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TEXAS A&M 1ST SUMMER SESSION
MAY 21-JUNE 24, 2002

Aggies host NCAA regiona

Cross country team looks for good showing after Big 12 me

By Maya Thomas
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M cross country team will host the NCAA South Central Regional Saturday, Nov. 10, at the A&M Golf Course.

The Aggies are trying to qualify for the NCAA Championship which will be held in Greenville, S.C., Nov. 19. A first-place finish at the meet on Saturday would mean the Aggies could go to cross country's big dance.

A&M will compete on its own turf two weeks after the Big 12 Championships in Norman, Okla. The men finished third at the Big 12, and the women finished fifth.

In 2000, the A&M women finished first at the South Central region and became the first cross country team in A&M history to qualify for the NCAA Championships.

Standouts Andrea Bookout and Melissa Gulli helped lead the women to its first regional title last year.

The A&M men finished fourth overall in 2000's South Central Regional, making a strong performance against dominating teams.

"The men's team in 1999 qualified for NCAA for the first time in 17 years," said A&M coach Dave Hartman. "The last year we were a little down because we redshirted two of the top five guys from the previous ye

Hartman expects strong showings the men's and women's squads this yea familiarity of the A&M golf course w an advantage in the Aggies. The Aggies top honors at the A&M Invitation October at the A&M golf course.

The latest South Central Region Country Poll ranked the Aggie men climbing 2 spots from their previous ran The women held on to their No. 3 rank

Saturday's events begin at 9 a.m the men, and the women's races beg 10:15 a.m.

Nowitzki leads Mavs over Nugget

DALLAS (AP) — Dirk Nowitzki scored 33 points, 23 in the first half, to lead the Dallas Mavericks to a 105-91 victory over the Denver Nuggets on Thursday night.

Michael Finley had 18 points and Steve Nash added 13 points and 12 assists as the Mavericks improved to 5-1.

Nowitzki went 12-for-23 from the field and pulled down nine rebounds. Danny Manning had 13 points and six rebounds for Dallas.

Isaiah Rider's 19 points paced the Nuggets, who fell to 1-4. Nick Van Exel added 13 points and seven assists.

The Nuggets got as close as 88-81 midway through the final quarter. But Shawn Bradley's three-point play and a 20-footer from Finley with 6:28 left triggered an 11-4 run. That gave Dallas a 99-85 lead, and the Mavericks went on to remain perfect at games at the new American Airlines Ce

Dallas opened the game with 23-4 and carried a 53-46 advantage into hal behind Nowitzki, who was 9-for-13 fr the field in the first half and made all of his 3-pointers.

Dallas held an 81-74 lead at the star the fourth quarter.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Ags down Sooners in overtime, 1-0

Freshman forward Linsey Johnson scored the game's only goal into the first overtime to defeat the Oklahoma Sooners in the first round of the 2001 Big 12 Soccer Tournament.

Sophomore goalkeeper Esther Thompson posted the shut out for the Aggies against the Sooners.

The Aggies will take on the Nebraska Cornhuskers tomorrow night in San Antonio. Nebraska defeated Baylor 5-1 to advance to the next round.

The Cornhuskers are the second-seed in the tournament, behind the University of Texas. The Aggies are the third seed, despite finishing the regular season with an identical Big 12 record as the Cornhuskers.

Nebraska took the second seed in the tournament because of their 4-2 victory over the Aggies on Oct. 14 in College Station.

Kickoff at the Blossom Athletic Complex is set for 5 p.m.

Rebound

Continued from Page 5

dropped their final two games.

Unlike last year, however, OU is without quarterback Josh Heupel. Junior Nate Hybl has started seven games for the Sooners and has passed for six touchdowns and 1,527 yards.

Hybl's average of 190.9 passing yards per game puts him at fifth in the conference, but is significantly lower than Heupel's average of 277.4 yards. Despite the difference, the Sooners own the No. 3 scoring offense in the conference.

"I see them as having a very potent offense," said se linebacker Chris Rodriguez. "They can do w ever they want. But every has their weaknesses so hopefully we can exploit those get some turnovers."

Linebacker Rocky Cal has been the rock of the defense this season. The sen fourth in Big 12 tackles with

"They are a really g team," said A&M head co R.C. Slocum. "They are a sol team with a lot of speed on the defense. They've got enou speed to where they don't ha to play everything perfectly still give you bad plays."