



JOHN LIVAS • THE BATTALION

A&M senior guard LaToya Rose guards Iowa State's Tracy Gahan during the Aggies' 88-71 win over the No. 6 Cyclones.

A&M's Rose blooms against No. 6 Cyclones

By True Brown
THE BATTALION

On Saturday afternoon, Reed Arena saw something it has never seen before. Unfortunately, Reed Arena was about the only thing that saw it.

A sparse crowd of 1,385 turned out to see the Aggie women's basketball team defeat a top 10 squad for the first time since 1995.

Senior guard LaToya Rose scored a career-high 28 points to lead A&M (10-5, 2-1 Big 12) to an 88-71 win over the No. 6 Iowa State Cyclones.

The win was the first for A&M over Iowa State (13-3, 1-3) and upped the Aggies' home record to 6-2.

"Rose was on today," said A&M coach Peggie Gillom. "We knew she could do this. Sometimes she gets her head down a little, but this was one time where she didn't get her head down. She felt it today."

From the opening tip-off to the final whistle, Rose lit up the Cyclones from behind the 3-point arc, hitting three straight in the first half to give A&M an early 11-4 lead.

Rose remained a threat all afternoon, hitting 8-of-15 3-pointers and tying a seven-year-old school record for 3-point field goals made.

"Rose killed us from the outside," said ISU

coach Bill Fennelly. "That helped them out a great deal and spread us out even more."

When Rose was not burning the Cyclones, it was sophomore guard Toccare Williams.

Williams finished with 12 points, 12 assists and was two rebounds and two steals away from a quadruple-double.

The Aggies forced 32 turnovers from ISU, the most the Cyclones have given up this season.

"When you turn the ball over 32 times you aren't going to win," Fennelly said. "The hustle plays to all the loose balls and tipped balls were won by them. They were ready to go."

A&M opened up as much as a 21-point lead in the second half, but the Cyclones found new life behind center Angie Welle and guard Lindsey Wilson.

Welle and Wilson combined for all of ISU's points during an 18-4 run by the Cyclones. A&M's lead shrunk to six before A&M pulled away in the last six minutes.

Welle finished with 22 points and 13 rebounds to lead the Cyclones, and Wilson, ISU's leading scorer, was held to only four field goals.

"They started making a few 3's, and we lost a little focus," Williams said. "Then we came out of a timeout and tried to refocus. Then our adrenaline came back and our momentum did too."

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Baseball opens practice today

The Texas A&M baseball team will start preparation for the 2002 season today.

Last season, the Aggies advanced to the championship game at the Big 12 tournament before losing to eventual College World Series participant Nebraska.

"It is always exciting to get back on the field after a long off-season," said A&M coach Mark Johnson. "We had good workouts in the fall and we look forward to getting back on the field to prepare for the upcoming schedule."

Men's squad falls to Auburn

The No. 19 Texas A&M swimming and diving team suffered its first defeat of the season Saturday after falling by a score of 164-124 to the Auburn Tigers.

A&M jumped to an early lead after sophomore All-American Matt Rose anchored A&M's win in the 200-yard medley relay. Rose also won the 50- and 100-yard freestyle races.

"I was real pleased with a lot of our performances today," said A&M coach Mel Nash. "We look encouraging in several places. Rose is placing himself as one of the big boys nationally with the way he has been swimming recently."

A&M travels to Louisiana State University Friday.

The Aggies' next home meet will be Jan. 26 against No. 2 Texas.



STUART VILLANUEVA • THE BATTALION

Sophomore Laura Fry swims in the 1000-yard freestyle during A&M's win against Kansas.

Aggies blaze past Kansas, 187-108

By Troy Miller
THE BATTALION

Clara Ho's record-setting time in the 200-yard butterfly qualified her for the NCAA Championships as she led the Texas A&M women's swimming and diving team to a 187-108 win over Big 12 opponent Kansas Sunday.

Ho swam a time of 1:59.17, breaking the A&M record she set in the 1998-99 season.

"I'm very excited to have (the

record) early in the season," said Ho, a senior All-American. "It was a goal of mine."

She also won the 100-yard butterfly with a time of 55.34.

The win lifted the Aggies to a 4-4 mark while the loss dropped the Jayhawks to 5-2.

"It's a big win in that we won a meet that was pretty much a toss up coming in," said A&M coach Steve Bultman. "We talked about that this is our pool, our house and we don't want

somebody coming in, and we talked about stepping up, and I was really, really pleased."

A&M captured first place in all but three of the 16 events. Courtney Patterson, Kelsey Savage, Ho and Danielle Townsend made up the first place 400-yard medley relay team.

Those same four swimmers mopped up in the individual races, each claiming two first place finishes.

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