



JP BEATO III - THE BATTALION

A&M sophomore **Christi Hahn** (left) and junior **Laura Jones** attempt to block a Kansas shot in Saturday's game against Kansas. A&M beat Kansas 4-1 and will head to Lincoln, Neb., to take on Nebraska University this Saturday.

Volleyball

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Nebraska is a young team capable of scoring points in bunches. Out of 13 players on the roster, only four are upperclassmen. Outside hitter Ally Rebholz is the team's only senior.

Rebholz sparked the rally that was the difference in the third game against Colorado. Her two kills and block started off a 9-1 run that wiped out the 15-12 Buffalo lead.

"It proves how strong we are mentally; that we can come in with a game plan and it's going to work," Rebholz said. "A win on the road, especially at Colorado, is huge." Against Colorado, the Huskers reeled off six runs of four or more points.

"As we continue to get better and as long as

we serve the ball in the court, we can make those kinds of runs," said Nebraska head coach John Cook. "Tonight, we went real conservative with our serve because we sensed we could run points on these guys."

The 11th-ranked Aggies will look to senior middle blocker/outside hitter Melissa Munsch to counter. Munsch led the team with nine kills against Kansas State. Junior outside hitter Laura Jones is one kill shy of 1,000 for her career.

Aggie sports analyst Louie Belina of Sports Radio 1150 KZNE "The Zone" said while the Ags are in for a stern test against the Huskers, they have the ability to win.

"I think there's no doubt they have the talent and players to pull off the victory," Belina said. "They just have to put the past behind them, which should be easy to do because they're playing a really good Nebraska team."

Soccer

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to go up against some of the toughest conference competition including Kansas and Nebraska. A&M senior midfielder Amanda Burke has experienced the competitiveness of the Big 12 and said many of the freshmen are in for a ride.

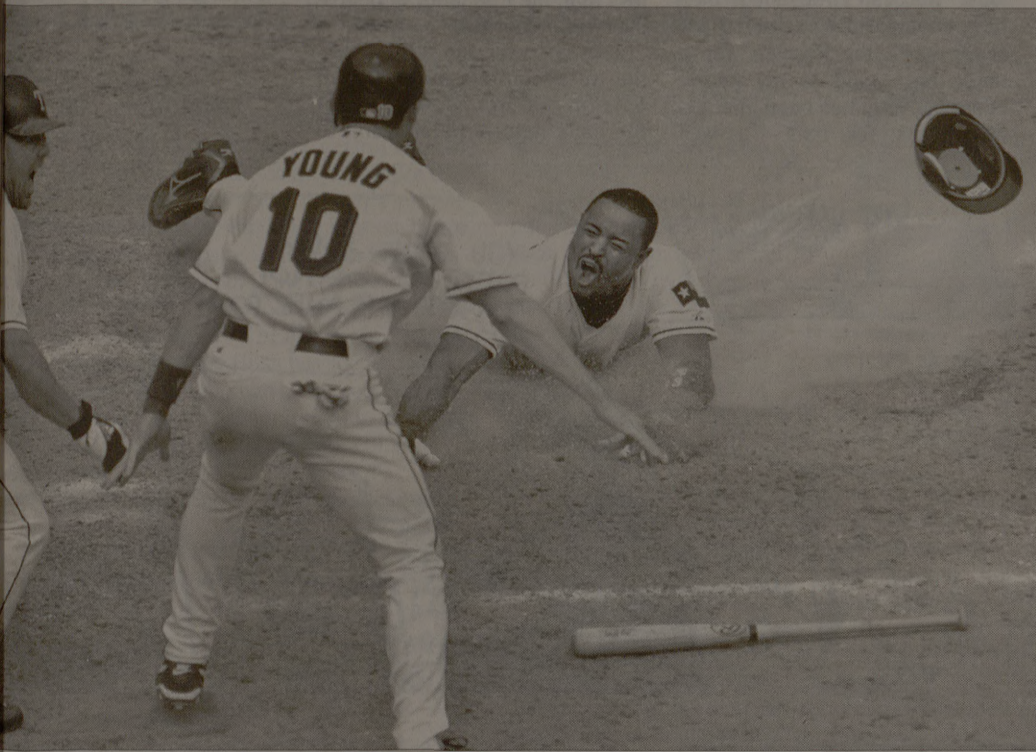
"To say how good this league is, eight teams from the Big 12 went to the NCAA tournament last year," Burke said. "The (freshmen) do have questions, but no matter how we describe it, they won't understand it until they experience it for themselves."

A&M freshman forward Ashlee Pistorius, who is tied for the team lead of goals with

five, said she isn't daunted by the Big 12 teams or playing in front of big crowds at Waco or Lubbock because of the senior leadership.

"It's going to be tough, and you're going to be put in situations that you're not used to," Pistorius said. "We just have to follow our captains and seniors, follow in their footsteps and learn on the fly."

Rangers beat A's 5-4



TOM PENNINGTON - THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Texas Rangers DH **Brian Jordan** (33) slides across home plate to score the winning run in the bottom of the ninth inning against Oakland, Thursday, at Ameriquest Field in Arlington. Right fielder **Kevin Mench** (left) and shortstop **Michael Young** (center) celebrate at the plate.

By Stephen Hawkins
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The way David Dellucci's luck had been going at the plate, he figured his hard-hit liner would be caught for the final out.

"I went from frustration to elation," he said. Dellucci's hit was just out of the reach of a diving Jermaine Dye and skipped into the right field corner. The double drove home two runs to give the Texas Rangers a 5-4 win over Oakland on Thursday and a three-game sweep of the Athletics.

"We knew we had to do that," said Brian Jordan, who scored the winning run. "It definitely does a lot for our confidence."

Texas, a surprise contender after four straight last-place finishes, moved within two games of the AL West-leading Athletics with 10 to play. The Rangers have won five in a row and 10 of 13.

Hank Blalock hit a solo homer with one out in the ninth, his 32nd to pull the Rangers to 4-3 against Octavio Dotel (4-2).

Then the stage got set for Dellucci, who was in a 5-for-44 slump and had been robbed of a hit two innings earlier. But Dye couldn't take another hit away.

"The way he hit it, it had a lot of hook on it. It was a do-or-die play," Dye said. "I had to dive and try to make the play. If not, it was going to the wall anyway."

Before Dellucci's winner, Michael Young doubled for his fourth hit and Mark Teixeira was intentionally walked, his team-record fifth walk of the game. Jordan reached on a forceout.

"I made sure to get to home plate and score. That turns the day around," said Jordan, who was 0-for-5. "I rounded second base, and I heard the fans cheering."

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