

No. 6 Vandy pounds Ags

Commodores cruise to 7-0 victory over women's tennis team

TRUE BROWN
The Battalion
It was a night of firsts for the Texas A&M women's tennis team Wednesday. However, it was not the type of firsts they were hoping for as the Vanderbilt Commodores blitzed the Aggies, 7-0.

The loss drops A&M's record to 8-2 and ends the 25th-ranked Aggies' two-match win streak. The No. 6 Commodores, the first top-10 opponent this season for A&M, improved to 13-1 overall this season, with their lone loss coming to first-ranked Stanford.

"Talent-wise, I think we matched up well with them," said A&M women's tennis coach Bobby Kleinecke. "They have beaten a lot of good teams this year. We got beat by a better team tonight."

In doubles, the Aggies fell behind quickly on all three courts. At No. 2, the duo of juniors Martina Nedorostova and Majorie Terburgh won just one game, falling to Vanderbilt's 25th-ranked doubles team of Aleke Tsoubanos and Sarah Riske.

Tsoubanos and Riske played steadily throughout and shut down Nedorostova and Terburgh, 8-1, the second time this season that Nedorostova and Terburgh have lost.

No. 1 was not much nicer to the Aggies, as the 11th-ranked tandem of freshman Jessica Roland and sophomore Ashley Hedberg were buried by No. 12 Kate Burson and Julie Ditty. The loss was Hedberg and Roland's second straight and clinched the doubles point for Vanderbilt.

It was the first time this season A&M has lost the doubles point.
"They played well," Hedberg said. "We weren't quite as up for it as much as we usually are, but they played solid."

The Aggies almost pulled out a win at No. 3, but the team of senior Eva Marcial and junior Leah Killen fell short, losing 9-8(6) in a tiebreaker.

As the match moved to singles play, momentum stayed with Vanderbilt.

The Commodores quickly claimed a 2-0 lead as Burson flew past Terburgh at No. 4, 6-0, 6-0.

A few minutes later, sophomore Olivia Karlikova fell to the strong play of Ditty. No. 23 Ditty used a strong forehand and broke Karlikova's serve six times en route to a 6-0, 6-3 win.

"Vanderbilt is a tough team," Karlikova said. "(Ditty) hits the ball really hard. There were things I could have changed, but tonight was tough."

The match was clinched by Vanderbilt at No. 5, when the 55th-ranked Tsoubanos breezed past Killen, 6-2, 6-3.

The two remaining matches were closer but ended with the same results.

Nedorostova dropped a back and forth match to VU's Jenny Miller, 6-4, 7-6(4). Nedorostova dropped behind early in the first set, but strung together wins in four straight games before stalling out. In the second set, Nedorostova had set point at 5-4 but could not hold off a charging Miller, who won the set in a tiebreaker.

At No. 2, Roland could not contain the big serve and gritty play of Riske, 7-5, 6-4. Riske caught fire midway through the first set and forced Roland to run the court. Riske put the match away with an ace.

The sweep was Vanderbilt's seventh of the season, and the first time the Aggies have been shutout at home since last April.

"We came in and tried not to make errors," Kleinecke said. "We weren't as aggressive as we needed to be, but we are not going to hang our heads. We have to move on."



A&M senior Eva Marcial hits a backhand against the Vanderbilt Commodores on Wednesday night in the Aggies' 7-0 loss at the Varsity Tennis Center.

Aggies face Missouri in Big 12 Tournament

JASON LINCOLN
The Battalion

The Texas A&M men's basketball team fell by seven points to Missouri on Feb. 17 in College Station. Today it will have to reverse that outcome in order to keep its season alive as it enters the Phillips 66 Big 12 Tournament.

The 11th-seeded Aggies (10-19, 3-3 Big 12) will face the No. 6 Tigers (18-11, 9-7) in the first round of the conference tournament at 8:20 p.m. in Kemper Arena in Kansas City.

"The Big 12 tournament is always an exciting time for everyone involved," said A&M coach Melvin Watkins. "Coaches always like to say it's like another season and that's true. Everyone starts with a 0-0 record and the winner goes to the NCAA tournament."

"That's what you hope to use as a motivating factor for your team. They have a new lease on life."

The Aggies look to end their stigma as the only team in the Big 12 without a tournament victory. In the first four seasons of the conference tournament, A&M lost in the first round of each contest. The Aggies have lost seven straight conference tournament games dating back to the 1994 South-

west Conference championship.

A&M enters the tournament with the youngest lineup in the conference and the most injury problems. With just two upperclassmen on the roster and eight Aggies on the injured list at some point during the season and three lost for the entire year, A&M is forced to take a young, shallow team to the tournament.

After concluding the home season with a win over Texas Tech, A&M dropped losses at Nebraska and Baylor by more than 25-point margins.

"We have not played well in the last two games," Watkins said. "We just kind of ran out of gas. Our tank was empty. We hope the excitement and possibilities of the tournament give us a jump start."

The Tigers are coming off a 75-59 loss to No. 2 Kansas. In the last meeting against A&M, Missouri won, 97-90, led by Clarence Gilbert's deadly 3-point shooting. However, sophomore Kareem Rush, the Tigers' first first-team All-Big 12 selection, is back in the lineup, giving Missouri another dimension.

