SPORTS

THE BATTALION

Looking for motivation after

5-4 overtime loss to

Missouri, the Texas A&M

omen's soccer team has turned

a Nebraska tradition in prepaation for its upcoming match

This week, the No. 7 Aggies

are wearing black jerseys in practice, much like the Nebraska

"The black shirts during Nebraska week is we want to be

istorically a physical team, and he rivalry between Nebraska

nd A&M (11-2-2, 4-1-2 Big 12) has taken physical turns in

the past, reaching a peak in 1999

when A&M goalkeeper Melanie

Wilson received a red card,

which was followed by a bench-

Now, with the Big 12 regu-

ar season championship up for

grabs, the Aggies must match

the physical play of Nebraska

(10-4-1, 5-2) to have a chance

of defending its 2002 champi-

clearing brawl.

ith the Cornhuskers.

defense does in football.

Friday, October 24, 2003

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Big weekend on tap for Aggies A&M bringing new attitude to field against Nebraska

riday, October 24, 200 By Troy Miller THE BATTALION

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ougher," said A&M coach G. eady to move in, end unit On shuttle, \$74 9 for more information cal Guerrieri. "We want to be meanr. We want to be a little more working class, and we want to oker Re Max B/CS 764-60 e the baddest we can.' The No. 22 Cornhuskers are

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Armstrong won in 2001.

By Jerome Pugmire THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MRIS - Lance Armstrong admits he's made huge mistake in his illustrious career — taking year's Tour de France for granted.

Although he won the 2003 Tour, the Texan was hed to near breaking point. As he prepares for is bid to win a record six Tours,

associated Press on Thursday. had never been on the limit ke that and quite frankly it



Texas A&M forward Emma Smith goes up for a header against Iowa State's Lindsey Lees last Friday. The No. 7 Aggies host two ranked opponents this weekend: No. 22 Nebraska tonight and No. 12 Colorado on Sunday.

The Aggies are hoping a

practice schedule this week focused on intensity, hustle and intimidation will prepare them out in their last three games, and for the Huskers and their last two games with Big 12 leading Colorado and archrival Texas.

right," said A&M sophomore goalkeeper Kati Jo Spisak.

the Aggies gave up as many goals as they had in their previous 14 matches.

Now that the Aggies must win hope Colorado ties or loses in addition to losing to the Aggies, A&M cannot afford to have a "We're just getting our mind breakdown like it did at Missouri.

"When you play against teams like Nebraska, or North Carolina, or anyone else that is very physical you better be ready to compete and play your hardest every second," Guerrieri said. "Every second of every get something out of it."

In practice, the Aggies are sprinting to water breaks, team huddles, drills and everywhere else in preparation for the tough road ahead. And their black jerseys are helping remind them that skill doesn't always win games, a little bit of intimidation

"We're not going to wear maroon until we bleed maroon," Guerrieri said. "I think sometimes people just think that we put on the jersey and the magic is going to come out. The magic comes from working hard together."

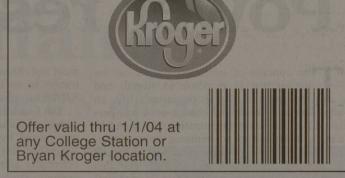
SPORTS IN BRIEF **Basketball tickets** on sale Saturday

Single-game tickets for Texas A&M men's and women's basketball games go on sale Saturday at 10 a.m. at Reed Arena. Tickets can be purchased in person at the Reed Arena Box Office or online at www.ticketmaster.com.

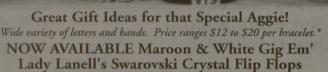
The A&M men play 16 home games this season, including two exhibition games. The home schedule is highlighted by games against NCAA Tournament teams Kansas, Texas, Oklahoma, Oklahoma State and Colorado, along with Texas Tech. Texas and Kansas went to the Final Four, with Kansas playing in the national championship game.



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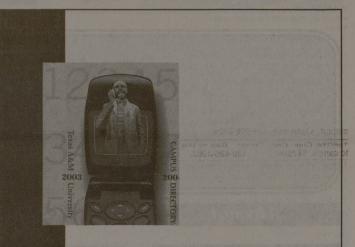


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e says he'll never underesti-nate the punishing 100-year-old "I was angry with my per-omance," Armstrong told The

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was an experience I would not **ARMSTRONG** like to repeat. I took the race for granted."

Armstrong's problems started before the Tour, with stomach flu that nearly stopped him from making the flight to France.

He crashed twice in the race, struggled in the lps, lost 11 pounds through dehydration, werved across a bumpy field to avoid a fallen tider, suffered foot cramps, technical difficulties and moments of self-doubt.

But he hung on, recovering to withstand and beat German Jan Ullrich by just 61 seconds — by far the shortest margin of Armstrong's five wins.

'It was too close, too difficult, too stressful, too emotional," Armstrong recalled Thursday, after attending the presentation Thursday of the 2004 Tour route. "We were all worried every night that the Tour would be lost."

than I've ever been. He needs to be.

Besides Ullrich, Kazhakstan's Alexander Texas tonight Vinokourov — third this year — Italy's Ivan Basso and Spain's Joseba Beloki could all pose threats.

Ullrich came into the 2003 Tour after two knee operations, a ban for using recreational drugs, and the collapse of his Team Coast — and still pushed Armstrong all the way.

2,101-mile counterclockwise trek around France

July 3-25 would feature the first ever time trial on

the notorious L'Alpe d'Huez mountain — a climb

cancer to win his first Tour in 1999, he can find a

positive side of this year's brush with defeat.

an instant. I'm cautiously confident now.

As is typical of Armstrong, who recovered from

'I dodged a bullet and still won," he said. "But

I gained the perspective that it can all be gone in

physical. He admits his 32-year-old body is not

as resistant as it was - or as strong as 29-year-

same rider I was three years ago. I know that after

the close call I have to be prepared to lose," he

said. "But at the same time I'm more motivated

Armstrong's strength is as much cerebral as

'I have to face the realization that I'm not the

Ullrich, who recently switched from Team Bianchi to the T-Mobile team (formerly Team Telekom), told French sports daily L'Equipe that he is "fearless" going into 2004.

'Jan will be super strong next year," Armstrong said. "He is going into his prime whereas I'm probably at half my prime."

But his love of cycling burns bright. "I'm still the kid on the bike," he said. "I'm still passionate about the training and the races. All Tour Director Jean-Marie Leblanc said the that kind of stuff makes me excited and happy."

Volleyball hosting

The Texas A&M volleyball team will play archrival the University of Texas tonight at 6 p.m. at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

A&M (15-5, 7-3 Big 12) is currently in fourth place in the Big 12 and is riding a five match winning streak. UT (10-9, 5-5) beat the Aggies earlier this season in Austin.

Junior middle blocker Kendra Felder leads the Aggies and the Big 12 with a .372 hitting percentage.

The teams have split the season series the last two years.

Campus Directory

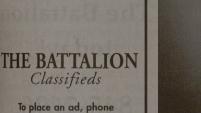
Listing of departments, administrators, faculty, staff, students, and other information about A&M, plus yellow pages.

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