

Saves the day



JP BEATO III - THE BATTALION

Sophomore setter **Lexy Beers** is ready to help out freshman outside hitter **Laura Jones** who makes a save against the University of Texas in last Wednesday's game. The Aggies beat the Longhorns in four games in their final home match of the season. A&M defeated Iowa State on Saturday in Ames, Iowa in four games to finish fifth in the Big 12 standings for the season.

Aggies hold off LSU in final seconds for 79-77 victory

By Dallas Shipp
THE BATTALION

HOUSTON — Texas A&M and Louisiana State combined for 24 three-pointers in the first college basketball game played at Reliant Stadium in the 2002 Space City Hoops Classic but it was crucial drives by senior guard Bernard King in the final minutes that led the Aggies to a 79-77 win.



KING

The game came down to the final seconds after LSU hit two three-pointers in the final minute of play to get within two points.

With 17 seconds remaining in the game, junior guard Leandro Garcia-Morales threw an inbound pass over King's head and out of bounds, giving the Tigers the ball on their end of the court.

After LSU forward Antonio Hudson and LSU guard Torris Bright each missed possible game-tying shots, Bright was fouled by King, sending him to the line with 3.3 seconds remaining in the game for a one and one opportunity.

Bright missed his first shot and the Aggies got the rebound to hold on to a 79-77 victory over LSU.

Things did not go quite as well

for the Aggies in their previous game against Miami last week. After taking a one-point lead with 1:32 in the game, the Aggies missed their final four shots and fell to the Hurricanes, 78-72.

"That Miami game showed us a lot even though we lost," said A&M head coach Melvin Watkins. "This team has potential and a win like this will give us confidence that we can win close games at the end."

The Aggies opened up a 15-point lead in the first half after going on a 23-7 run. During their impressive first half, the Aggies drained 10 three pointers, making nearly 72 percent of their shots from behind the three point arch. The Aggies would take a 45-38 lead into the locker room at halftime.

The Aggies finished the game with 11 three-pointers, fifth most in school history and two short of the school record of 13.

"We have a lot of good shooters on this team," said freshman forward Antoine Wright. "All you have to do is penetrate and dish and we made a living off that in the first half."

Wright had 22 points, second only to King who had a game-high 26 points. Wright, who is known for his offensive abilities, also had two blocks and two steals on defense.

The Tigers made 13 three-pointers as a team, tying the school record for the sixth time in

school history.

LSU's leading scorer, Collis Temple made five-of-seven from three-point range and racked up 19 points in the Tigers' losing effort.

LSU head coach John Brady was extremely frustrated following the team's loss.

"We're not a very good basketball team right now," Brady said. "We couldn't make free throws, we couldn't execute offensively. I've got to get some consistent play from those that are supposed to be our main players or I'm going to have to make some changes."

The win for the Aggies was one of their biggest non-conference wins in years.

"This year, we're trying to get to the post-season," King said. "To do that, we have to win big games like this."

The game was the first college basketball game ever played in Reliant Stadium, which is trying to experiment with basketball in hopes of being named a site for a NCAA Final Four in the future.

The stadium drew mixed reviews from each side. Watkins said he thought the venue had a good atmosphere and it was a fun place for the team to get to play.

Brady said he thought Reliant could learn a few things from the Superdome in New Orleans in order to make it a better facility for a possible NCAA Final Four site.

UT

Continued from page 7

The game continued to spiral downward for the Aggies, as on the first play after receiving the kick-off, Long threw his third interception of the game to freshman Michael Huff. Huff returned the pick for a touchdown.

The Longhorns continued to dominate the Aggies as they took a 60-yard punt return into the endzone with 8:50 remaining in the game.

The Aggies scored their final touchdown of the game after an 80-yard drive capped off by a fourth-down, 15-yard touchdown rush by backup quarterback Jason Carter with just more than four minutes remaining in the contest.

Carter entered the game following an injury to Long.

Soccer

Continued from page 7

the match when Morrell lofted a ball from the left side of the pitch over the A&M defense and Ramsey ran onto the ball, timing her run perfectly to avoid being offside. She gathered the ball in, dribbled into the box and finished to the left of A&M goalkeeper Katie Jo Spisak.

UNC controlled the match in

got there but could not connect on the final pass that would create shots."

Although the Aggies season came to a close, this year will leave its mark on the program's record books. Most notably, 2002 marks the first 20-win season in Texas A&M soccer history.

In addition, the Aggies ran off a school-record 16-game unbeaten streak that stretched for a span of two months.

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Students Having Smarter Sex, Says New Survey, But More Education Needed

smartersex.org

Survey results suggest that three out of four women (73 percent) do not use a condom as a back-up method when they have missed a birth control pill - the form of birth control used by most women surveyed. And, more than half of the survey participants (62 percent) believe they can tell if someone has an STI "just by looking," even though the two most common STIs, chlamydia and HPV, may not exhibit any noticeable symptoms.

"A problem is that women and their partners don't always use contraception correctly or consistently, which puts them at risk," says Margaret Bridwell, MD, OB/GYN, and Director of the University Health Center, University of Maryland. "With so many birth control methods available that do not require daily dosing, such as DEPO-PROVERA, we hope that information on www.Smartersex.org will encourage women to discuss with their healthcare providers what birth control options may be better suited to their lifestyles."

Depo-Provera does not protect against HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs). Depo-Provera should not be used by women with known or suspected pregnancy, unexplained vaginal bleeding, breast cancer, blood clots, liver disease or a history of stroke. Some women using Depo-Provera do experience side effects, with the most common side effect being irregular menstrual bleeding or spotting. To find out if Depo-Provera is the right birth control option for them, young women should consult their health care provider. For important product information, visit the Web site at www.depoprovera.com.

For the Smarter Sex Survey, sponsored by Bacchus and Gamma Peer Education Network and Pharmacia Corporation, makers of DEPO-PROVERA® Contraceptive Injection (medroxy-progesterone acetate injectable suspension), 1,051 men and women ages 18-24, currently enrolled in school, participated in an online survey that asked about various sexual topics ranging from contraception to sexually transmitted infections (STIs).

The survey revealed that about 34 percent of males surveyed have not had sex, compared to 18 percent of females surveyed - in part because more women than men reported being in monogamous relationships. In general, both men and women scored well when asked about STIs, HIV, and contraception - with 89 percent agreeing that monogamous couples should get first tested for HIV before they stop using condoms.

Likewise, men and women share similar views on relationships, emphasizing the importance of monogamy and healthy relationships. On average, those surveyed had 1.2 sexual partners during the last year.

"The good news is that most students have the knowledge they need to make smart sexual health decisions. But more information is always beneficial," says Drew Hunter, executive director, Bacchus and Gamma. "If students truly know the facts, we should see a further reduction in unintended pregnancy and STI transmission rates."

To provide more information about smart and safe sex, a new website, www.Smartersex.org has been established to help college students manage their sexual health safely and smartly.