

14th-ranked Ags take on Wildcats

BY BREE HOLZ
The Battalion

With its 15-match home winning streak on the line, the 14th-ranked Texas A&M Volleyball Team will battle 18th-ranked Kansas State University tonight at 7 at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

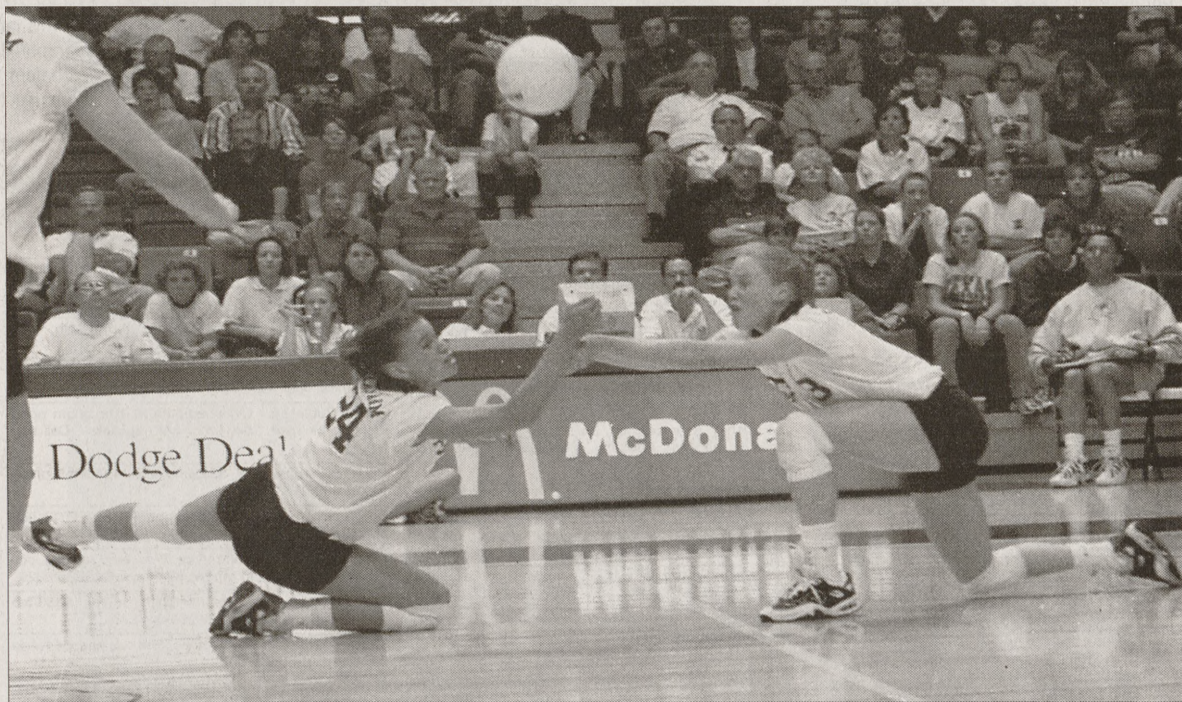
The Aggies (21-5, 12-4 Big 12) are tied for third place in the Big 12 with the Kansas State Wildcats and the University of Texas Longhorns. The University of Nebraska sits alone in first place with a 13-3 conference record.

The Aggies and Wildcats met earlier this season in Manhattan, Kan., with Kansas State defeating A&M, 15-9, 6-15, 13-15, 2-15. The all-time series between the teams is tied, 4-4.

Kansas State holds an 18-6 overall record and a 12-4 conference record. Its most recent win came on Saturday when it defeated the University of Missouri in three games.

The Wildcats return four starters from last year's team that finished 1998 in fifth place with a 12-8 conference mark and 19-12 overall. Kansas State qualified for the NCAA tournament, but was defeated by Brigham Young University, 3-0, in the second round of play.

Although the Aggies are undefeated at G. Rollie this season, A&M



JP BEATO/THE BATTALION

A&M sophomore setter **Jenna Moscovic** (left) and senior outside hitter **Summer Strickland** dive for a ball against the University of Texas Oct. 27 at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

volleyball coach Laurie Corbelli said they do not necessarily have an advantage over the Wildcats.

