

**Big 12 Notebook**

Texas Coach Mack Brown reached his 100<sup>th</sup> career win in the Longhorns' 38-28 victory over Oklahoma in the Red River Shootout at the Cotton Bowl on Saturday. He is now only one of three coaches at Texas to reach that milestone while coaching the Longhorns. The other two are Darrell Royal and D.X. Bible.

This all happened in a game already filled with emotion.

"Down 17 to nothing in the first quarter," Brown said. "I was afraid I was going to get fired."

Texas Tech, coming off of an upset over in-state rival Texas A&M, lost to Oklahoma State on Saturday. Coach Spike Dykes said that his defense struggled to contain OSU, giving up 452 total yards.

"Oklahoma State got after us pretty good," Dykes said. "We sort of got on our heels the other night. (It was) probably the worst defensive game we have played this year."

Colorado and Missouri played in one of the more bizarre games Saturday, with the Buffaloes prevailing 46-39 in overtime. CU quarterback Mike Moschetti threw a 24-yard touchdown pass to Marcus Stiggers in the extra session to win the game. CU Coach Gary Barnett described it as a "crazy game."

"We tried to win it," Barnett said. "And we tried to give it away. Missouri stayed in and fought. They were very opportunistic."

Evidence that sometimes you're hot and sometimes you are not: when asked about his team's emotions, Oklahoma Coach Bob Stoops said that his team is doing fine. He said that two weeks ago, the media was telling his players how good they were, but after two losses, he is having to argue with the media about how good his team really is.

The Big 12 Conference is the hot spot for punt and kickoff returners. David Allen of Kansas State is 343 yards short of the punt return yardage record. Colorado's Ben Kelly returned the opening kickoff vs. Missouri 100 yards for a touchdown.

Missouri Coach Larry Smith said that his kicker tried to kick away from Kelly, but you "don't always hit it like you want to."

The Big 12 Offensive Player of the Week is Hodges Mitchell of Texas. Mitchell rushed for 204 yards on 30 carries against Oklahoma. Mitchell scored one touchdown in UT's comeback win over the Sooners.

Linebacker Mark Simoneau of Kansas State nabbed the defensive honor with his performance against in-state rival Kansas. Simoneau recorded 11 tackles and a sack.

Colorado cornerback Ben Kelly ran away with the special teams weekly conference honor. Kelly returned the opening kickoff against Missouri 100 yards in the 46-39 CU overtime win. He also came up with the game-winning interception on the final play of the game.

Big 12 Notebook compiled by staff writer Joshua Camenzind

# Huskers confident entering tourney

BY ROB PETZOLD  
Staff writer

Seven members of the Nebraska men's tennis team will be in Austin, Texas, this week to compete in the ITA All American Tournament.

According to NU Coach Terry McDermott, this is one of the most competitive individual tournaments of the fall season.

"The ITA tournament is an extremely competitive one," McDermott said. "It is a good shot for players to establish a national ranking."

Fifty-six of the top players in the country have already qualified for the main draw. Along with these players, 256 other athletes are vying for eight open spots.

McDermott is confident that several Cornhusker players have the talent to go far in the tournament.

"Three players I feel good about are Jorge Abos Sanchez, Kai Rieke and Lance Mills," McDermott said.

Mills has already made it to the qualifying portion of the tournament.

Sanchez, who is a junior from Zaragoza, Spain, is pumped-up for a return to this year's tournament.

Last year, Sanchez won five

matches and qualified for the main draw.

"Since this tournament is a very competitive one, I am out for blood," Sanchez said. "I have been practicing very well and always have a lot of energy going into my matches."

Rieke, a junior from Nordhorn, Germany, also felt confident that he will play well.

"My confidence level is pretty high, but I also realize that I have to take it one match at a time," Rieke said. "This tournament is going to be very tough because the best players from all over the country will be there."

Rieke also stressed the need to pace himself, since the tournament demands a lot out of the players who keep playing.

"You can play up to three matches in one day," Rieke said. "Although I prefer to play in warm weather, playing more than one or two matches a day can be quite demanding."

