

Aggies hit road to face Longhorns

Ags continue losing streak against ISU

By JASON LINCOLN
The Battalion

Texas A&M men's basketball is coming off a discouraging 19-point loss to Iowa State. Today it looks to rebound against rival Texas, which lost by 28 to No. 12 Arizona on Saturday.

Both teams will look to break their respective losing streaks tonight.

"Our kids normally bounce back," said A&M men's basketball coach Melvin Watkins. "We tend to come back out and respond with passion."

Texas has lost two straight games while A&M is still winless in Big 12 play with seven straight losses.

In the two teams' previous meeting on Jan. 17, Texas defeated the Aggies, 76-58.

Bernard King was the only Aggie in double digits, and he led the scoring on the floor with 23 points. Darren Kelly led four Texas players to post double figures.

Texas and A&M are the two worst shooting teams in the Big 12, both shooting less than 40 percent.

"Texas is not shooting the ball real well, but they have a lot of other ways they can hurt you," Watkins said.

King continues to dominate the Aggie offense. Sunday, King was bothered by a bad back and, after a sluggish start, posted a game-high 21 points.

Meanwhile, the Aggies' inside play, led by Nick Anderson and Keith Bean, has struggled.

Against the Cyclones on Sunday, the combo combined for only eight points while posting nine fouls.

Bean took just two shots in his 20 minutes of play.

However, the Aggies have fared the best as a team during the conference season on the road.

Most recently against Oklahoma State last Wednesday, the Aggies ran neck-and-neck with the Cowboys until the final three minutes.

The Aggies traveled to Austin on Monday to take on their Big 12 rivals.

The Longhorns have yet to lose at home this season.

ESPN Plus will televise the game regionally with tip off set for 8 p.m.



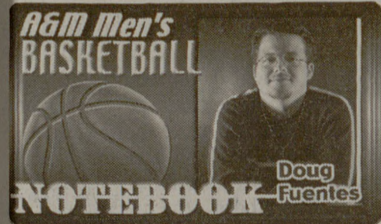
BERNARDO GARZA/THE BATTALION

A&M senior forward Jaynetta Saunders blocks a shot against the Texas Tech Lady Raiders. The Aggies face Oklahoma Wednesday at Reed Arena.

The Texas A&M men's basketball team continued its downward spiral last week. A&M (6-13, 0-7 in Big 12) dropped a pair of games to extend its losing streak to seven games. The Aggies dropped a 76-64 decision to Oklahoma State on Wednesday in Stillwater, Okla., and followed that with a 72-53 loss to the 17th-ranked Iowa State Cyclones on Sunday at Reed Arena. A&M faces a pair of tough Big 12 foes this week as it travels to Austin to face the Texas Longhorns on Tuesday and returns home to face the 24th-ranked Oklahoma Sooners on Saturday.

