

SPORTS

THE BATTALION

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Cross country teams cruise to wins

By Kyle Davoust
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M men and women's cross country teams could not have asked for a better start to the 2003 season. Both squads dominated the A&M Invitational on Saturday.

After running their B squads last year, the Aggies decided to reclaim the meet this year and put their best runners forward.

The men looked as if they were practicing, placing four runners in the top 10 and posting a winning point total of 27, a school record. A&M's overall point total fell one point shy of the meet record set by the University of Houston in 1992.

Leading the way for the men was individual champion Tommy Bonn. Bonn, a fifth-year senior from Lockhart, had never won a collegiate meet before claiming Saturday's title.

"I felt really comfortable and strong

out there," Bonn said. "I have a tendency to fade at the end of races but I felt really good going into the last mile of the race."

Less than a second separated Bonn from fellow team-mate Brian McKinstry.

The two ran side by side for much of the race, with Bonn finishing inches ahead. Other top finishers for the Aggies included Jonathan Lewis (5th), Andrew Cook (7th), J.P. Machedehl (13th), Jayme D'Agnolo (16th) and Matt McLeod (18th).

This race represented something new for Lewis and Cook. While the team finished strong, this was the first time they were not the Aggies' top two finishers since the 2001 season.

"Tommy (Bonn) and Brian

"If we can continue running like this ... we will really make an impact."



BONN

(McKinstry) just ran great races out there," Lewis said. "We were running as a pack when they pulled away, and I just didn't have it in me today."

Bonn said Saturday's performance was encouraging for the future.

"I'm just really impressed by our entire team," Bonn said. "If we can just continue running like this and put it all together at nationals, we will really make an impact."

Paced by Vanessa Kelly and freshman Jamie Geissler, the women's team also displayed its depth by placing six runners in the top 15.

"I think this was a good starting race for us," Kelly said. "This will help us get ready and strategize better for next race.

We were really able to run as a pack for most of this race and it was great. The unity on this team is just better than I've ever seen."

Rounding out the top women finishers for the Aggies were Katie Hummell (9th), Katherine King (13th), Jamie Baldwin (14th) and Landra Stewardson (15th).

Both teams expect to face tougher competition next Friday as they head to Cary, N.C., to compete in the Great American Festival.

"Next week will be a better gauge of team strength," Bonn said. "We will be going up against a lot tougher competition. It will be more of a national-caliber race."

Kelly agreed with Bonn. "The competition is going to be really strong there," Kelly said, "but I'm looking forward to it. It should show us how far our depth can take us."

If Saturday was any indication, depth could take both of these teams a long way.

AP FOOTBALL TOP 25

Rank	Team	Record	Pvs
1.	OU (55)	4-0	1
2.	Miami (3)	4-0	2
3.	USC (2)	3-0	4
4.	Ohio St. (5)	4-0	5
5.	VirginiaTech	3-0	8
6.	Florida St.	4-0	10
7.	LSU	4-0	11
8.	Tennessee	3-0	12
9.	Arkansas	3-0	14
10.	Oregon	4-0	22
11.	Michigan	3-1	3
12.	Georgia	3-1	7
13.	Iowa	4-0	18
14.	Texas	2-1	13
15.	Nebraska	3-0	15
16.	Kansas St.	4-1	6
17.	Pittsburgh	2-1	9
18.	Wash.	2-1	19
19.	TCU	3-0	20
20.	N. Illinois	3-0	—
21.	Wash. St.	3-1	24
22.	Purdue	2-1	25
23.	Missouri	4-0	23
24.	Minnesota	4-0	—
25.	Florida	2-2	17