Last year, Husker star Dinko Verzi made it to the final draw. Verzi is the only major non-returning player to compete in this year's tournament.

The ITA All American Tournament will run from Oct. 11 to Oct. 18.

# BU looks forward to an off weekend

(AP) - Of the five Big 12 football teams that have this week off, perhaps none needs it more than Baylor.

The Bears are just 1-5 overall and, after a 45-13 pounding by Texas A&M, mired in the basement of the South Division at 0-3.

The prospects of a good finish appear slim, given that teams such as Kansas State, Oklahoma State and Texas Tech lie ahead.

First-year coach Kevin Steele says his work during the off week will involve more than X's and O's.

"What this actually does is allow us to mentally break the kids down into two seasons, look at different combinations," Steele said during Monday's conference call with league coaches. "We've asked the guys to fight. They've done that the last few weeks."

"It does give us a chance to come out of this thing headed in the right direction the last five games. A tale of two seasons is what we're trying to make a theme of."

Steele oversees a program that has finished in last place in each of the first three years of the Big 12. The Bears haven't won consecutive games since 1996 and haven't won consecutive league games since 1995, when they were in the Southwest Conference.

So far, Steele has been able to stay upbeat, and Texas A&M Coach R.C. Slocum said there is reason for optimism in Waco.

"I told Kevin this on the field before the game: I think their schemes are good," Slocum said. "They just haven't gotten it all put together."

One team that seems to be putting things together is No. 3 Nebraska, which also is idle this week along with Texas, Oklahoma and Oklahoma State. The Cornhuskers improved to 6-0 with a 42-14 victory over Iowa State on Saturday night.

Texas Coach Mack Brown, whose team plays the Cornhuskers on Oct. 23, said they look as good as any Nebraska team he has seen in the past 15 years.

Brown said he has a tired and nickered-up football team, which makes

North team	Conference			Overall			PF	PA	Up Next...
	W	L	PCT.	W	L	PCT.			
Nebraska	3	0	1.000	6	0	1.000	234	58	idle
Kansas St.	3	0	1.000	5	0	1.000	200	61	Utah St.
Colorado	2	0	1.000	3	2	.600	198	163	at Texas Tech
Iowa St.	0	2	.000	3	2	.600	118	101	at Missouri
Missouri	0	2	.000	3	2	.600	155	165	Missouri at Texas A&M
Kansas	0	2	.000	2	4	.333	150	213	Colorado
<b>South team</b>									
Texas	2	1	.667	5	2	.714	262	137	idle
Texas A&M	1	1	.500	4	1	.800	186	70	Kansas
Oklahoma	1	1	.500	3	2	.600	190	103	idle
Oklahoma St.	1	1	.500	3	2	.600	136	104	idle
Texas Tech	1	1	.500	2	3	.400	107	129	Colorado
Baylor	0	2	.000	1	5	.167	99	215	idle

the off week this week a good fit. The Longhorns (4-2) are coming off two emotional games, a loss at home to Kansas State followed by a come-from-behind victory over Oklahoma in Dallas.

Oklahoma Coach Bob Stoops has similar feelings. The Sooners have lost two straight since starting 3-0 and moving into the Top 25, and both losses - to Notre Dame and Texas - have come after the Sooners have taken big leads.

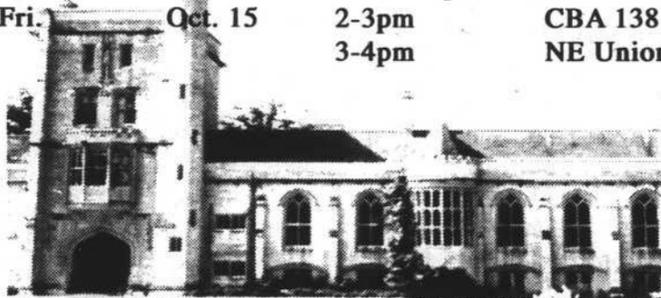
Stoops said the week off will allow time to review, and for both sides of the ball to become more comfortable in systems that were only implemented last spring.

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