

The Battalion

A&M drops Oklahoma, 74-72

A&M wins final home game of season on last-second putback

BY SANTOSH VENKATARAMAN
The Battalion

It was an historic night at Reed Arena as the Texas A&M Men's Basketball Team defeated the University of Oklahoma for the first time ever, 74-72, on junior guard Jerold Brown's short jumper at the buzzer. The game marked the final home game for senior forward Shanne Jones and senior guard Chris Clayton.

After OU forward Ryan Humphrey scored an offensive rebound to tie the game at 72 with 17 seconds left, junior guard Clifton Cook dribbled the ball upcourt looking for the game's final shot.

Cook drove into the lane and missed an off-balance jumper off the backboard. The ball and season came to Brown to the left of the lane who quickly gathered himself, looked at the clock, and banked in the game-winner.

Referee Dick Paparo emphatically declared the basket good, touching off a celebration among the Aggies. Sophomore forward Aaron Jack ran triumphantly down the sideline and jumped up on the press table to salute the crowd of 3,397 fans as various Ags exchanged hugs and high-fives on the court.

"Everything happened for a reason," Cook said. "Fortunately J.[Brown] was there to make that last-second shot."

"I was really surprised, first of all, with how much time I had when I was going up," Brown said. "Coach told us in practice to kiss

Najera's three-point play with 11:30 left to play. Najera finished with a game-high 22 points.

A&M then went on a 9-0 run, triggered by a Clayton three-pointer. Clayton assisted on a three by sophomore guard Michael Schmidt, and Cook hit two free throws to cap the run.

A jumper and put-back off an offensive rebound by Clayton brought A&M within two points with 4:48 left. Clayton finished with 12 points on 5-of-7 shooting from the floor. Shanne Jones finished with eight points and a team-high eight rebounds in his Reed Arena finale.

"It feels great," Jones said. "Me and Chris are seniors, and to go out on a good note is just amazing, especially against a team that is one of the top teams in the conference."

Cook scored a team-high 19 points and dished out six assists, while Schmidt finished with nine points and seven rebounds to help pace a balanced Aggie attack. Brown and freshman center Joe White had eight points each, while Jack scored eight points and provided effective physical play throughout the game.

"The payoff is when you walk in the locker room and see how happy the kids are," A&M coach Melvin Watkins said. "Tonight, we didn't have any quit in us."

A&M Men's Game Leaders

Points leader:
Clifton Cook (19)

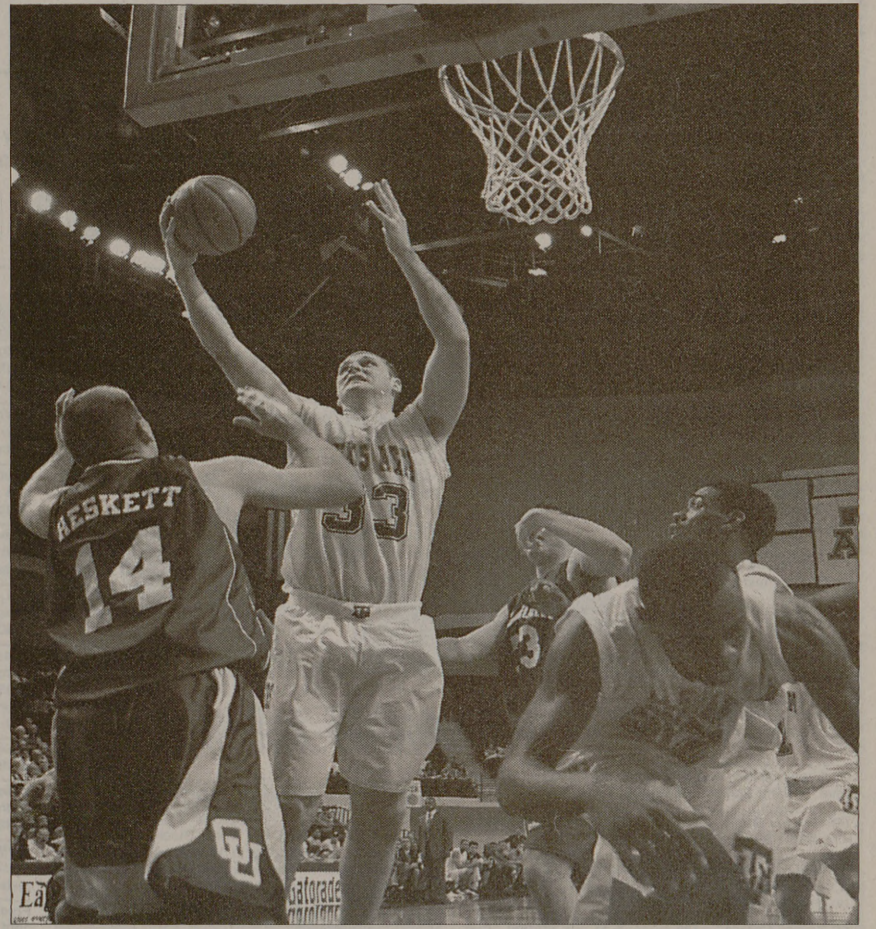
Rebound leader:
Shanne Jones (8)

Assists leader:
Clifton Cook (6)

it off the backboard when you're that close to the block, so I said 'Go for the backboard, it never fails.'"

