

The Battalion Classified Ads

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Aggie defense too much for Mustangs

A&M Soccer Team to face Utes today

BY JASON LINCOLN
The Battalion

The 1999 Texas A&M Soccer Team has shown signs of an energetic and determined existence in the NCAA soccer realm this season, not only on offense but also with a defense that has challenged 1999 opponents.

The Aggies proved their determination Friday evening in Dallas, outlasting Southern Methodist University to win 2-1.

The win brought an end to a string of 1-0 overtime decisions between the two teams the last two seasons. It also kept the Aggies atop of the Big 12 Conference, along with the University of Nebraska and the University of Texas, which also are undefeated this season with two conference wins and a third non-conference victory.

The win over SMU did not come easy for the Aggies, who had to pull off a late goal to keep the game out of overtime.

"We knew coming in that this would be a hard-fought game," A&M soccer coach G. Guerrieri said. "SMU always prepares very well for us, so another one-goal game does not really surprise me."

The Lady Mustangs did keep the

Aggies from running the score after A&M defeated Oklahoma State University by a score of 4-0 and the University of Oklahoma, 5-0.

However, SMU could not end junior forward Nicky Thrasher's string of goals, who put the ball in the back of the net in the 19th minute, her third goal this season, to give the Aggies the early lead. The junior also put up six shots on goal.

The Aggies were able to run with the early lead, stretching it in the 59th minute when senior midfielder Mandy Davidson received a pass from freshman forward Heather Ragsdale and beat out the SMU goalkeeper to put the Aggies up by two.

The Mustangs were able to close it up in the 80th minute when SMU's Nicole Lamb headed a Holly Broome corner kick into the net, but the Aggie defense would close the ranks for the last ten minutes to hold on to the win.

A&M senior goalkeeper Melanie Wilson passed her first challenge of the season with seven saves against the Mustangs' eight shots on goal. The Aggies out shot SMU, 15-13, to bring their season shooting advantage to 83-21.

The Aggies travel to Salt Lake City Monday for a non-conference battle against the University of Utah Utes.

The Utes finished 12-7 in 1998 to finish fifth in the Western Athletic Conference's Pacific Division.



CODY WAGES/THE BATTALION

A&M sophomore midfielder Amber Childress (right) battles an Oklahoma State University defender to keep the ball inbounds Friday at the Aggie Soccer Complex.

The only other time the Aggies faced Utah was in 1997, a match the Aggies won, 4-0, in College Station.

"We played Utah in '97, and they were very athletic and well-organized," Guerrieri said. "We beat them but had to score great goals for it to occur. I'm

expecting it to be very tight, probably a one goal game either way."

The non-conference game should help strengthen the Aggies road performance for later in the season and also prepare the team for the GTE Soccer Classic this upcoming weekend at the A&M Soccer Complex.

Three's a charm for Houston

Comets claim 3rd title with win over Liberty

HOUSTON (AP) — One day after playing one of her worst games, Cynthia Cooper played one of her toughest, scoring 24 points as the Comets remained the league's only champion, beating the New York Liberty, 59-47, yesterday to claim their third consecutive WNBA title.

Even in the heat of the championship game, however, thoughts were never far from Comets guard Kim Perrot, who died Aug. 19 following a seven-month battle with cancer.

One banner read "3 for 10" implying the Comets to win their third WNBA title for Perrot, who wore No. 10. The Comets did just that by winning the final game of the best-of-3 series.

In the emotional final moments, the crowd broke into chants of "three for Kim, three for Kim."

Cooper, who was just 1-for-10 from the field in Saturday's 68-67 last-second loss, equaled that with her first shot yesterday and then helped the Comets break it open in the second half. She finished 13-of-15 from the foul line.

Comets honor late teammate

HOUSTON (AP) — As the Houston Comets cemented their third WNBA championship yesterday, they fulfilled a promise to a fallen teammate and continued to build a dynasty in a year dominated by Texas champions.

The only team to win a title in WNBA history, Houston kept strong the memory of point guard Kim Perrot, who died Aug. 19 from a rare form of lung cancer that strikes non-smokers.

Series MVP Cynthia Cooper held up Perrot's No. 10 jersey, later donning it and hugging members of Perrot's family.

"I have to say we really wanted to win it for Kim. This is in memory of Kim; this is in tribute to Kim," Cooper told the crowd.

The Comets put on a late spurt for a 33-25 halftime lead and they expanded that to 38-27 with 15:33 left in the game, then both sides got sloppy. Houston did not score a span of 6:50, while the Liberty missed nine straight shots at one point.

The Liberty closed the gap to 38-31 before Tina Thompson broke Houston's scoreless streak and started a 10-0 run for a 48-31 lead with 4:28 to play. Thompson also had a jumper and three-point play for seven of the 10 points.

