

# Sports

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THE BATTALION

Thursday, November 15, 2001


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Senior forward Nicky Thrasher and the Texas A&M soccer team will travel to San Antonio to play in the Big 12 tournament.

## No. 13 Ags head into tournament

By JEREMY BROWN  
THE BATTALION

After beating the regular season Big 12 champion Texas Longhorns 6-0 Friday, the No. 13 Texas A&M soccer team will begin its quest to win the Big 12 tournament in San Antonio.

Seeded No. 3 in the tournament behind Texas and Nebraska, the Aggies will open against the sixth-seeded Oklahoma Sooners at 7:30 p.m. at the Blossom Soccer Complex.

"I think it would be the understatement of the day to say we are playing with some confidence right now," said A&M soccer coach G. Guerrieri. "If we can win the Big 12 tournament, that will be an unbelievable accomplishment because that means we will have to beat a tough team (Oklahoma) again for a second time in the quarter-finals... From here on out, every game is a very difficult game."

The match features one of the 12's best offenses against one of the best defenses. A&M has scored 12 goals per game, while Oklahoma has used ball control to allow only 0.5 goals per game. Both lead the Big 12 in those categories.

A&M won the first match between the teams, 2-0, on Oct. 10 at the Aggie Soccer Complex. It is its all-time record against Oklahoma.

In that game, A&M scored four goals in the first 11 minutes. OU slowed down the pace.

OU has one of the conference's best forwards in sophomore Linsey Johnson.

Womack was one of the Aggies' top forwards named to the All-Big 12 Conference Team. She has scored 13 goals in the first 11 minutes of the season and is tied with A&M man forward Linsey Johnson for the most goals in a game.

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## Aggie squad heads to Eck Classic

By KEVIN ESPENLAUB  
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M women's tennis team will travel to South Bend, Ind., Friday to compete in the Eck Classic hosted by the University of Notre Dame.

The last time the Aggies visited Notre Dame was in May for the NCAA Championships, and it also was their final action of last year's spring season. The women's team, then ranked No. 16, was defeated by No. 51 Tulane, 4-3.

It is the Aggies' final action of the fall season as they face Notre

Dame, the University of Indiana Hoosiers and the University of Arizona Wildcats in a four-way weekend tournament.

The tournament will be formatted as a "hidden dual" competition in which two teams will square off in six individual or three doubles matches.

Of the four teams in the competition, only Arizona failed to earn a berth in the NCAA Championships last season. The Fighting Irish, who reached the Sweet 16, finished No. 10 last season. The Aggies were No. 16, and the Hoosiers were No. 40.

"This is going to be a great field for this tournament," said

Notre Dame women's head coach Jay Louderback. "All these teams are quality teams, and even Arizona, the only one who didn't make the NCAA's last year, is much improved. The Aggies had a great season last year, and we think there's going to be some solid playing this weekend."

Highlighting the singles competition for the Aggies will be senior Olivia Karlikova and sophomore Jessica Roland, ranked No. 69 and No. 71, respectively.

They will be joining three nationally-ranked singles players. In doubles, the teams of Roland and senior Majorie

Terburgh, No. 40, and Ashley Hedberg and Martina Nedorostova, No. 13, will be competing against ranked teams from Arizona's team of senior Marina and sophomore Larocque, No. 13.

The Aggies will be playing Indiana Friday morning and rotate in singles and doubles competition.

The tournament, which will finish on Sunday afternoon, will be the final action of the fall season for the Aggie women's tennis team. The fall season is the most important time for the team records are kept.

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