

A&M nabs second in Big 12

By JEREMY BROWN
The Battalion

By swimming many season-best times and receiving a lot of help from its divers, the Texas A&M women's swimming and diving team finished right where it hoped it would in the Big 12 championships in Austin this weekend — second place.

"We're just really excited about that," said A&M women's swimming coach Steve Bultman. "It matches our highest finish ever in conference, which we did last year, and, to overcome some of the injuries and sickness we have had, I am really excited."

The No. 9 University of Texas cruised to its third straight Big 12 championship with a record 997.5 points. The team's 389-point margin of victory over A&M (608.5) crushed the record of 179 points that Texas set last year.

Texas won the first 17 events of the meet, sweeping the first two days, before Nebraska and A&M took three of the last four events. The Longhorns swam automatic qualifying times and set Big 12 records in nearly every event they won.

Colleen Lanne led the Longhorns by breaking Big 12 records in the 50-yard, 100-yard and 200-yard freestyle events. Her 100-yard freestyle time of 47.88 just missed the U.S. record time of 47.81. Lanne was also on the winning relay teams in the 200-yard freestyle relay, 400-yard medley relay, 200-yard medley relay and 400-yard freestyle relay.

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Missouri holds off Aggies

Tigers' Gilbert pours in 26 points to help down A&M, 97-90

By DOUG FUENTES
The Battalion

The Texas A&M men's basketball team turned in one of its best performances of the season Saturday.

Unfortunately for the Aggies, so did the University of Missouri's Clarence Gilbert.

Fresh off a one-game suspension, Gilbert scored 26 points, including 19 in a five-minute stretch of the first half, as Missouri held off a late surge by the Aggies to defeat A&M, 97-90, at Reed Arena.

The Aggies (9-16, 2-9 in Big 12) shot 50.8 percent from the floor, including 55.6 percent from the 3-point line, the fifth straight game they have been above 45 percent.

They also set a season high in points scored in regulation.

But Missouri (17-8, 7-4) was just as deadly, also shooting 50.8 percent from the floor. The Tigers shot 40 percent from the beyond the arc, including an astounding 58.8 percent in the first half.

"The game to me in the first half was Gilbert," said A&M men's basketball coach Melvin Watkins. "We couldn't guard him. We didn't do a good job, and he got his rhythm, and it was hard to break it."

"We could have given in, and I thought at one point we were almost ready to throw the towel in. We got their attention back and the guys got back on the floor and started getting after it and made run for it down the stretch. As a coach, you have to be pleased with that type of effort."

The Aggies started out the game in fine fashion as freshman forward Nick Anderson and sophomore guard Bernard King combined to score the team's first 12 points, as A&M jumped to a 12-7 lead.

Missouri tied the game at 13 and when Gilbert scored his first basket at 12:28 of the first half to give the Tigers the lead at 15-13, it was a lead that Missouri would not relinquish.

All Gilbert needed was a starting point and, for the next five minutes, he

wreaked havoc on the Aggies, scoring 19 points, including five 3-pointers.

"We saw him on film and saw he was very dangerous," King said. "A couple of times had we had mental mistakes and left him wide open."

His last 3-pointer gave the Tigers a 36-26 lead with 7:12 remaining in the half. Missouri cruised into halftime with a 56-44 lead, thanks to the 3-point shot. Missouri hit 10 3-pointers in the first half.

The Tigers continued to roll in the second half, eventually widening their lead to 18 points, 69-51, with 15:45 left in the game.

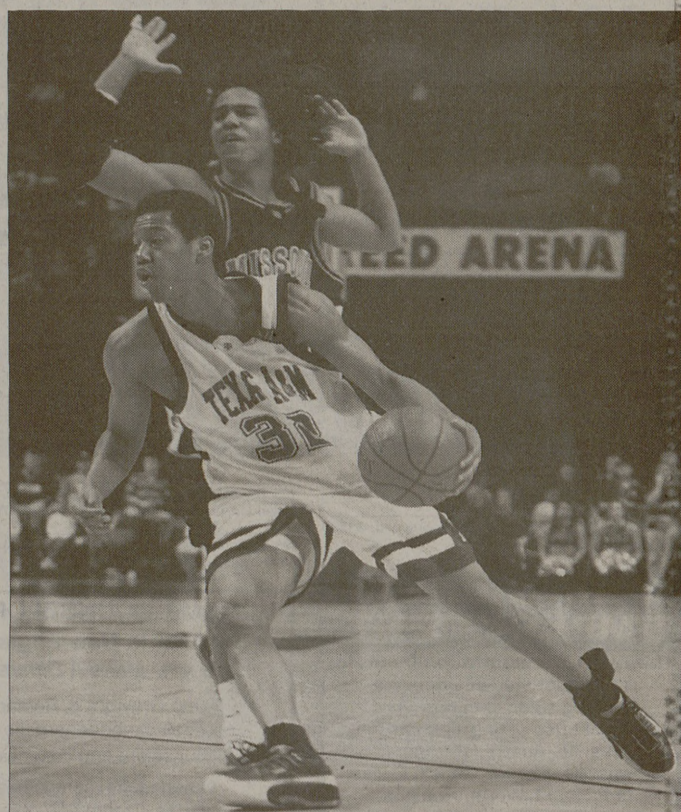
A&M did not give up, continually chipping away at the lead and positioning itself for one last run.