BATT SPORTS TOP 25

Rank	Team	Record	Pvs
1.	OU (8)	4-0	1
2.	USC (1)	3-0	3
3.	Miami	4-0	2
4.	Virginia Tech	3-0	8
5.	Ohio St.	4-0	5
6.	Florida St.	4-0	11
7.	LSU	4-0	10
8.	Tennessee	3-0	12
9.	Iowa	4-0	18
10.	Michigan	3-1	4
11.	Georgia	3-1	7
12.	Arkansas	3-0	17
13.	Nebraska	3-0	14
14.	(tie) Texas	2-1	13
14.	(tie) Ore.	4-0	21
16.	Kansas St.	4-1	6
17.	Wash.	2-1	20
18.	TCU	3-0	19
19.	Pittsburgh	2-1	9
20.	Minn.	4-0	—
21.	Wash. St.	3-1	23
22.	N. Illinois	3-0	—
23.	Arizona St.	2-1	16
24.	Missouri	4-0	—
25.	A&M	2-1	22

(As voted by The Battalion sports staff. First place votes in parentheses.)

Soccer claims tourney title

Staff & Wire
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M women's soccer team posted a 2-0 win over Colorado College on Sunday afternoon to claim the SMU Mi Cocina Soccer Cup in Dallas.

With the win, the No. 5 Aggies improve to 6-1-0 this season. Colorado College fell to 3-3-1.

"I am real pleased with our defense and the way we created chances all weekend," said A&M coach G. Guerrieri. "To play on the road and win a tournament championship is a positive for us."

In two matches this week-

end, the Aggies outscored their competition 6-0, and posted a 39-10 shot advantage.

Amanda Burke tallied the match-winning goal in the 7th minute Sunday, capitalizing on an assist from Laura Probst. The goal was Burke's second of the season.

Kristen Strutz scored the Aggies' second goal with just over 15 minutes left to play. Probst sent a corner kick over the box to Becky Olsen. Olsen crossed the ball to the far post, where Strutz was waiting to score her fourth goal of the season.

Friday, Emma Smith scored twice during A&M's win over Oregon. The loss was the first of the season for the Ducks. Strutz

and Kat Krambeer also tallied goals for the Aggies.

A&M had 18 shots on goal during the match.

"We really emphasized poise, precision and perseverance with our shooting in training this week," Guerrieri said. "The work paid off and you can tell on the outcome of the game."

The Aggies return to action Friday in their Big 12 Conference opener. A&M will be on the road in Norman, Okla., to take on the Sooners.

"I have always felt that playing Oklahoma is a pivotal game in the Big 12 Conference schedule," Guerrieri said. "Having them on the road in our first conference game will be a big challenge for us."

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Aggies get road win against UH

Five Texas A&M volleyball players posted double figures in kills as the Aggies secured a 3-1 win over the University of Houston on Sunday.

Melissa Munsch led the way with 19 kills, and Kendra Felder added a career-high 14 during A&M's 30-27, 30-26, 20-30, 30-26 win.

The victory moves the Aggies to 8-3, while the Cougars fall to 3-9.

Felder also had a career high .440 hitting percentage to lead A&M to a .270 hitting margin. The Aggies held Houston to a .209 hitting percentage.

A&M plays again Wednesday at home against Colorado.

Hall-led Chiefs rough up Texans

(AP) — Former Texas A&M player Dante Hall had a 73-yard punt return for a score in his return to Texas and Priest Holmes had 156 total yards and two touchdowns to lead Kansas City to a 42-14 victory over Houston on Sunday, giving the Chiefs their first 3-0 start in seven years.

"The guy that gave us the spark was Dante Hall. We are going to give the game ball to his mother," Chiefs coach Dick Vermeil said, noting Hall is from Houston. "She cooked for him last night and we are going to bring her home with us."

It was Hall's fifth punt or kick-off return for a touchdown in his last eight games.

Turkey day plans? Spend it with us!

TAMU OUTDOORS

Thanksgiving Break Trip!