The winner will advance to the quarterfinals, where it will play third-seeded Oklahoma.



A&M junior guard Andy Leatherman and the Aggies will take on Missouri in the first round of the Big 12 tournament today in Kansas City.

A&M draft hopefuls participate in Pro Day

DOUG FUENTES
The Battalion

The Battalion

More than 60 scouts from every NFL team, including the expansion Houston Texans, descended on Texas A&M on Wednesday as A&M football coach R.C. Slocum and his staff hosted the Aggies' annual Pro Day.

Potential A&M draftees participated in numerous drills for the scouts in an attempt to enhance their draft positions.

"We always get a good turnout for this," Slocum said. "It's really fun to see the coaches and scouts come in from all over. I'm always excited to see our guys have a chance to display their physical ability."

The Aggies who participated were wide receivers Chris Taylor, Robert Ferguson and Brian Wesley; running back Ja'Mar Toombs; tight end RoDerrick Broughton; offensive lineman Chris Valletta; linebackers Jason Glenn, Roylin Bradley and Cornelius Anthony; defensive linemen Steven Young,

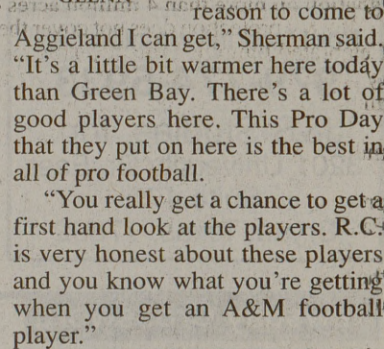
Ronald Flemons and Ron Edwards; defensive back Michael Jameson; and kicker Terence Kitchens.

Among the scouts was one NFL head coach, Green Bay's Mike Sherman, who is also the Packers' general manager, was a part of Slocum's first staff as the offensive line coach.

"I'll take any reason to come to Aggieland I can get," Sherman said. "It's a little bit warmer here today than Green Bay. There's a lot of good players here. This Pro Day that they put on here is the best in all of pro football."

"You really get a chance to get a first hand look at the players. R.C. is very honest about these players and you know what you're getting when you get an A&M football player."

See PRO DAY on Page 8.



A&M football player Jason Glenn.

4.0 & GO				
The week of March 18 - March 22				
Acct 230	Part I Mon Mar 19 7pm-10pm	Part II Tue Mar 20 7pm-10pm	Part III Wed Mar 21 7pm-10pm	
Econ 202 Dr. Allen	Part I Mon Mar 19 10pm-12am	Part II Tue Mar 20 5pm-7pm	Part III Wed Mar 21 5pm-7pm	
Econ 322	Part I Tue Mar 20 10pm-1am	Part II Wed Mar 21 10pm-1am		
Finc 309	Test Review TBA	Check our web page for exact date & time. www.4.0andgo.com		
Math 142	Part I Mon Mar 19 7pm-10pm	Part II Tue Mar 20 7pm-10pm	Part III Wed Mar 21 7pm-10pm	
Math 151	Part I Mon Mar 19 10pm-1am	Part II Tue Mar 20 10pm-1am	Part III Wed Mar 21 10pm-1am	
Math 152	Part I Sun Mar 18 10pm-1am	Part II Mon Mar 19 5pm-7pm	Part III Tue Mar 20 5pm-7pm	Part IV Wed Mar 21 5pm-7pm
Mgmt 211	Part I Mon Mar 19 9pm-11pm	Part II Tue Mar 20 9pm-12am	Part III Wed Mar 21 8pm-11pm	

Tickets go on sale Sunday at 6:30 PM. 4.0 & Go is located on the corner of SW Pkwy and TX Ave, behind KFC next to Lack's.
Check our web page at <http://www.4.0andgo.com>

THE BIG EVENT

MARCH 31ST, 2001

Don't miss out, sign up by March 21st at 5 p.m. in Koldus.
Participation forms online:
bigevent.tamu.edu

Any questions, call us at 845-9618.
Or email us: bigevent@stuact.tamu.edu

The Princeton Review
Better Scores, Better Schools

Princeton Review materials reflect up-to-the-minute information.

GRE

The June GRE is one of the most popular tests. Reserve a spot early - both in the testing center and in our class.

800.2Review | www.PrincetonReview.com
Live Instruction | Books | Software | Online Courses

*GRE is a registered trademark of Educational Testing Service. The Princeton Review is not affiliated with Princeton University or ETS.

ANNOUNCING THE 2001 BOOKSALE

Texas A&M University Libraries
In the
EVANS LIBRARY, 2ND FLOOR
ROOM 208

Silent Auction
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

General Booksale
WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY, MARCH 21-22
8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Ring Dance

Save \$40*
On Your Tuxedo Rental

*Effective on tuxedos beginning at \$89.95 through April 6, 2001. No other discounts or promotions apply. Limit one per customer.

AI's FORMAL WEAR

An Aggie Tuxedo Tradition for over 40 years.

www.alsformalwear.com
1100 Harvey Rd. • 979-693-0947

Our Guarantee We will not be **UNDERSOLD!**