SPORTS

THE BATTALION

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&M sophomore Emma Smith fights for possession in the Aggies' match ainst SMU. A&M advanced and defeated UCLA on Saturday.

Soccer team reaches Elite Eigh

By Troy Miller

THE BATTALION

A star was born on Saturday night. Aggie freshman goalkeeper Kati Jo Spisak stuffed three penalty kicks to put the No. 4 Texas A&M women's soccer team (20-4-1) into the NCAA Tournament quarterfinals for the second consecutive season.

Spisak made 10 saves in the match to keep the Aggies national championship hopes alive in a 3-1 penalty kick shootout victory over No. 3 UCLA (18-4-0).

'Kati Jo won the game for us tonight," said A&M head coach G. Guerrieri. "She is quickly emerging as one of the best kept secrets in college soccer."

After regulation ended, A&M and UCLA played two scoreless overtime periods. Despite out-shooting the Aggies 21-0 in 110 minutes of play, UCLA could not solve Spisak.

Midway through the second half, UCLA sophomore forward Kim Devine hit a wide-open shot from the top of the six-yard box. Spisak stuffed Devine's shot, then dove from her knees to deflect the rebound shot by Bruin freshman midfielder Stacey Lindstrom from pointblank range.

"What's ringing in my ears right now is what (G. Guerrieri) said to me right after the match which was 'life isn't fair," said UCLA head coach Jillian Ellis. "He felt that we outclassed their team and dominated the game. We just didn't finish our chances.

In the penalty kick shootout, UCLA junior Whitney Jones beat Spisak to the left corner to put the Bruins up 1-0. UCLA never saw the lead again.

Aggie sophomore Amanda Burke tied the score at 1-1 when she beat UCLA keeper Sarah Lombardo. After Spisak saved a shot by UCLA freshman forward Iris Mora, Aggie senior Heather Ragsdale put the Aggies up for good by shooting past Lombardo for the 2-1 lead.

After Spisak saved another shot by Bruin midfielder Allie True, Aggie freshman Laura Probst put the pressure on UCLA by giving the Aggies a 3-1 lead by beating Lombardo. UCLA defender Nandi Pryce missed wide left on the next shot to give the Aggies the win.

Now the Aggies have a date with perennial powerhouse North Carolina in their second consecutive Elite Eight appearance.

One season ago, the Aggies beat Stanford 1-0 in Palo Alto, Calif. to earn their first ever trip to the NCAA quarterfinals. Despite being out-shot 21-0, A&M once again has made it to the round

of eight.
"UCLA is such an unbelievably talented team," Guerrieri said. "We came here to get a result tonight and style points were not a part of it. It's unfortunate that a team can take no shots and still win.

Maybe it's not fair, but the Aggies still found a way to advance. Now they must avenge a 4-1 defeat at the hands of the North Carolina Tar Heels earlier this season if they want to reach their first ever Final Four.

North Carolina has won 16 national championships in its program's history.

Tonight was about making the next step toward a national championship,' Guerrieri said.

Aggies win opener despite slow start

By Dallas Shipp THE BATTALION

The Aggie basketball team opened the 2002-2003 regular season Sunday night with a oppy offensive performance, but came away with a 70-55 win over Texas Southern.

The Aggies rebounded from their loss to he EA Sports All-Stars in their final exhibition game last week.

Following the Aggies' poor defensive showing against EA Sports, A&M head oach Melvin Watkins said defense would be all the Aggies worked on in practice. That

defense is what saved the Aggies Sunday. "Defensively we played very well tonight," said A&M senior guard Bernard King. "We cally picked it up, and that's a good sign."

The Aggie defense kept Texas Southern off balance all night and kept them from penetrating in," Courtney said. "He wanted to show that he

the field in the first half, making six of 24 shots.

'We shot the ball very poorly," said Texas Southern head coach Ronnie Courtney. "We won't win many ballgames if we do that."

TSU guard Ra'Kim Hollis said the Aggies' defense played a big part in the frustration of the Tigers' offensive game.

'We are known for taking it to the hole," Hollis said. "We don't normally shoot jumpers, we just take the ball to the hole. They took a lot of charges (and) once they did that we had to adjust. Once we adjusted, (the shots) just weren't falling.'