Horsepacking Big Bend

November 26-30

Register: Sep. 1-Nov. 7

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STUDENT REC CENTER SERVICES

- FACULTY/STAFF MEMBERSHIPS**—Now has never been a better time to check out Rec Center memberships. Rec Sports makes living a healthier life even easier with bank draft options for membership and locker payments.
- ADULT AND PEDIATRIC CPR**—Register at the Member Services Desk for classes that begin as early as September 24th and run through the entire Fall semester. \$25/\$35

AQUATICS-GOING DOWN . . .

Program	Registration	Cost
Basic SCUBA	NOW-Sept. 29	\$225/\$245
Become certified to dive anywhere in the world. Join today at Member Services.		
Springboard Diving	NOW-Oct. 13	\$25/\$35
Polar Bear Club	All semester	FREE

DRIVE ON-TEXAS A&M GOLF COURSE

- NEW Full Length Driving Range**—Come by and enjoy one of the Golf Course's newest additions, the full length driving range. Buy a bucket of balls and practice your swing, warm up before a round of 18 holes or just work up a sweat on a warm and balmy Texas night.
- Lessons with the Pro**—On your own, with a partner or in a group—the Golf Course Pro will get your game on track. Open to the public! We are located on the south side of the A&M campus. Call the Pro Shop at 845-1723 & visit us online at <http://recsports.tamu.edu>.

GET MOVING WITH REC FITNESS

- UNLIMITED Aerobics Passes**—On sale now at Member Services! \$60 for an Unlimited Rec Aerobics Pass or \$20 for a 10 pass Fitness Coupon Book.
- REC WALKERS**—Sign up this week and get started on your healthy exercise program. Receive a pedometer and a log book when you register! Open to NON Rec Members. Register at member Services. Call DeAun Woosley 862-3995 for more info or visit the Rec Sports web site at <http://recsports.tamu.edu>.
- Marathon Training Program**—This 16 week program is geared to the novice and fitness enthusiast that wants to train for the HP Marathon in Houston. Attend the training information meeting Monday, September 22 at 6:00 p.m. in room 281 Rec Center. Program limited to the first 75 people signed up.

FALL IMs, YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS IT!

- The following IM sports **OPEN** for registration on Sept. 22nd through Sep. 30th:
- | | |
|----------|---------------|
| Golf | Tourn. Charge |
| Handball | FREE |
- The following IM sports **CLOSE** registration on Sept. 23rd:
- | | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Tennis (league play) | \$5/team |
| CoRec Softball | \$45/team |
- MAKE \$\$\$\$ the IM Way!**
We need IM Officials: Volleyball-Orientation Clinic
September 29 7:00 p.m. 281 Rec Center

Experience it All WITH TAMU OUTDOORS

Upcoming Events	Registration	Event Date
Kayak Roll Clinic	Sept. 1-22	Sept. 23
Fly Fishing Day Trip	Sept. 1-23	Sept. 28
Back Country Cooking	Sept. 1-29	Sept. 30
Lead Climbing Clinic	Sept. 1-30	Sept. 30
Rock Climb E Rock	Sept. 1-30	Oct. 3-5
Rafting Day Trip	Sept. 1-30	Oct. 4
Kayak Roll Instructional Clinic	Sept. 1-Oct. 6	Oct. 7

BREAK TRIPS	Registration	Event Date
Horsepacking Big Bend	Sept. 1-Nov. 7	Nov. 26-30
Ski Colorado	Sept. 1-Dec. 1	Jan. 11-17
Costa Rica Adventure	Sept. 1-Dec. 12	March 14-21

El Cap Club
Sign-ups for the El Cap Club begin September 8th. Don't miss out on this new team challenge at the Wall.

Climbing at the Rock Wall
Want to renew your skills check or take an orientation class? Come by the Rock Wall Mondays through Thursdays at 3:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

WALK OF CHAMPIONS LEAVE YOUR MARK

Current Aggies it's not too soon to buy your Walk of Champions brick for a reduced price. Visit <http://recsports.tamu.edu> for more information and an order form so you can leave your mark on the A&M campus.
recsports.tamu.edu