

Aggies sweep Baylor

By BREE HOLZ
The Battalion

The Baylor Bears seemingly forgot to show up Wednesday night at G. Allie White Coliseum for their volleyball match against Texas A&M, as the Aggies crushed Baylor, 15-3, 15-4, in less than 80 minutes.

"This was not the team we saw a few weeks ago," said A&M coach Laurie Corbelli. "I was very proud of the performance tonight. We kept attacking and were rarely on the defensive. We slowed down some of our key attackers, and they lost our confidence."

The Aggies improved to 12-5 in the Big 12, and Baylor fell to 7-11. A&M sits in fourth place in the conference behind Nebraska, Kansas State and Missouri.

A&M began the first game by going on an 11-0 run with kills from outside hitters Michelle Cole, Erin Gibson and Christy Clark and middle blockers Heather Marshall and Kara Pulaski.

The Bears scored their first two

points of the game on a kill and a block, but the Aggies responded with two consecutive blocks by Clark and Marshall.

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— Laurie Corbelli
A&M volleyball coach

After a Baylor timeout, A&M survived 13 sideouts before posting two more points on Baylor miscues.

The Bears scored their third point on a block, but, after four game-point

opportunities, the Aggies ended the game on a Baylor hitting error.

To start the second game, A&M once again jumped to a dominating lead. With A&M ahead, 8-0, Baylor put two points on the board on a kill and an A&M hitting error.

A Cole kill ended Baylor's streak, and the Aggies regained control of the game. Blocks from Cole and Marshall sealed the second game.

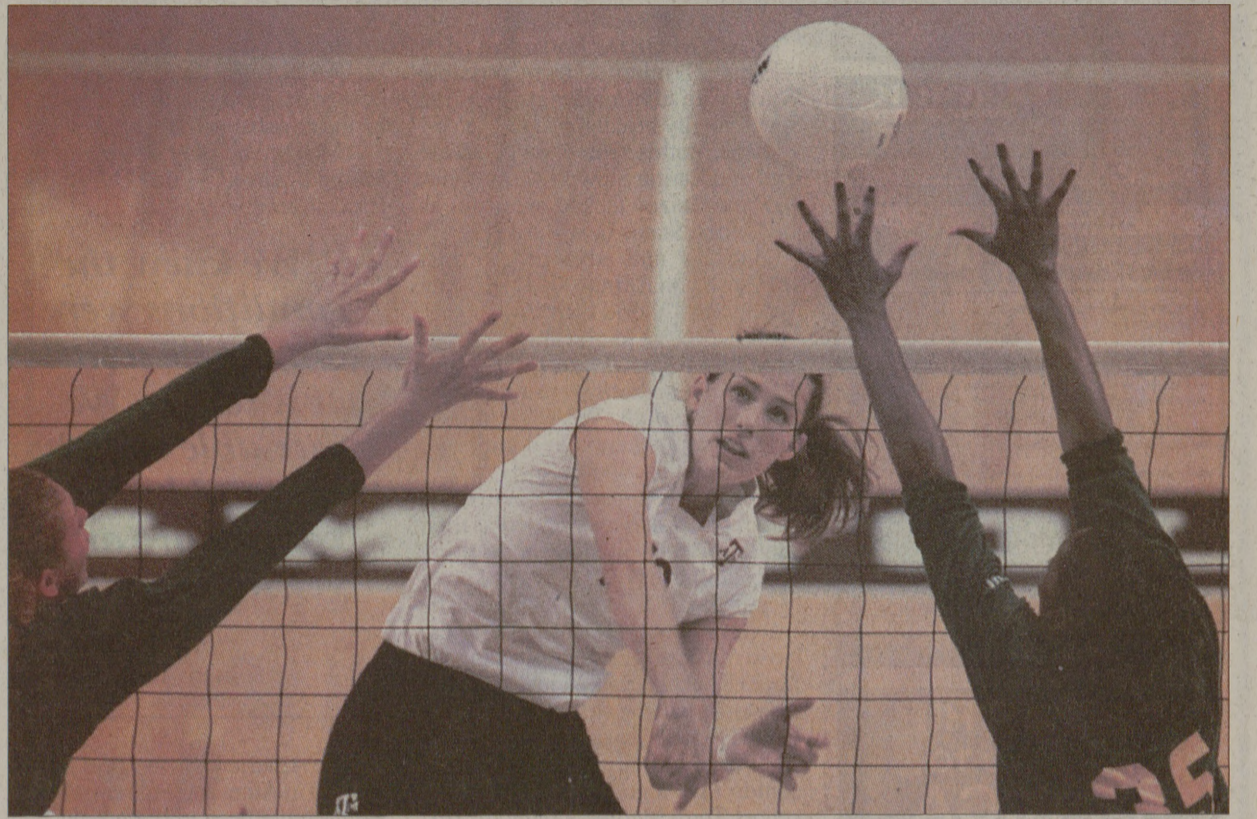
In game three, a block by Marshall posted the Aggies' first point, but the Bears responded with two consecutive kills to tie the game, 1-1.

