

Tech, A&M battle to gain south control

By JAY SAUNDERS
Staff Reporter

A pair of old Southwest Conference teams are looking to establish control in the new Big 12 Conference's South Division Saturday.

Texas Tech (4-3 overall and 3-2 in the conference) is hoping to get back on its horse after losing to Nebraska last Saturday.

The Texas A&M Aggies (3-4 and 1-2) are looking for their first divisional victory.

Last year's contest was a nail-biting 14-7 Tech win in Lubbock. This year, the game switches venues to College Station. Tech Coach Spike Dykes said his team will have its hands full on the road.

"They are a very good football team

Football Picks

Ohio St.	at	Iowa
Miami	at	West Virginia
Oklahoma	at	Kansas St.
Texas Tech	at	Texas A&M

in College Station," Dykes said. "We will have a very tough time beating them down there."

The game could come down to whether the A&M defense can stop Tech tailback Byron Hanspard, who is the No. 2 rusher in the nation.

"Byron is an outstanding back," A&M Coach R.C. Slocum said. "He is definitely one of the best."

Kansas threatens NU league, home streaks

KU from page 12

out of the end zone," Osborne said of last Saturday's 24-10 NU win. "You've got to give them a lot of credit, but at times we didn't cover people."

Osborne is also concerned with the Huskers' offensive execution.

After turning the ball over only once in three games since losing to Arizona State, Nebraska had five turnovers against the Red Raiders, including an interception that was returned for Tech's only touchdown.

"When your execution is poor, everything looks bad," Osborne said. "It makes it look like nobody is trying and that nothing is working right. We just need to execute better."

"The puzzling thing and the thing that is interesting about coaching is that

you never quite know what is going to happen."

Osborne is also worried about injuries. Senior fullback Brian Schuster practiced on Thursday, but he probably won't start because of a separated shoulder, Osborne said.

Offensive linemen Jon Zatechka and Eric Anderson, who are recovering from ankle injuries, also returned to practice Wednesday and should start Saturday.

Junior defensive tackle Jason Peter, who broke his hand against Texas Tech, was fitted with a cast and should start against the Jayhawks.

"I guess I don't feel real comfortable playing anybody right now," Osborne said. "Hopefully, we'll play a little better this week than we did the last."

Strickland turns heads in Dallas

By PETER MARHOEFER
Staff Reporter

Don't tell former Nebraska basketball player Erick Strickland how to overcome adversity.

Strickland survived a tumultuous senior season as a Cornhusker last year, and now as a free agent with the Dallas Mavericks, he is turning heads as the exhibition season nears an end.

Through the Mavericks' first five preseason games, Strickland is third on the team in scoring (9 point per game); he leads the team in 3-point percentage (.500); and he's making veteran Jimmy King and rookie Shawn Harvey worry about weather they'll have a job early next week.

"Erick's doing much better than expected," said Strickland's agent, Frank Martin. "He has outplayed a few guys charted ahead of him."

The 6-foot-3, 210-pound Strickland, who is playing point guard, looks to have joined the Mavericks at the right time. Injury-plagued Dallas is hoping to improve on last year's 26-56 record. Guards Troy Dumas, Jason Kidd, and Jimmy King have all been hit by injuries during the preseason.

"I have done all I can do to show them I can play in this league," Strickland said.

Strickland has had some help adjusting to the NBA game. Veteran Derek Harper has tutored Strickland. Harper's 10-plus years of NBA experience have helped Strickland, he said.

"Harper and I talk every day," Strickland said. "He tells me what to work and improve on. It's definitely a big help having a veteran like Derek Harper teaching you how to play and adjust."

Strickland is not intimidated by the NBA stars he had before seen only on television.

"At first I was like, 'Dang. These are guys I used to watch,'" Strickland said. "I learned to not think about that. I had to change my thought process. I'm here in the NBA, and when the game starts, I have to compete."

The Mavericks are a good fit for Strickland. First-year Dallas Coach Jim Clemmons plays an up-tempo game that focuses on a tough defense. Strickland, an All-Big Eight defensive-team selection while at NU from 1992 through 1996, said he enjoys the Mavericks' style of basketball.

"This team has a lot of young players, young players that are up and coming NBA stars," Strickland said. "They're going to turn things around here."

