

# A&M women host No. 3 Texas

## Blair prepares team for two top-five teams in four days

By Brad Bennett  
THE BATTALION

After playing three of its last four games against teams ranked in the top 25, the Texas A&M women's basketball team's competition will go from hard to harder this week as the Aggies face No. 3 Texas at 2:30 p.m. on Sunday at Reed Arena, and co-No. 3 Texas Tech on Wednesday in Lubbock.

A&M coach Gary Blair said he looks forward to the opportunity to face such highly ranked teams.

**"(If we win), I will personally lead the parade to the Chicken."**

— Gary Blair  
A&M women's basketball head coach

"This is why I am here (at A&M)," Blair said. "I want to play teams in the top 25." Blair said although his team plays several top-25 teams, Texas (16-2, 4-1 Big 12) has the best chance at winning the National Championship.

"The nine-player rotation (Texas) has is just tremendous," Blair said. "They just don't miss a beat."

Texas is led by center Stacy Stephens who averages almost 55 percent from the floor and has season high of 26 points. Blair said Stephens' attitude makes her such a strong player.

"(Stephens) doesn't take any crap," Blair said. Blair said that along with Stephens, Texas' Tiffany Jackson motivates the team, but only because the freshmen can take the place of any player who may be slacking.

Overall, the Longhorns' team scoring percentage is 47.4 percent with an average of 77.4 points per game.

Blair said the Aggies (7-9, 0-5) have a chance against Texas because of the rivalry that exists between the two schools.

"It is not always decided by who has the best team," Blair said. "It is whoever plays the best that particular day. Who can get their team to rise above, whatever the talent level."

Blair said Texas is more talented but says that the plans on keeping the game across the entire court and playing like a mosquito, not getting

caught and keeping the pressure on.

Aggie top scorer Tocara Williams is expected to have another outstanding game and is one of three players who was on the team that beat Texas four years ago.

Blair, whose encouragement helped motivate record attendance for Aggie women's basketball during Christmas break, looks forward to student support at the game.

"A rivalry game, what a difference the home court makes ... it is a difference; it is huge," Blair said. "And that is why you see the student bodies milling down onto the floor. It is not to get onto TV, it is to feel a part, that they had something to do with the outcome of the game."

Texas head coach Jody Conradt said that she knows how hard it is to play on the road in the Big 12, especially at A&M.

"Everyone knows that it is hard to go to A&M and play," Conradt said. "A&M has a new coach in Gary Blair, and he's really inspired them. They are playing with a lot of energy and fire, and you know that A&M would rather beat Texas than any other team in the league."

We've got to be ready to play Sunday, or else."

To further encourage attendance at Sunday's game, 500 bobble heads of coach Blair will be given out. The first 1,500 fans to arrive will receive a ticket making them eligible for a contest to be held at halftime.

Blair, who will guarantee an exciting game, gives an incentive to come to the game.

"(If we win) I will personally lead the parade to the Chicken," he said.



JOSHUA L. HOBSON • THE BATTALION

**Women's Basketball**  
Texas A&M Aggies vs. No. 3 Texas  
Sunday, 2:30 p.m.  
Reed Arena

## CALL FOR PAPERS



Texas A&M University  
Undergraduate  
Journal of Science

All undergrads doing research are eligible to submit their work for possible publication.

DEADLINE: February 2, 2004

Rm. 230 Reed-McDonald or email to [uj@s-stuorg.tamu.edu](mailto:uj@s-stuorg.tamu.edu)

### 2004 Campus With A Dream Week

Friday, January 23rd

10:20am-11:10am, Blocker 102  
"Basic Concepts and Overview of Culture Areas" Lecture by Dr. Alston Thomas  
Explores the cultural areas among Native Americans (1500 A.D. to present)  
12pm, Duncan Dining Hall  
Southwestern Black Student Leadership Conference (SBSLC) with Speaker Bryon Balne (Invitation Only)  
SBSLC Variety Show  
7:10pm - Comedian; 7:45 - Slam Poet; 8:20pm - Step Africa  
10pm, MSC

MSC Aggie Nights Events:

7pm & 9:45pm, "School of Rock" movie  
9pm, Service Day  
10pm, Hip Hop Freestyle Contest  
10pm, SBSLC Variety Show  
10:30pm, Free Pizza

Saturday, January 24th

1:30pm, Rudder Auditorium  
Southwestern Black Student Leadership Conference (SBSLC) - Keynote Speaker Nikki Giovanni  
Tickets are available at the MSC Box Office  
2:45pm-4:00pm  
Student Leader Forum: SBSLC delegates and TAMU student leaders session (Invitation Only)

Sunday, January 25th

2pm-6pm, MSC Flagroom  
MSC Open House

For More Information, Please Contact the MSC at 845-1313 • Texas A&M University  
<http://tamu.dream.tamu.edu>

**Sun City**  
TANNING

Woodstone Center  
913 D Harvey Rd.  
College Station  
680-1492

Albertson's Center  
2205 Longmore  
College Station  
693-6565  
(Open at 8am)

Briarcrest Center  
1885 Briarcrest Dr.  
Bryan  
731-8200

**Membership Special**  
ONLY  
**\$19<sup>95</sup>**  
Month-Month  
No Annual Contract

Present this coupon and get  
**50% OFF** any lotion with new membership.