The Aggies extended their lead with a Marshall ace and consecutive kills from Pulaski and Gibson.

Another Gibson kill put the Aggies ahead, 5-2, and A&M scored six straight with more kills from Cole and Gibson.

The Bears scored only two more points on kills, and the Aggies ended the game on another Baylor hitting error.

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CODY WAGES/THE BATTALION

Texas A&M middle blocker Heather Marshall returns against the Baylor Bears Wednesday night. The Aggies dominated Baylor, sweeping the Bears to solidify their position in the Big 12 rankings.

A&M finishes preseason with victory

By JASON LINCOLN
The Battalion

The Texas A&M men's basketball team opened up with a 17-0 run and went nearly 11 minutes before giving up its first field goal in the final exhibition game of the season in front of 2,637 fans at Reed Arena Wednesday.

The Aggies' defensive showing allowed them to work up a 27-point lead within the first half over Lithuania's Kraitene Marijampole. The Aggies finished the preseason with a 79-55 win, giving the Lithuanians their lowest scoring total in their 10-stop U.S. tour.

"We put an emphasis on defense," said A&M coach Melvin Watkins. "If you go back to the first exhibition game, we were not pleased with the defense, lack of intensity and no effort. The size and the making of a basketball team is when you are not pleased with something, you go back and make it better, and I was pleased with the fact that we came out and started out the game with intensity on defense."

The intensity worked — A&M held the Lithuanian team to only 35 percent from the floor, while the Aggies shot just shy of 50 percent. However, the Aggies

lacked the performance from the charity stripe, shooting just 53 percent free throws to Kraitene Marijampole's 91 percent.

"Today we just tried to work on our defense and make sure we were on the same side all the time — get in there and get on the boards," said forward Keith Bean.

Spurred on by point guard Jamaal Gilchrist's return from injury, the A&M offense took on new life as Gilchrist dished high and low. All four of the other starters scored in double figures.

Forwards Bean and Nick Anderson led the surge from down low. Bean posted 17 points with

six rebounds and Anderson scored 14 with eight boards.

Bernard King and Carlton Brown rounded out the Aggies' top scorers with 13 and 10 points. Brown also posted nine rebounds as the Aggies beat the Lithuanian team on the glass by a 42-34 margin.

No A&M player played more than 30 minutes, and only one healthy player was on the floor for less than 10 minutes, as Watkins made a concerted effort to vary the lineup to get his entire roster some game time before the season begins.

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CODY WAGES/THE BATTALION

Texas A&M guard Jamaal Gilchrist fights for possession against a Lithuanian player. The Aggies held the Europeans to their lowest point total on their 10-stop U.S. tour.

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3 or Fewer Drinks per Week The Majority of Aggies Drink

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