Hollis led the Tigers with 20 points, 17 of which came in the second half after he was forced to sit out much of the first half

'He kept trying to get me to put him back

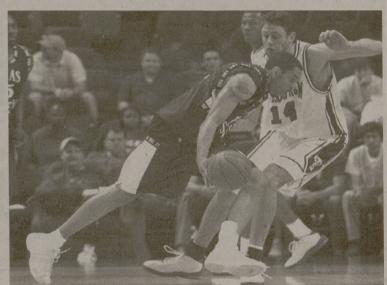
the basket. The Tigers shot just 25 percent from could play at this level. He settled down in the second half and started making his shots."

However, the Aggies failed to find their groove offensively, especially in the first half. In the first 20 minutes of play made just 12 of 31 shots from the field for a 38.7 field goal percentage.

The Aggies were led by senior guard Bernard King who scored 19 points and played much of the second half with

King said that despite the win, he still isn't pleased with the Aggies' performance.

"It feels good to get the win, but I still don't feel we played (well) tonight," King said. "We only won by 15, I think we should have won by 30. We've got this game behind us and now we have to go face Miami and that's a very good team. If we play on offense like we did tonight it's going to be a long night for us."



TSU forward Lionel Willis drives against A&M forward Tomas Ress

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- FREE—Thanksgiving Saturday NOON Workout at the Rec. Beat
- the holiday slump and pump! THANKSGIVING FITNESS CLASS SCHEDULE:
- last class@11:45 p.m. Wed, Nov. 27 Cardio Party in 301
 Sat, Nov. 30 FREE Cardio Party in 301
- NO classes Thursday or Friday!!
 Sunday, Dec. 1, Classes resume as normal

 CARDIO with CARE—Bring your coats and cans to benefit those in need during the holidays. Pick your favorite workout or try a new one. It's all free just bring a coat or a canned good and join in on the fun. Free t-shirt to the first 200 participants. Dec. 11 @ 6:00 p.m.

WALK OF CHAMPIONS

Aggies get your discounted Walk of Champions brick for \$100 before you leave Aggieland. For more information on ordering your personalized brick, visit our web site at http://recsports. tamu.edu. Order forms are available. The holidays are coming fast-Walk of Champions bricks make fantastic gifts.

INTRAMURALS

Intramural participants please remember that registration ends at 6:00 p.m. Please visit the Member Services Desk to sign up for your favorite Intramural sport.

College Football Bowl Challenge

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

Dec. 9-17

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JOIN US IN THE GREAT OUTDOORS

- Nov. 4-Dec. 7 Bouldering Extravaganza One-day bouldering competition for local fanatics. Don't miss out on the fun! \$10 guarantees your spot in the competition, an event t-shirt and your name in the drawing for door prizes.
- Rec Center Rock Wall—Now is the time to renew your Rock Wall pass. Classes are held at 3:00 p.m. and at 7:00 p.m. Monday-Thursday and at 3:00 p.m. on Friday for only \$5

STUDENT REC CENTER ETC.

- CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING OFFICIALS:
- Michael Mazzella
- Dan Marek
- **Brett Mouser** Joshua Rodriguez
- These officials were selected to attend and participate in the Black Warrior Regional Flag Football tournament, Nov. 15–17 in Tuscaloosa, Alabama.
- Division of Student Affairs Information Center-Located in the lobby of the Student Rec Center, visitors can obtain information about the departments within the Division. Brochures are avail-
- able. The Information Center hours are Sun:-Thurs., 3:00-9:00p.m. & Friday, 3:00-7:00p.m.

 JOIN THE STUDENT REC CENTER STAFF—Now accepting applications for facility receptionists/attendants. Apply in Office 202 of the Rec Center. Interviews will take place Dec.2—Dec 4.
- Rec Sports Medics—Medics needed to work the Department's facilities. Apply in room 158 or call 862-4145 for information.

 • THANKSGIVING HOURS

	Rec Center	Read
Nov. 26	6:00a.mmidnight	closed
Nov. 27	6:00a.m9:00p.m.	closed
Nov. 28	closed	closed
Nov. 29	3:00p.m8:00p.m.	closed
Nov. 30	noon-9:00p.m.	closed
Dec. 1	noon-midnight	closed

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