It was Jack's tip-in off a Cook miss with 51 seconds left that gave A&M its first lead in the second half at 71-69. Cook had tied the game at 69 on a three-point play with 1:39 left.

A&M had trailed by as many as 11 and was down, 57-47, following OU forward Eduardo



TERRY ROBERSON/THE BATTALION
Aggie freshman center **Joe White** goes up for the rebound during A&M's 74-72 win against the University of Oklahoma Wednesday at Reed Arena.

Aggie women fall to Sooners

22-3 run by OU, turnovers undermine A&M in first half

BY AARON COHAN
The Battalion

The University of Oklahoma was just too much for the Texas A&M Women's Team Wednesday as the Sooners overwhelmed the Aggies, 95-69.

The Aggies were able to keep it close until midway through the first half, when Oklahoma went on a 22-3 run. Most of the points came off A&M's 15 first-half turnovers.

A&M coach Peggie Gillom felt the team's intensity level was just not as high as the Sooners'.

"We just didn't crank it up in the beginning, and they did," Gillom said. "That was just an old-fashioned butt-kicking tonight."

It was freshman LaNeisha Caufield pacing the way for the Sooners with 20 first-half points. But her shooting was not the only thing hurting the Aggies in the first period, as they were unable to hit a basket for the final 3:15 of the first half.

The second half was not much different for A&M, as Oklahoma came out

firing. The Aggies found themselves down by as many as 28 points thanks to the shooting skills of Sooner forward Phylesha Whaley, who tallied 18 of her 23 points in the second half.

it went by, and when they shot, we just stood there."

For the Aggies, junior forward Prissy Sharpe hit nine of 17 shots from the floor for 23 points. Senior guard Brandy Jones also contributed with 12 points off the bench to keep the Aggies within striking range.

The Aggies will finish their regular season Saturday at Reed Arena when they host the University of Colorado at 2 p.m.

A&M might be looking ahead to the Big 12 Tournament next week for a probable rematch with the Sooners. The Aggies, who will hold the No. 12 seed in the tournament, might get a taste for revenge if certain Big 12 games go their way Saturday.

Gillom said she was not sure how to feel about a final rematch between A&M and Oklahoma.

"I thought we were ready tonight," she said. "Playing them again worries me, because if we play good tonight, I don't think that it is hard to beat a team three times. Now I don't know what to think."

Coach Gillom said the Aggies' defensive letdown was a major concern. "We just didn't get down on defense," she said. "We just waved at the ball as

A&M Women's Game Leaders

Points leader:
Prissy Sharpe (23)

Rebound leader:
Prissy Sharpe (9)

Assists leaders:
Kim Tarkington (4)
Kerrie Patterson (4)



TERRY ROBERSON/THE BATTALION
Senior guard **Kerrie Patterson** recorded a team-high four assists in the Aggies' 95-69 loss to the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Okla., Wednesday night.

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2nd Alpha Delta Pi
3rd Kappa Alpha Theta

MOST SPIRITED: Kappa Delta Chi

SORORITY INTRAMURALS
1st Chi Omega
2nd Kappa Alpha Theta
3rd Alpha Delta Pi
3rd Kappa Delta Chi

FRATERNITY INTRAMURALS
1st Delta Chi
2nd Tau Kappa Epsilon
3rd Sigma Nu
3rd Pi Kappa Phi

WACKY OLYMPICS:
1st - Team #2 (Delta Gamma, Delta Zeta, Pi Kappa Phi, Delta Chi, Tau Kappa Epsilon)

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1st - Team #1 (Alpha Delta Pi, Kappa Alpha Theta, Alpha Tau Omega, Lambda Chi Alpha, Sigma Nu)

**THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
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ORDER OF OMEGA
WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL OF THE
FRATERNITY AND SORORITY CHAPTERS
THAT PARTICIPATED IN GREEK WEEK 1999.**

Thanks to everyone's effort, over \$1,400.00 in cash and approximately 1500 emergency relief supplies were collected for the Brazos Valley Red Cross!!

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