"It's tough to make it if you're not a name. Dallas likes Erick. Coach Clemmons likes Erick. It just depends on who he can beat out. I think Erick will make the team."

FRANK MARTIN
Erick Strickland's agent

If cut from the Mavericks, Strickland said he will give basketball one more year. He has worked out for the Indiana Pacers and New Jersey Nets and several CBA teams have also inquired about him.

Strickland also still has ties to the Florida Marlins baseball organization, for which he played following his freshman year at Nebraska. As a August college graduate, Strickland said he is keeping his options open.

One of those options, however, is not football. Strickland entertained thoughts of playing for Nebraska this fall, but after one spring practice, he quit.

"It was a basketball decision," he said. "I was getting calls from NBA scouts and coaches saying this wasn't in my best interest. I didn't want coaches to think that I wasn't dedicated."

If Strickland is to make the Dallas team this fall, the Mavericks must find a way to work him into a team that already has 12 players on contract, the league limit.

"With all the guaranteed contracts," he said, "it's a numbers game now."

Added Martin: "The NBA has a lot of young point guards. It's tough to make it if you're not a name. Dallas likes Erick. Coach Clemmons likes Erick. It just depends on who he can beat out. I think Erick will make the team."

Strickland said he will probably by the next week if he's got a spot.

"We have two preseason games in Mexico this weekend," he said. "They told me they'd give me an indication then."

Bear coach: NU can win national title

Randy Waldrum uses Nebraska as a model to build his BU soccer program.

By PETER MARHOEFER
Staff Reporter

Baylor Soccer Coach Randy Waldrum will not let his team's 12-1-1 record fool his first-year players when it comes to today's game against fifth-ranked Nebraska in Waco, Texas.

"We don't match up," Waldrum said. "Nebraska's physical, big, strong, talented, technically gifted, and have great one-on-one players."

Baylor's first-year success is the surprise of the Big 12 Conference. The Bears head into today's game with an outside chance of winning the conference title.

"We got real fortunate," Waldrum said. "We got two key recruits, and others fell into place. Our schedule isn't as strong as other teams, and we've had some good success."

Baylor is using Nebraska as a role model, Waldrum said. The Huskers' success in only their third year leaves the Bears with a blueprint to follow, he said.

"Nebraska's in a position to make a run for the national championship, and they are talented enough to do it," Waldrum said. "We have a lot of respect for Nebraska and what Coach John Walker has done with the program."

The game today at 3 p.m. is the biggest in Baylor history, he said. A win over NU would give the Bears the respect they have lacked despite their early success.

"This is certainly a big game," Waldrum said. "There's no pressure on us to win. It's OK for us to lose this one."

Baylor forward Molly Cameron is leading the nation in scoring. Stopping her is a key to Husker victory.

"Regardless of what the score is, our kids will compete," he said. "We'll learn some lessons this weekend."

Starters

Lincoln
Saturday, 6 p.m.
Memorial Stadium



Nebraska Offense				Kansas Offense			
Poc.	No.	Name	Ht. Wt. Yr.	Poc.	No.	Name	Ht. Wt. Yr.
QB	5	Dresden Galloway	5-9 195 Sr.	QB	1	Isaac Byrd	6-2 180 Sr.
LT	77	Adam Trou	6-6 305 Sr.	LT	79	Scott Whittaker	6-6 285 Sr.
LG	75	Chris DeHaven	6-3 310 Sr.	LG	85	Tom Stimpert	6-2 275 Sr.
C	67	Aaron Taylor	6-1 305 Jr.	C	65	Jared Smith	6-1 270 Sr.
RG	64	Jon Zatechka	6-2 280 Sr.	RG	77	Dave Roberts	6-6 300 Sr.
RT	70	Eric Anderson	6-4 305 Jr.	RT	76	Justin Glasgow	6-6 300 Sr.
TE	80	Tim Carpenter	6-3 285 Jr.	TE	80	Jim McGee	6-3 250 Sr.
QB	7	Scott Frost	6-3 215 Jr.	QB	18	Matt Johnson	6-1 195 Jr.
RB	30	Alman Green	6-0 215 So.	RB	38	Steve Young	6-0 205 Jr.
RB	31	Jon Yarbrough	5-11 205 Sr.	RB	30	Eric Galbreath	6-1 205 Jr.
PK	35	Kris Brown	5-10 205 So.	PK	36	Jeff McCord	5-9 220 Jr.