Gilbert hit two free throws to make it a 92-82 game with 2:41 remaining in the game. Then, King took over.

He hit a layup and a long 3-pointer to cut it to a five-point game at 92-87 with 1:23 left.

King then drew a charging foul

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CHAD ADAMS/THE BATTALION
A&M sophomore guard Bernard King dribbles around Missouri's Wesley Stokes in the Aggies' 97-90 loss Saturday at Reed Arena.



PATRIC SCHNEIDER/THE BATTALION
A&M senior guard Brandy Jones dribbles the ball past Colorado's Linda Lappe on Saturday.

Jones scores 1,000th point in Aggs' loss

By BRIAN RUFF
The Battalion

The No. 19 Colorado Buffaloes used the emotion of knocking off No. 6 Iowa State last week to upend a struggling Texas A&M women's basketball team, 67-54, Saturday night at Reed Arena.

Senior forward Brandy Jones led the Aggies with 11 points, giving the Missouri City native 1,002 for her career. Jones became the 15th Aggie to reach the 1,000-point milestone and was honored by the crowd in the second half, shortly after she hit a 3-pointer.

"I am so happy for her," said A&M women's basketball coach Peggie Gillom. "One thousand points is a great accomplishment."

The Aggies came into the Colorado matchup after suffering three of their biggest losses of the season. The team's most recent loss came Tuesday night when the Oklahoma State Cowgirls handed the Aggies an 83-63 defeat in Reed Arena.

Against Colorado, the Aggies struggled in the first half, with two scoring slumps of four and five minutes in length, allowing the Buffaloes to build a comfortable lead.

With the Aggies trailing by 15 at the end of the second scoring slump, A&M looked to charge back and went on a nine-point run to close the lead to six points with just more than two minutes remaining in the half.

Despite the Buffaloes' increasing their lead back to 13 early in the second half, the Aggies did not give up. A&M cut the Colorado lead

to one point with eight minutes remaining. A 3-pointer by junior guard Jenny Roulier put an end to the Aggie comeback and pushed the Buffalo lead back to four. It was A&M's final shot at ending the losing streak, but Colorado pulled away in the final minutes.

"Our point guards didn't panic," said Colorado women's basketball coach Ceal Barry. "They kind of took over when the game got close."

The Colorado squad was paced by 6-foot-5 freshman center Tera Bjorklund, who controlled the paint with 25 points.

"We need to play defense like that for 40 minutes instead of 20," Gillom said. "We didn't want to put them at the free-throw line because they are a good free-throw shooting team, and we did that tonight."

aggressive adrenaline performance enthusiasm achievement fun excel challenge energize camaraderie concentration

do not let the action pass you by

TEXAS A&M Sport Clubs

SPRING 2001

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<h3>GET IN THE ACTION WITH SPORT CLUBS</h3> <p>Upcoming Events—Visit us online for individual sport club links.</p> <table border="1"> <tbody> <tr> <td>Men's Soccer 4 on 4 Tour.</td> <td>March 24-25</td> <td>Penberthy 7 & 8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gymnastics Mixed Pairs</td> <td>March 24</td> <td>Read 307</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Men's Soccer 4 on 4 Tour.	March 24-25	Penberthy 7 & 8	Gymnastics Mixed Pairs	March 24	Read 307	<p>Get connected! Visit us online for everything you need to know about Rec Sports. For information call 845-7826 or pick up a convenient flyer in the lobby.</p> <p>http://recsports.tamu.edu</p>							
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