

## Sports in Brief — Red Raiders beat Ags in Lubbock

The Texas A&M women's basketball team suffered its third straight Big 12 loss Saturday to the No. 9 Texas Tech Lady Raiders, 92-79.

Senior forward Jaynetta Saunders once again led the Aggies (12-8, 2-7) in scoring with 23 points.



SAUNDERS

Tech was led by sophomore forward Plenette Pierson who had 25 points and 14 rebounds.

## Equestrians have good show at LSU

The Texas A&M women's equestrian team had another strong showing this past weekend at the Louisiana State University show.

Oklahoma State won the first show with 36 points and tied for first in the second show with host LSU.

The Aggies finished second in the first show with a total of 35 points and took third in the second show with 22 points.

The Aggies broke away from the pack and now stand alone in the lead in Zone 7 with 188 overall points.

## Tracksters finish 3rd, 6th at meet

The Texas A&M men's and women's track and field teams took third and sixth place, respectively, Saturday at the Houston Indoor Classic.

The men finished ahead of top-ranked Arkansas with six second-place finishes.

The women followed the strong finishes of All-American Meshell Trotter, as well as sophomores Robyn Burkhardt and Melissa Gulli.

# Sooners shoot down Aggies

## OU excels from free-throw line in 72-63 victory over Ags

By JASON LINCOLN

The Battalion

The Texas A&M men's basketball team's marathon run is over.

Facing the Big 12's elite teams in the last eight games, the Aggies started the conference season on a downward slide.

Saturday's 72-63 loss to No. 24 Oklahoma marked the turning point of the Aggies' schedule and their performance.

A&M (6-15, 0-9 in Big 12) outperformed and outshot Oklahoma (17-4, 6-3), forcing the Sooners to post a perfect 16-of-16 performance from the free-throw line in the second half to outlast the Aggies.

A&M shot 47 percent and grabbed 32 boards, including 15 on the offensive glass that led to 16 second-chance points.

Oklahoma shot 46 percent but posted only 23 rebounds — 12 of which came on the Aggies' side of the floor.

"I look at the rebounding and our shooting percentage," said A&M men's basketball coach Melvin Watkins. "There's not much more we can do with that. I can't be too disap-

pointed in that. Every game is a tough game for us right now. We almost have to play perfect basketball, and that's tough for us."

Oklahoma played a far-from-flawless game but survived its rebounding woes with its performance on the free-throw line.

The team's leading rebounder in its five-game winning streak, Nolan Johnson, failed to post a single board despite scoring 11 points.

It was Aaron McGhee who stepped up big, leading the Sooners' scoring charge for the first time since the last meeting against the Aggies.

McGhee scored 22 points. J.R. Raymond scored 17 and Hollis Price posted 10.

"I was just more aggressive tonight and I made some shots," McGhee said.

Sophomore guard Bernard King led the Aggies with 18 points while freshman forward Nick Anderson and sophomore forward Keith Bean posted 10 each.

Anderson fouled out with five minutes remaining. Bean came off the bench to post his 10 and team-leading

six rebounds. Watkins gave freshman center Nolan Butterfrass his first start on Saturday, in a plan to try to keep Bean out of early foul trouble.

The strategy worked as Bean played 22 minutes and had just two fouls. Butterfrass scored six points.

Oklahoma's ball control kept the Aggies' hot hands in check. The Sooners turned the ball over just seven times.

"I really liked the way we took care of the ball and made free throws," said Oklahoma men's basketball coach Kelvin Sampson. "If you can do those two things consistently, it makes it a lot easier."

A&M forced Oklahoma to play the perimeter. The Sooners took 24 of their 48 shots from 3-point range, making just eight.

But it was not enough, as the Aggies could not muster the offense to pull in front of the Sooners.

"We fought back, but we just don't have enough yet to overcome some of those things," Watkins said.

A&M will face Baylor on Tuesday. The Bears are the first team with a losing record in league play the Aggies have faced in eight games.



BERNARDO GARZA/THE BATTALION

A&M freshman forward Nick Anderson goes up for a shot against the University of Oklahoma Sooners on Saturday at Reed Arena.

# Ags swim past SMU in final home match

By JEREMY BROWN

The Battalion

High school swimmers from the Texas Association of Private and Parochial Schools (TAPPS) were in attendance when the No. 4 Texas A&M men's swimming and diving team competed against No. 19 Southern Methodist University on Friday.

Instead of the high schoolers learning something, it was SMU that was schooled.

A&M won nine of 13 events to defeat SMU, 145-91. A&M jumped out to a 57-17 lead by winning four straight events — the 400-yard medley relay, the 1,000-yard

freestyle, the 200-yard freestyle and the 50-yard freestyle — to start the meet.

"I expected it to be a little closer," said A&M men's swimming coach Mel Nash. "They matched up against us very, very well, but the two races that totally turned it were the 1,000 and the 200 free."

In the 1,000 freestyle, A&M scored an upset as sophomore Patrick Dideum defeated SMU's Steve Barnes by swimming a career-best time of 9:17.71 seconds.

In the 200 freestyle, A&M was impressive with senior Devin Howard, senior Alfred Mansour and junior Patrick Kennedy finishing first, second and third, respec-

tively. Howard's winning time of 1:38.13 was an A&M record.

"That shocked them [SMU] a little bit and then you come back in the 200 and go 1-2-3 in what is traditionally one of their strongest events and one of our weaker events," Nash said. "I think that kind of set them back on their heels."

A&M junior Riley Janes swam the fastest 100-yard backstroke time in the nation during his leg of the 400-yard medley relay.

Besides breaking the A&M record in the

See SWIM on Page 10.



BERNARDO GARZA/THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M men's swimming and diving team defeated the SMU Mustangs, 145-91, on Saturday.

# Get involved!



# focus softball

sign up at the Member Services Desk



excel intramurals registration closing date February 6th @ 6pm

in addition to slow-pitch softball, sign up for wallyball and table tennis

http://recsports.tamu.edu

# Liberal Arts Career Week

Tonight: Resume Writing Workshop  
7:00 p.m.  
Rudder 502

Tuesday, February 6th: Interviewing Workshop  
7:00 p.m.  
Rudder 502

Wednesday, February 7th: Networking Workshop  
7:00 p.m.  
Koldus 111

Thursday, February 8th: Alumni Forum  
6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Reed Arena  
Social  
8:00 - ? p.m. Reed Arena

Friday, February 9th: Career Fair  
10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
Rudder Exhibit Hall

www.lasctamu.com