See store for details. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 5/15/04

**You like 'em STACKED & TOPLESS?**  
No problem! Kerri's got you covered!

Home of the Stacked Enchiladas, Stacked Fajitas, Maroon Margaritas and Stack House Chicken Fried Chicken  
(you got it - EVERYTHING at Kerri's is STACKED!)

4-7pm Happy Hour Monday - Friday!  
Cheap liquor!

Aggie Bucks accepted  
(spend your parent's money!)

**Kerri's STACKED Enchiladas**

1045 Texas Ave. S. (across from TAMU)  
485-8008

#1 Choice for over 20 years!  
**SPRING BREAK**  
**CANCUN ACAPULCO LOS CABOS**  
UNIVERSITY BEACH CLUB  
BRECKENRIDGE VAIL BEAVER CREEK KEYSTONE A-BASIN  
**U.S. Ski**  
**1-800-BEACH-BUM**  
1-800-232-2428  
[www.universitybeachclub.com](http://www.universitybeachclub.com)

**UMPIRES NEEDED**  
Brazos Valley Softball Umpires Association is recruiting new umpires for 2004.  
No experience needed.  
\$10-20 per hour, your schedule

Contact:  
Buddy Beamon, 731-1448  
Domingo Fonseca, 845-6572  
or 823-6530

[bvsua.org](http://bvsua.org) for more info

Serving the Bryan/College Station area for 20 years.

**QUICKER STICKER**

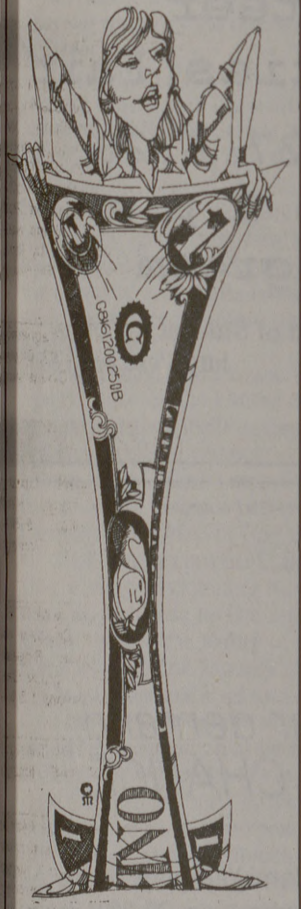
**STATE INSPECTION STATION**  
2146 Harvey Mitchell Parkway (behind Napa Auto Parts) College Station, TX 77840 693-8512  
1617 Briarcrest Bryan, TX 77802 774-7944

Albert Gonter, 778-5185  
E-Mail: [Agonter@webtv.net](mailto:Agonter@webtv.net)

**STRETCH Your Dollars!**

WATCH FOR BARGAINS IN

**THE BATTALION!!**



Learn to fly from the ground up.

Private pilot ground school  
Jan. 26 - March 8  
Enrollment is limited

Office of Workforce Education  
P. O. Box 6030  
Bryan, TX 77805  
979-209-7205

**BLINN COLLEGE**  
Proven.  
[www.blinn.edu](http://www.blinn.edu)

# WELCOME BACK AGS!!

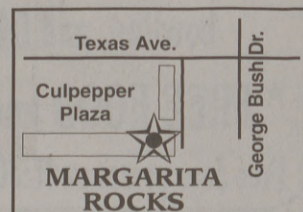
## THE NEW HOME OF \$1 DRINKS PRESENTS... A FREE MEAL ON US! HOW, YOU ASK?

1. Rip out this coupon
2. Grab a friend
3. Get your #@?! down to THE NEW HOME OF \$1 DRINKS....

*Margaritas* **ROCKS**

4. Buy one get one FREE ENTREE only valid until the end of January 2004
5. Good from 11am-10pm daily

HEY, DON'T FORGET MARGARITA ROCKS IS  
"THE NEW HOME OF \$1 DRINKS"  
ALL DAY, ALL NIGHT, ALL THE TIME



**680-0600**

If You Have Something To Sell, Remember: Classifieds Can Do It  
Call 845-0569  
THE BATTALION