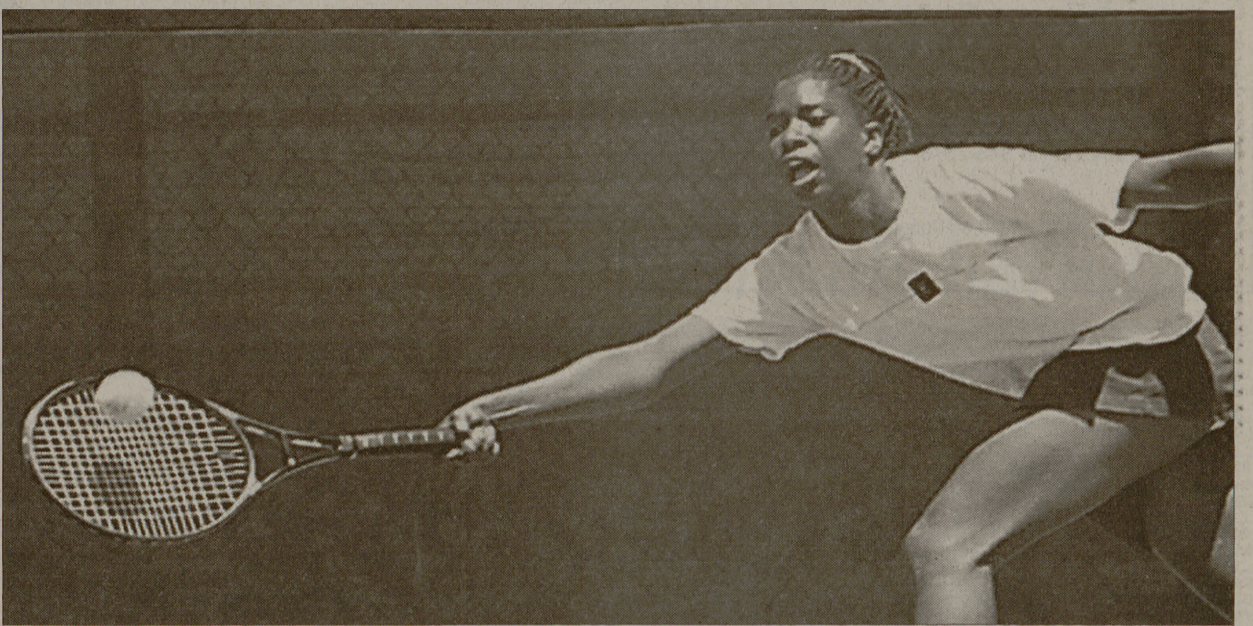


Ags open up spring slate

BY TRUE BROWN
The Battalion
 The Texas A&M women's tennis team will kick off its spring season with a double-header Saturday as it takes on Stephen F. Austin State University and the University of Texas-San Antonio at the Varsity Tennis Center in College Station. The Aggies are No. 36 in the preseason Wingspanbank.com polls. The ranking is up two places from the team's final rankings last season. Three of A&M's doubles teams are ranked in the top 35. The tandem of freshman Jessica Roland and sophomore transfer Ashley Hedberg, who advanced to the semifinals of the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) All-American in October, are ranked ninth. Juniors Majorie Terburgh and

Martina Nedorostova are sitting at No. 17, while the duo of junior Leah Killen and senior Eva Marcial is ranked 32nd. Killen and Marcial reached the semifinals of the ITA Regionals in College Station in November. "This is a very good year for us in doubles," said A&M women's tennis coach Bobby Kleinecke. "We look to have some good success." Freshman Roberta Spencer is the team's only ranked singles player, coming in at No. 66. A&M finished the 2000 season with a 9-2 record in Big 12 play, good enough for second place. With 12 players on this season's roster, the Aggies look to use depth to their advantage. "They are not only quantity, but they are quality, too," said Kleinecke. "Our depth is our biggest

strength. Everyone on the team not only can play, but deserves to play. All up and down the lineup, we are a very solid team." Last year, the Aggies defeated SFA 7-2, sweeping all three doubles matches and winning four of the six singles contests. A&M and UTSA did not face each other last year. Kleinecke said the team is not underestimating its Southland Conference opponents. "These are matches that we are going to have to come out and play," Kleinecke said. "In matches like these, there are always players who struggle and have to dig down deep and come back, and we have to be ready to step it up and take care of business." First serve is at 9:30 a.m. against SFA and 3p.m. against UTSA.



FILE PHOTO/THE BATTALION
 A&M junior Leah Killen and the rest of the women's tennis team will open the season Saturday against Stephen F. Austin State University and the University of Texas-San Antonio at the Varsity Tennis Center.



FILE PHOTO/THE BATTALION
 The A&M men's swimming and diving team will close its dual meet season on Friday.

Men's swim team closes season

BY JEREMY BROWN
The Battalion
 The No. 4 Texas A&M men's swimming and diving team will try to avoid an upset against No. 22 Southern Methodist University in its last dual meet of the season Friday. "Without a doubt, it will be the most competitive dual meet we have all year," said A&M men's swimming coach Mel Nash. "They match up against us really well." A&M is 7-1 in dual meets, 2-1 in the Big 12. Its only loss is to the No. 1 University of Texas. A&M defeated Arizona

