 7-7 Big 12)



Points leader:
Phylesha Whaley (19.5)

Rebound leader:
Phylesha Whaley (7.5)

Assists leader:
Stacey Dales (5.0)

ers are led by Phylesha Whaley, who averages 19.3 points and 7.5 rebounds per game.

The game will tip off at 7 p.m. at the Lloyd Noble Center.

Sooners to visit Reed Men look for Big 12 victory in final home game

BY SANTOSH VENKATARAMAN
The Battalion

It will be the final home game in the Aggie careers of senior forward Shanne Jones and senior guard Chris Clayton tonight as the Texas A&M Men's Basketball Team hosts the University of Oklahoma at 7 p.m.

A&M will look to make history, as the Aggies have never beaten Oklahoma, dropping all 11 meetings between the schools. The Ags (11-13, 4-10 Big 12) are coming off a 63-54 loss to the University of Texas, while the Sooners (19-8, 10-4 Big 12) are coming off a home loss to the University of Kansas.

OU is in search of its fourth win in their many trips to the state of Texas this season. The Sooners won earlier nail-biters at Baylor University on Feb. 3, 59-58, and at Texas on Feb. 10, 64-63. OU has won four straight road games and six out of their last seven overall.

Jones, who transferred from Stetson University in 1995 and played three years at A&M, will be remembered by many as one of the top post players in Aggie history. He is 11 points shy of ranking in the top 15 in scoring in A&M basketball history. This season, his 55 percent field goal percentage leads the Big 12 and is the fifth-best percentage in school history. Jones, a native of The Colony, averaged a career-high 18.0 points and 6.7 rebounds per game in the 1997-98 season en route to being named third team All-Big 12. This season, although his numbers have dipped slightly (14.8 ppg, 5.8 rpg) in part because of increased attention by Big 12 opponents, Jones still scored in double figures in 20 out of 24 games. One of his best games came last season when he showcased his abilities before a nationally televised ESPN audience, scoring 32 points against Texas. Jones also slammed home 24 dunks in his 1997-98 campaign.

Chris Clayton enjoyed a solid two-year Aggie career after transferring from Ventura (Calif.) Community College. The Bakersfield, Calif., native quickly established himself as one of the top three-point threats in A&M history and ranks among A&M's top 10 in three-point field goals made. Clayton set a G. Rollie White Coliseum record by nailing seven out of 11 three-point attempts last season against Maryland-Eastern Shore. This season, Clayton is probably best known for two game-winning three-point buzzer-beaters. The first came on Dec. 3 at Sam Houston State University as Clayton nailed a three from the left corner with seconds remaining to snap a 70-70 tie and give A&M the victory.

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GUY ROGERS/THE BATTALION

Senior forward **Shanne Jones** will play his last home game when the Aggies face Oklahoma Wednesday.

Oklahoma
(19-8, 10-4 Big 12)



Points leader:
Eduardo Najera (15.0)

Rebound leader:
Eduardo Najera (8.0)

Assists leader:
Michael Johnson (3.8)

National Engineer's Week February 21-27

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Wednesday: Zachry Lawn Picnic
Free Food Provided!
11 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Social at Chelsea St. Pub
9 p.m.

Thursday: Pool / 42 Tournament at Yesterday's
7 p.m. - 10:30 p.m.