Volleyball team overcomes early struggles at tourney

BY BREE HOLZ
The Battalion

Despite a lackluster performance in its season-opening match, the Texas A&M Volleyball Team bounced back to win three straight matches at the L&L/Michigan State Volleyball Classic this weekend in East Lansing.

The Aggies dropped their first match of the tournament with a 7-15, 13-15, 9-15 loss to Clemson University. A&M's defense struggled early on against the Tigers.

"Our defense was the weakest ever," A&M coach Laurie Corbelli said. "We had improved in that area so much during the spring and pre-season, but we couldn't find a way to dig a ball."

Senior middle blocker Amber Woolsey led the Aggies against Clemson with 14 kills, 12 digs and five blocks. Two other seniors, middle blocker Laurie Leahy and outside hitter Celia Howes, added 13 and 12 kills, respectively.

After the first-round loss, the

Aggies regrouped and took on 22nd-ranked Michigan State University. The Aggies posted their first win of the season and of the tournament with a 12-15, 15-5, 9-15, 15-3, 15-10 rout over the Spartans.

Woolsey contributed with 20 kills while Howes added 12 kills and 20 digs. Leahy posted 10 blocks and sophomore setter Jenna Moskovic recorded 47 assists. As a team, the Aggies produced eight service aces to the Spartans' four.

Corbelli said she was pleasantly surprised at the Aggies' serving prowess.

"I've never seen us serve like that," Corbelli said. "We were aggressive and smart, and serving tough like that takes them out of their offense and makes our blocking simpler."

Following an exhausting Friday night, the Aggies took care of business early Saturday morning by crushing Eastern Kentucky University, 15-6, 15-0, 15-2, in only 45 minutes.

"Sometimes there is a tendency to let up and not focus in weaker matches," Corbelli said. "The team took on the responsibility, and it was a total team effort. Almost everyone played, and everyone played well."

Twelve players saw action

against Eastern Kentucky and each one recorded at least one kill. Howes led the Aggies with eight kills and sophomore outside hitter Michelle Cole contributed with nine digs. Junior setter Clair Harvey posted 14 assists.

In their last match of the tournament, the Aggies swept Cleveland State University, 15-6, 15-8, 15-4.

Woolsey recorded 15 kills and four blocks while Leahy contributed five blocks.

For their strong performances, Woolsey and Leahy were named to the six-member all-tournament team. Woolsey finished the weekend with a .355 hitting percentage and averaged 4.00 kills and 1.36 blocks per game. Leahy posted a .279 hitting percentage and averaged 2.15 kills and 1.31 blocks per game.

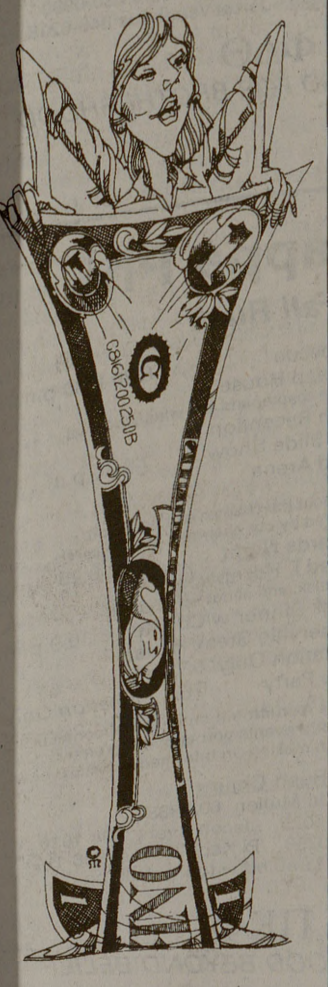
Corbelli said that, overall, she was pleased with the Aggies' play in their first tournament of the season.

"We had a lot of positives come out of the tournament," she said. "I was glad our wake-up call came early in the season and against a tough team."

The Aggies play their first home match tomorrow at 7 p.m. against Southwest Texas State at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

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Fall 1999 Rush Schedule
Monday, Sept. 6 Informational 8:30-10:00 p.m. Koldus 111
Tuesday, Sept. 7 Professional* 7:00-8:15 p.m. Koldus 111
Thursday, Sept. 9 BBQ Social 7:00-10:00 p.m. The Veranda
Monday, Sept. 13 Social 7:00-10:00 p.m. Kyle Field Press Box
Wednesday, Sept. 15 Interviews 7:00-12:00 p.m. MSC 228 & 229
Friday, Sept. 17 Social 5:00-7:30 p.m. Fox & Hound
For more information, please call or e-mail:
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