## SPORTS THE BATTALION

### SHINE

Page 12

Continued from Page 9 A&M's main focus this year, however, is to garner a better team showing and return to the finals, a feat it has not accomplished since 1997, the inaugural Big 12 season. A&M lost that match to archrival Texas in the championship round, giving the Longhorns their first of three Big 12 championships.<sup>4</sup>

While the Longhorns are the favorites after going undefeated to claim their fourth consecutive Big 12 regular season championship this year, they are not without contenders.

Baylor University (9-2 Big 12) and A&M (9-2 Big 12) have the best chance to give the 'Horns a run for their money. The Besides the Longhorns, the Bears are the only blemish on the Aggies' record this year, and Marcial said the Aggies are hungry for either team in a rematch.

"I think everyone is looking forward to [a rematch]," Marcial said. "Especially the people who are leaving. We want to win, we want it bad, and I want them to leave with gold on their fingers. We just have to stay positive and keep working."

Marcial and her teammates might get their chance sooner than they think — they could be facing the Bears in the semis and the 'Horns in the finals.

Women's tennis coach Bobby Kleinecke said that nothing is will come easily for the Aggies in the tournament.

"Right now, I'd say we're getting ready to start the second season," Kleinecke said. "We've played some close matches with a lot of teams that are right there at the middle of the pack with us, so by no means do we have a shoo-in to get to where our seed is."

It may not be a "shoo-in," but Kleinecke went on to say that his team does have the talent to do what it sets its mind to.

"I think this team has a lot of potential that we haven't displayed yet as a group," Kleinecke said. "Individually they have, but they haven't put it all together yet, and I think if they do that anything can happen."

### MADDEN

#### Continued from Page 9

"Everything I do — on the practice court and in matches — is for the team," Madden said. "It's not a good day when I win and we lose — period." Such an attitude is almost unheard of in tennis — especially when it belongs to a player who fig-

ures to have a successful professional career ahead of him. *"Everything I do* 

"His main focus is the team and what the team can possibly accomplish," said A&M men's tennis coach Tim Cass. "He's an incredible young man in that regard, because he's had a lot of notoriety come his direction." — *on the practice court and in matches* — *is for the team. It's not a good day when I win and we lose* — *period.*"

Since joining the Aggies in January -

1998, Madden has amassed a dual-match record of 45-13. He is a two-time All American, and twotime regional champion

This season, Madden is 15-3 and currently is enjoying a 13-match winning streak. Also a force in doubles, Madden and partner

Also a force in doubles, Madden and partner Dumitru Caradima are ranked 10th in the nation. The duo spent most of last season ranked No. 1 and is a two-time recipient of the ITA's doubles team of the month award.

Madden's A&M roots go back to 1996, when Cass traveled to the tennis hotbed of South Florida hoping to reel in a trophy player to help jump-start his program. He caught two — Madden and Rafele But there were serious concerns that here leave school early to turn professional. De Mesa did after one season with the That left Madden as the key figure in A&M to join college tennis's elite. It was a rolewe ed for his infectious work ethic. "As far as when he goes out and plays. fort is seen

none," Cass ay goodbye to a co "We're very fi ture icon, Ben & J to have somebo Homemade Inc., a that, especially v to just another pi part of the de o-Dutch company ment of our prog ever's massive hold He has set anew ry's, known for its dard of what i ousness and quirk posed to be names, was sold t how you're sur ver, the world's lar to compete." company, which o Madden cle and Good-Hun

day, April 27, 2000

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by I'm more proud of the decision I math. The sale of Ben & Je play tennis here." Cass believes that decision will continue of seconomy. The sale handsomely in the future.

"When everyone takes their best shut mers wonder if the sale every time out, that's a very valuable lessning's has a reputation of said. "Because that's exactly what's going mentally and commupen out on the professional tour. "He will be a successful pro, there's but before taxes to charitti about it."

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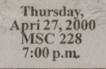
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