"We went there and now they have to come play in our environment," she said. "But Kansas State also went to Texas and won and

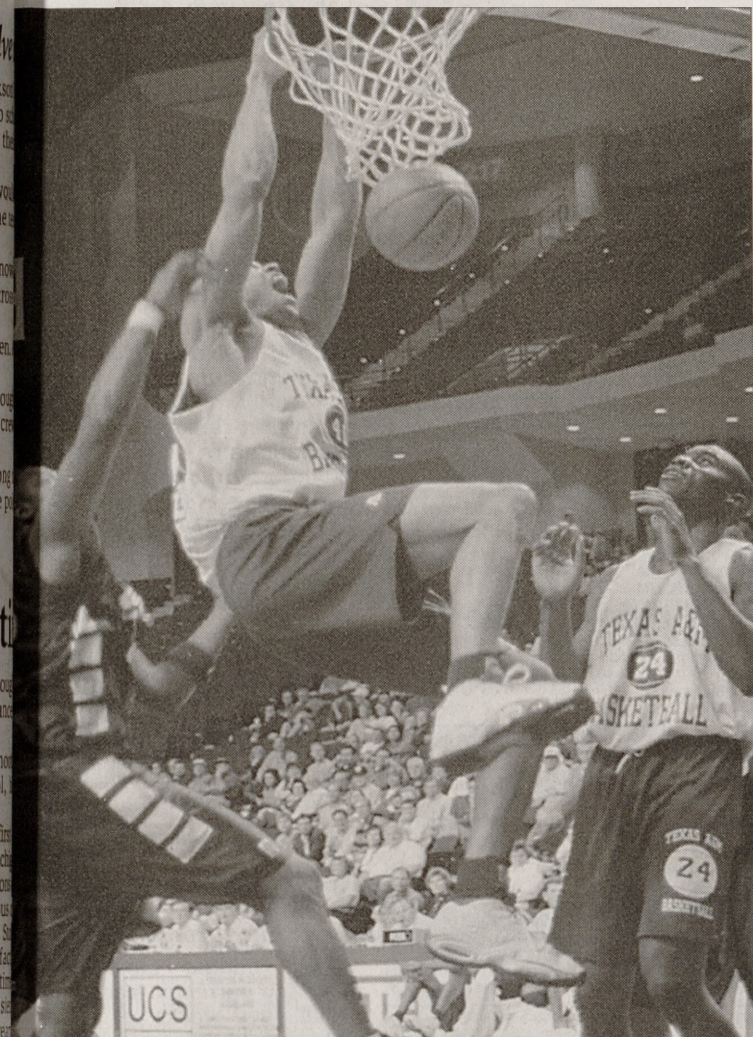
went to Nebraska and won, two places where it is very difficult to win if you aren't the home team."

Corbelli said the game plan for the match is to come out fighting.

"[Kansas State] is very tenacious, and you have to be very

sharp to compete against them," she said. "How we enter the match will be the key. Basically, we have to come out strong and ready to play."

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BRADLEY ATCHISON/THE BATTALION

senior center **Paul Jacobs** dunks the ball against the Global All-Stars Tuesday night at Reed Arena. The All-Stars defeated the Aggies, 75-71.

Men's basketball team falls to Global All-Stars

BY AL LAZARUS
The Battalion

up," A&M senior forward Jerald Brown said. "But when we did, you saw the difference."

Trailing the Aggies, 19-16, halfway through the first half, the All-Stars went on a 13-3 run and eventually ended the half with a 33-28 lead over A&M.

But the Aggies appeared to take the statement embroidered on their uniforms to heart at half-time, because it was a different A&M team on the court for much of the second half.

After falling behind 13 points five minutes into the half, the Aggies found what had been missing from

SEE BASKETBALL ON PAGE 10.

The back of the jerseys the Texas A&M Men's Basketball Team wore in its exhibition game Tuesday night said, "Defense wins."

It was a simple enough statement, but one the Aggies apparently did not take to heart — until it was too late.

A&M's belated effort against the Global Sports Next-Level All-Stars was not enough to make up its early mistakes, as the Aggies were defeated, 75-71, in front of 5,789 fans at Reed Arena.