Nebraska Defense				Kansas Defense			
Poc.	No.	Name	Ht. Wt. Yr.	Poc.	No.	Name	Ht. Wt. Yr.
LB	80	Saved Touch	6-2 200 Sr.	OLB	47	Patrick Powers	5-10 210 Sr.
DT	97	Jeff Ogard	6-6 310 Sr.	DT	83	Dewey Houston III	6-4 270 Jr.
DT	82	James Taylor	6-5 285 Sr.	DT	70	Drew McDrew	6-3 280 Sr.
RR	96	Grant Wistrom	6-5 250 Jr.	DT	57	Kevin Kopp	6-4 270 Sr.
SAM	52	James Williams	6-2 210 Sr.	OLB	49	Calvin Jones	6-2 245 Sr.
MIKE	44	Jon Hesse	6-4 250 Sr.	LB	38	Jason Thoren	6-2 230 Jr.
WLB	48	Timothy Taylor	6-3 205 Sr.	LB	46	James Taylor	6-0 225 Sr.
LCB	20	Michael Booker	6-2 205 Sr.	LCB	23	Jason Harris	5-10 170 Jr.
FS	16	Eric Slocum	5-11 195 Sr.	FS	27	Michael Allen	6-10 180 Sr.
ROV	10	Mike Minter	6-10 190 Sr.	SS	28	Tony Blevins	6-0 170 Jr.
RCB	22	Blake Iversen	5-11 190 Fr.	RCB	37	James Harris	6-10 175 Sr.
P	19	Jason Koach	6-0 185 Jr.	P	41	Dean Royal	6-3 180 Jr.

Yankees snag Series lead with 1-0 Game 5 victory

SERIES from page 12

dium — where New York is just 2-4 this October — with a chance to clinch its record 23rd title and dethrone the defending champions.

Game 6 will be Saturday night, with Jimmy Key starting for New York against Greg Maddux.

"It's a game of inches," Atlanta Manager Bobby Cox said. "The breaks have not gone our way."

Pettitte shut out the Braves on four hits through the first eight innings.

Smoltz fell to 9-2 lifetime in the postseason despite not giving up an earned run. A miscommunication in the outfield caused a two-base error to be charged to Marquis Grissom in the fourth and set up an RBI double by Cecil Fielder. Smoltz struck out 10 in eight innings and permitted four hits, three by Fielder.

Cornhuskers can clinch Big 12

SOCCER from page 12

Baylor, in its first season, has not played with the look of a first-year squad this fall.

Baylor carries a No. 6 central-region ranking into today's game. The Bears still have an outside chance to win the Big 12 title and have sewn up a spot in the six-team Big 12 Tournament, Nov. 7-10 in St. Louis.

The Bears' only loss came at the expense of eighth-ranked Texas A&M. Baylor also tied Oklahoma State earlier this season. Freshman forward Molly Cameron leads the nation with 55 points.

"From what I hear, they're definitely the best first-year program," Walker said. "They are a very solid team defensively and very well rounded."

Texas Tech is ranked seventh in the central region. Kristy Frantz leads the Red Raiders with 39 points on 16 goals. Amaris Weeks-Smith (22 points) and Kristi Patterson (21 points) have also played well.

"They're very similar to Baylor," Walker said. "They have two excellent strikers. They've scored a lot and haven't conceded a whole lot. It'll be a tough road game."

Nebraska is coming off another stifling defensive effort. The Huskers blanked Kansas 2-0 Sunday, NU's ninth shutout of the season.

Junior midfielder Kari Uppinghouse leads the way for Nebraska with a single-season record 41 points on 16 goals.

"We're ready for better teams," said Uppinghouse, the nation's ninth-leading scorer. "We have to take them like

Soccer

at Baylor, today, 3 p.m.

at Texas Tech, Sunday, 1 p.m.

they're as good as us." As one of two undefeated teams left in Division I, Nebraska is now a marked foe, Uppinghouse said.

"(Baylor and Tech) are looking for these games," Uppinghouse said. "We're not taking them lightly. They're looking to create an upset. We see ourselves as the team people want to beat."

After Sunday, NU plays Texas Christian and Southern Methodist before the league tournament.

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