

The Great

**BOCKTOBERFEST
MUSIC JUNKET
10.16.04
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Volleyball

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team brings to the court. She said the team is spreading the ball among a variety of attackers and has some great weapons from antenna to antenna.

Wildcat head coach Suzie Fritz said that offensively, her players have the ability to be a pretty terminal team.

"We are a relatively aggressive serving team," Fritz said. "We're continuing to develop our identity; it's still early in the year."

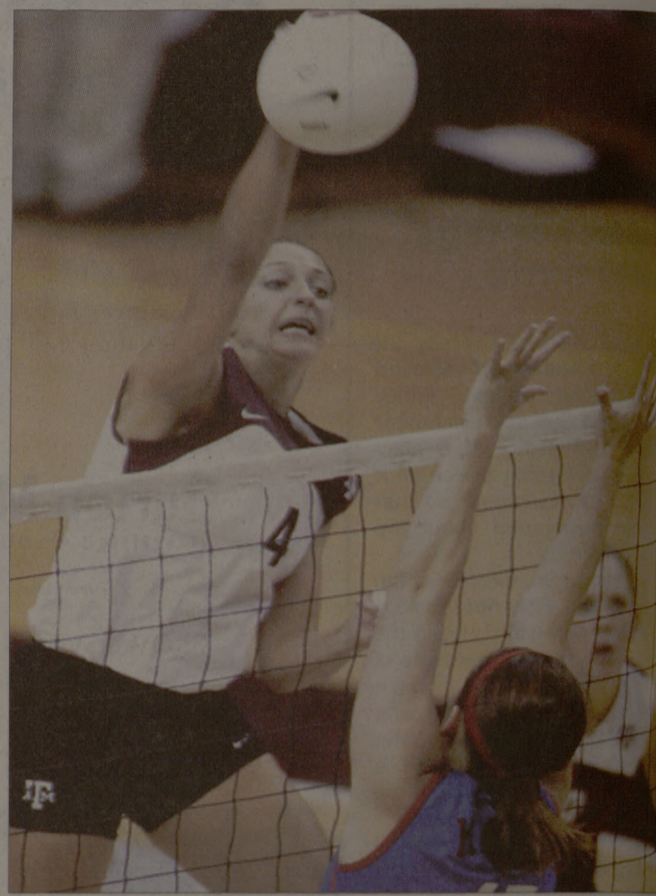
Fritz said many of her players are growing into their roles and that she especially likes freshman libero Angie Lastra's performance on defense. Lastra had her 10th straight 10-plus dig performance on Thursday night against North Dakota State as she notched 15 digs.

Five Wildcat players hit better than .300 Thursday and the team earned a .359 hitting average on the night. So far on the season, the team averages 14.5 kills per game and 14 digs with an attack percentage of .237.

Fritz said she expects A&M to bring a good, balanced attack and her team will have to watch out for Munsch and junior outside hitter Laura Jones.

"A&M is a very good volleyball team; we'll have to play extremely well to be successful," Fritz said.

Jones said the gym at K-State is a difficult place to play; however, she said the team knows



Senior outside hitter/middle blocker **Melissa Munsch** spikes over Kansas **Lindsey Morris** during a matchup at G. Rollie White Sept. 17. Munsch helped the Aggies to a 3-1 win over Kansas with her third career triple-dig.

how the Wildcats play and they know what to expect. She said she is looking forward to the game, because the outcome will be something no one expects.

"I think that everyone in Big 12 — including K-State — is tough this season," Jones said. "It's going to be a real fight for the conference title."

Football

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Perhaps no game epitomized that season more than a six-turnover performance resulting in a loss to lowly Southwestern Louisiana State, 29-22.

The defeat set the tone for the Aggies, but everyone knew they were better than what their record showed. They set out to prove it in the 1997 campaign, and they did.

That same defeat apparently stuck in the Aggies' craw. The enraged Ags reeled off five wins in a row, including a vengeful 66-0 shellacking of Southwestern Louisiana. Losses to Kansas State and Texas Tech were followed by a memorable 17-point comeback against Oklahoma State and a freezing, rain-soaked victory over Texas.

An incredible 10 defensive starters from the 1997 team went on to play in the NFL, including Nguyen, Rich Coady, Warrick Holdman and Jason Webster.

While the team got crushed by Nebraska in the Big 12 championship game and lost to UCLA in the Cotton Bowl, the stage was set to win the conference in 1998.

The current squad of players may fail to go to a bowl game. Wild inconsistency, the hallmark of a young team, may keep us from seeing the same team that shelled Clemson on Saturday.

But there's a trend here. This is the year that will set the tone for seasons to come. Every time the Aggies have been down, they've come back up with a vengeance. Be patient — that big trophy will come to Aggieland soon enough.

Women's golf finishes day two at NCAA Preview

The Texas A&M women's golf team traveled to Oregon to compete in the Mercedes-Benz NCAA Fall Preview at the Silver River Resort's Meadows Course.

The team posted a 307 on Monday, earning it a 20th place finish after one day of play.

Tuesday, the team turned in a 303 and maintained rank at No. 20 after the second day.

A&M senior Nicole Melton tied for 47th place, sophomore Christa Spedding is tied for 57th, junior Brenda Norris tied for 62nd, senior Kyla Nelson is tied for 89th and sophomore Ashley Knoll holds 91st.

The three-day, 21-team tournament will wrap up with 18 holes on Wednesday.

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Conversations on Leadership in Public Life

Saturday, Sept. 25, 2004
10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.
Memorial Student Center, Room 292
Texas A&M University

A conference for student leaders and student journalists at Texas A&M and Prairie View A&M universities to meet with professionals in the fields of politics, journalism, law and public affairs to discuss the vital public conversation in democratic society between those who make news and those who "break" it through the various news media.

Garry Mauro, Texas land commissioner from 1983 to 1999, and veteran journalist John Lumpkin, Associated Press vice president for the southern United States, will open the conference of panels and workshops designed to enhance students' appreciation of public political discourse.

Register online at <http://battalion.tamu.edu> (one registration per student organization). Registration and lunch are free. Call 979-458-1207 or write rongeorge@tamu.edu for more information.

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