

Sports

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THE BATTALION

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Aggs upset UT, head to TCU

By MARK MERREL
THE BATTALION

Beating the defending national champions in the first meet of the year is not a typical way to start a rebuilding year, but that is what the Texas A&M men's swimming and diving team accomplished last weekend at the Big 12 Relays in Missouri.

The next challenge awaiting both the women's and men's teams is a trip to Fort Worth, Texas, Thursday for a match-up with Texas Christian University, which will be participating in its first dual match of the year.

The men placed first out of

four teams that included the University of Texas, last year's national champions. The meet marked the first time the Longhorns have lost in a conference competition since playing SMU in 1979.

"We swam well," said A&M swimming coach Mel Nash. "It was an early season meet, everybody was tired and I just think they underestimated us ... I just don't think they realized we were as strong as we are."

Leading the attack for the Aggies were two All-Americans, senior Riley Janes and sophomore Matt Rose. Both swimmers were a perfect six-for-six in their relays.

"Those guys are the ones we



CODY WAGES • THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M swimming and diving teams, coming off a win over Texas at the Big 12 Relays in Missouri, will travel to Fort Worth Thursday to take on Texas Christian University in Fort Worth.

were so proud of," Nash said. "Even on the 'B' relays that they were on; they went absolutely all out."

After ending the Longhorn's

22-year winning streak, the Aggies kept the momentum going on Saturday in their first dual meet of the year against the Tigers. The Aggies beat

Missouri 169.5 to 118.5, with a record-setting performance in the 400-freestyle relay.

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Big 12 powers to collide



Clash of the titans

All eyes will be on Lincoln, Neb., Saturday when the University of Nebraska hosts the University of Oklahoma in what could be a precursor to the Big 12 championship game in December.

Both teams are undefeated, lead their respective divisions and the winner will have the inside track in the conference to gaining a berth in the Rose Bowl. Nebraska (8-0, 4-0 Big 12) is ranked No. 3, and OU (7-0, 4-0) comes in one spot above at No. 2.

The only other conference with two undefeated teams is the Big East Conference, where the University of Miami (Fla.) and Virginia Tech own perfect records.

The stakes of Saturday's showdown were upped a little with the season's first release of the Bowl Championship Series rankings earlier this week. The Sooners claimed the No. 1 spot, while the Huskers are No. 2.

See BIG 12 on page 9.

Aggies' remaining schedule will be rough



BRIAN RUFF

3-1) are riding a 28-14 win over the Oklahoma State Cowboys. Kickoff is set for 1 p.m.

Aggs' road one of the roughest

With a record of 6-1, the Aggies have secured a winning season for the 19th-straight year, but the schedule for the next four weeks could be deadly.

The Aggies have the third-toughest schedule in the nation, with their opponents' combined record being 21-5. Only Washington State and Arizona

State have tougher schedules for the remainder of the season.

The Aggies will host the Iowa State Cyclones (5-1), travel to Texas Tech (3-3) and Oklahoma (7-0) and take on Texas (6-1) at Kyle Field. The Sooners are ranked No. 1 in Monday's Bowl Championship Series poll, while the Longhorns were sixth.

The 19-straight winning seasons is the 17th-longest streak in the nation. Nebraska, the only other Big 12 school ahead of the Aggies, leads the nation with 40-straight winning seasons.

Penright continues making impact on Big 12

Junior linebacker Jarrod Penright, who leads the Big 12 in sacks, also showed his awareness against Kansas State. Penright recovered a fumble after linebacker Christian Rodriguez jarred the ball loose.

Penright picked up the ball at the Kansas State 17-yard line and raced to the endzone. The score ended up being the deciding factor in the game, with the Aggies edging out a 31-24 victory.

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