"We waited too long to step it

A&M women finish up exhibition season

BY BETH MILLER
The Battalion

The Texas A&M Women's Basketball Team will try to continue its momentum and adaptability against the Mississippi All-Stars in its second pre-season exhibition game tonight at 7 at Reed Arena.

The Aggies won their first exhibition game Friday, 57-54, against the Budapest Sport Eyesulet (BSE) of Budapest, Hungary.

A&M women's basketball coach Peggie Gillom said the adjusted well to an atypical positioning situation.

Three Aggies — senior forward Prissy Sharpe, senior guard Amy Yates and sophomore guard LaToya Rose — are injured and unable to play.

Sharpe is out with a left-ankle eversion sprain, Yates is recovering from surgery on her left knee, and Rose has a strained right hamstring.

The injured players' teammates had to pick up the slack Friday by rotating among the vacant

positions on the court. Gillom said she was proud of the team's enthusiasm and flexibility.

Gillom said tonight's game against the Mississippi All-Stars will challenge the Aggies with athletic, effective scorers.

"We hope we can run the ball and score off fast breaks."

—PEGGIE GILLOM
BASKETBALL COACH



"[The Mississippi All-Stars] will be a good team," she said. "They are all scorers. They put the ball in. We hope we can run the ball and score off fast breaks."

Gillom said the Aggies hope to leave last

year's 7-20 season behind them.

Last year's top contributors were Sharpe and senior forward Kera Alexander.

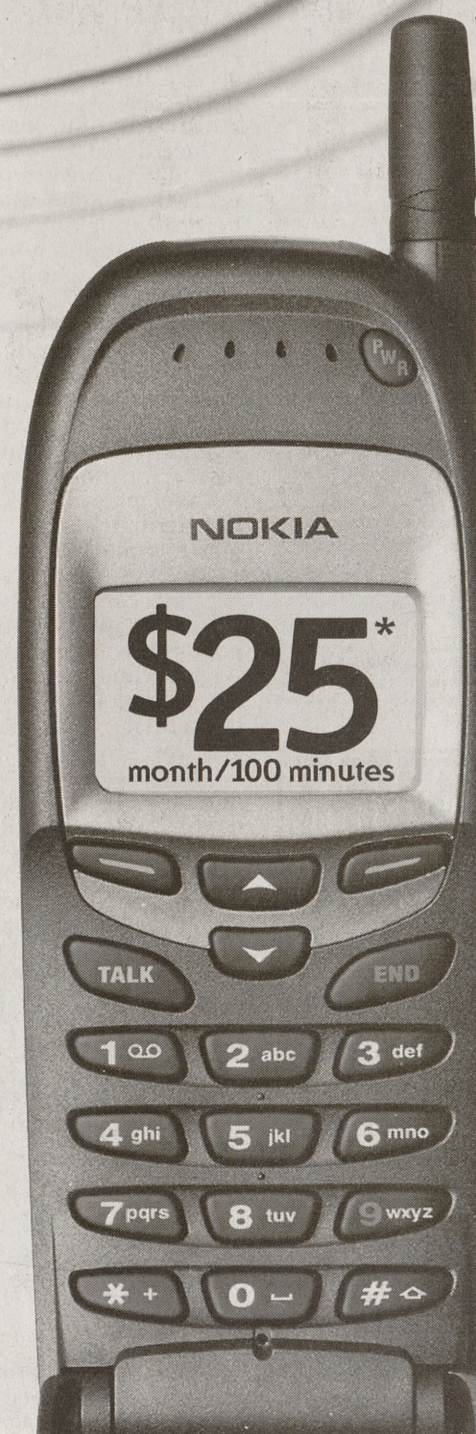
Sharpe, a member of A&M's 1,000-Point Club and 500-Rebounding Club, ranks fourth all time in scoring and third in rebounding in A&M history.

Alexander played several positions against BSE last weekend and was one of the team's key contributors in the win, Gillom said.

Junior forward Jaynetta Saunders, another weapon the Aggies were unable to use last weekend because of an injury, will return for tonight's game.

Saunders, who was missed the BSE game with a sprained right toe, was selected as Pre-season Big 12 Basketball Newcomer of the Year in early November.

She transferred to A&M from Belleville Area College in Illinois, where she earned All-America honors, racking up 1,534 points, 635 rebounds, 174 steals and 105 blocked shots.



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