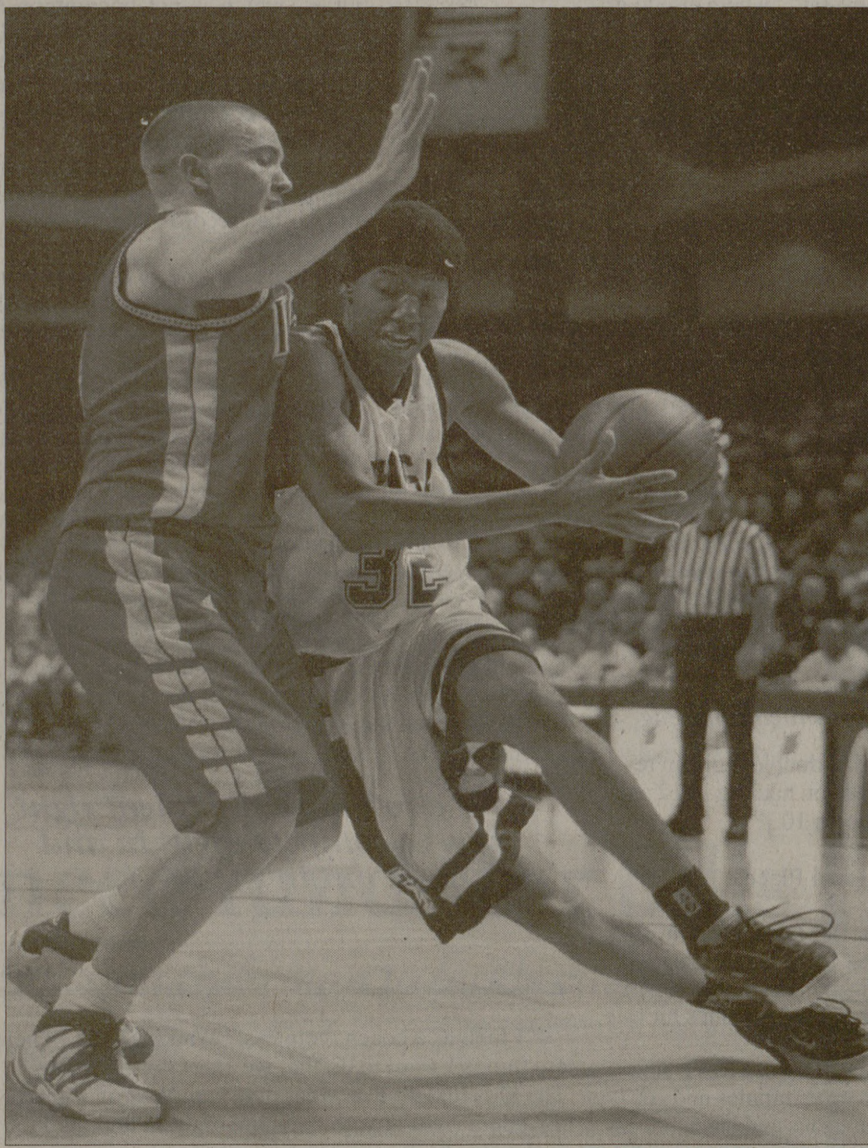
Board Work

After they started out the season by pounding the boards hard, the Aggies' lack of height has caught up to them in Big 12 play.



Despite having no starting player taller than 6-8, A&M outrebounded seven of its 12 nonconference opponents.

The Aggies found a tougher road in Big 12 play, being outrebounded in five of their seven conference games. Iowa State outrebounded the Aggies 46-32.



STUART VILLANUEVA/THE BATTALION

A&M sophomore guard Bernard King drives to the net against the Iowa State Cyclones on Saturday at Reed Arena.

Aggie women shoot to recapture success

Night and Day

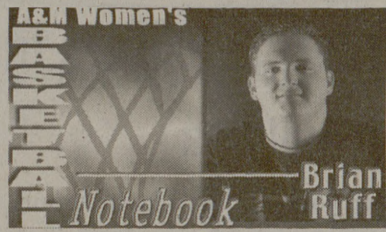
The Aggies' defense is on top of the Big 12 in steals this season. The team is tied with Baylor for the highest average in the conference, 14.5 steals per game.

The Aggies' defensive rebounding is a totally different ballgame. The squad has been plagued underneath its opponents' backboard for most of the season, and the team's Big 12 ranking shows.

Hot Hand

Offensively, senior forward and Big 12 Player of the Year candidate Jaynetta Saunders is still lighting up the scoreboard for the Aggies this season. Saunders has moved into the top spot in the Big 12 in scoring average with 23.4 points per game.

Brian Ruff is a sophomore journalism major.



The Texas A&M women's basketball team will try to get back to its winning ways this week after Saturday's loss to the Oklahoma State Cowgirls in Stillwater. Unfortunately, the Aggies will have to bounce back against two of the Big 12's top-ranked teams this week.

On Wednesday night, the Aggies (12-6, 2-5) will take on the Oklahoma Sooners at Reed Arena.

The Aggies will travel to Lubbock on Saturday to take on the No. 12 Texas Tech Lady Raiders, who dropped out of the top 10 after their loss to the Baylor Bears last weekend.

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