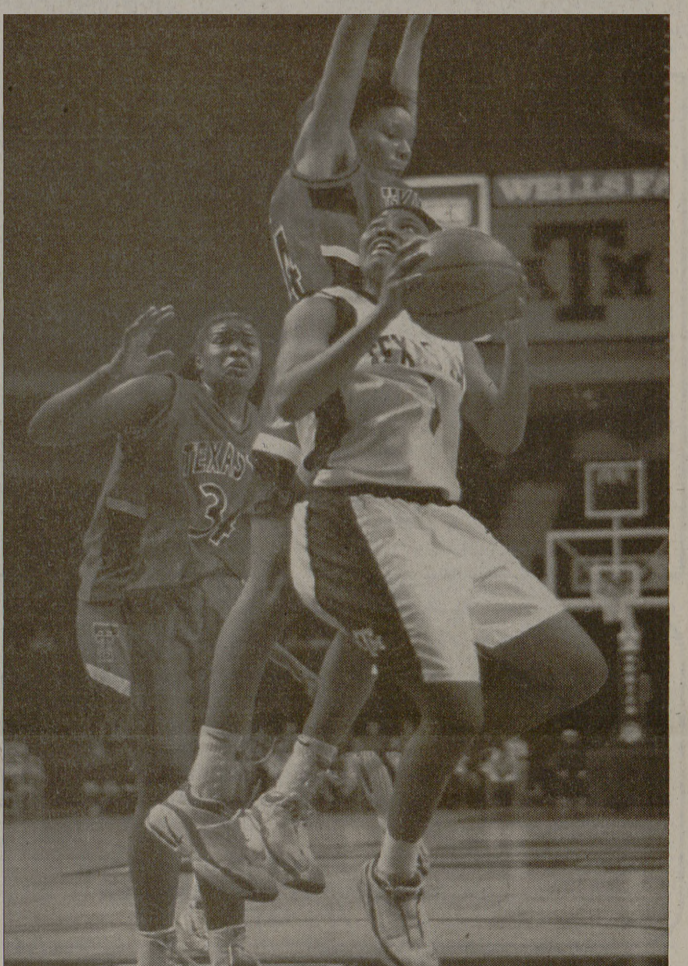
last weekend in Austin. SMU is 3-2 in dual meets with losses to Arizona and No. 10 Florida. In the Dallas Morning News Classic, SMU finished second behind No. 3 Tennessee. In the meet, SMU defeated No. 5 Auburn, No. 10 Florida, No. 16 Minnesota and Nebraska. "We know that they will come gunning for us like they did the teams in the Dallas Morning News Classic," Nash said. "If they knock us off, they go into the top 10." SMU scheduled a tough road trip this weekend. After competing against A&M, SMU

will travel to Austin to face Texas Saturday. Sinnott said that this weekend's competition will be a good dress rehearsal for the National Independent Conference Championships. SMU is joining the National Independent Conference after winning four straight Western Athletic Conference Championships. The meet will be A&M's last competition at home until the NCAA's March 22-24. The Aggies' next competition will be the Pre-Big 12 Invite in Austin on Feb. 28. The meet will begin at 6 p.m. at the Rec Center Natatorium.

Aggies head to Lubbock to face Raiders

BY BRIAN RUFF
The Battalion
 The Texas A&M women's basketball team looks to put a halt to a two-game losing streak Saturday night when it travels to Lubbock to take on the No. 12 Texas Tech Lady Raiders. The Aggies are coming off a 93-70 loss to the No. 10 Oklahoma Sooners on Wednesday at Reed Arena. The Texas A&M squad was hurt by 18 turnovers in the first half that set the tone for the remainder of the game. A&M senior forward Jaynetta Saunders leads the Aggies into Lubbock averaging 23.2 points per game. Saunders dropped one spot to second in the Big 12 scoring race, behind Baylor's Danielle Crokrom who averages 23.3 points per game. The Lady Raiders defeated the Kansas State Wildcats, 72-41, on Wednesday night in Lubbock. Freshman guard Jia Perkins led Tech scoring at attack with 27 points, including six 3-pointers. The Raiders jumped out on the Wildcats with explosive shooting and strong defense, and set the pace for the rest of

the matchup by carrying a 28-point lead into halftime. The win over KSU was the Raiders' 40th straight win at home. The streak is tied for the longest current home win streak in the nation. On Jan. 13, the Lady Raiders came into Reed Arena and handed the Aggies an 85-78 loss. Tech pulled away from the Aggies in the second half, aided by a 20-6 run. The Aggies rallied, pulling within four points with less than a minute to play, but Perkins drained a 3-pointer to seal the Tech victory. The Aggies have not defeated the Lady Raiders since March 1996 when A&M beat a No. 7 Raider squad to win the final Southwest Conference Championship. "We have got to get up and be ready for these top 10 teams," said A&M women's basketball coach Peggie Gillom after Wednesday night's loss to the Sooners. "We have to go into Raider country, and that's not going to be easy." The Raiders will be the fifth ranked team the Aggies have done battle with in the last six games. Tip off is set for 7 p.m.



FILE PHOTO/THE BATTALION
 A&M freshman guard Toccara Williams goes up for a shot against Texas Tech in the teams' last meeting on Jan. 13.

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Pre-Health Care Administration Society

Attention to all those interested in the field of Health Care Administration:
 The PHCAS is having its first meeting of the semester on February 6th at 8:30pm in Koldus Room 155.
 There will be a speaker and refreshments.
 If you have any questions, you can contact Jeff Patterson at 680-1864 or jeffdpatterson@hotmail.com

Archer Daniels Midland

ADM will be hosting an information night to discuss internships and career opportunities!

Careers Highlighted: Commodity Trading

Majors Welcome: Agricultural Business, Agricultural Economics

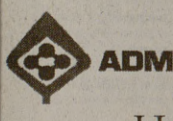

Freshman, Sophomores, Juniors and Seniors are all welcome!

Refreshments will be served - Door prizes will be given

Dress: Casual

Tuesday, February 6th at 7:00PM

Harrington Education Center (HECC) Room 200

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