

Lady Aggie soccer adds assistant coach

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

Kathi Conner, the defensive coordinator for the 1992 NAIA national champion Pacific Lutheran women's soccer team, has been hired as an assistant at Texas A&M.

Coach G. Guerrieri made the announcement Wednesday.

"Kathi's a perfect addition to our young program," Guerrieri said. "She comes from winning programs, playing in four national championship games and winning one. She had a Strong Texas-based background."

Conner, an Irving native, coached one year at PLU in Tacoma, Wash. She played there for two seasons before moving into the coaching ranks. In her two seasons as a player, PLU won a national championship in 1991 and was the runner up in 1990.

She went to PLU after playing two seasons at Hardin-Simmons under coach G. Guerrieri, who took over the newly formed team here in May.

Conner transferred to PLU when Hardin-Simmons dropped its athletic scholarships after the 1989 season.

"We had a lot of qualified applicants," Guerrieri said. "Kathi is a great role model for the players. Having played for me in the past, she knows what I expect from my players and my staff."

Conner earned her bachelor's degree in physical education from PLU in 1992. She has also earned her coaching license from the United States Soccer Federation.

Cable executives viewing '96 Olympic options

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Imagine an Olympics in Atlanta without Ted Turner. The people at Turner Broadcasting Co. can't, but some of his rivals can. And so can NBC.

"Unless they're willing to put up some money to share the risk, we can't do this," NBC Sports president Dick Ebersol said.

On Tuesday, the International Olympic Committee awarded exclusive U.S. rights for the 1996 Olympics to NBC for a record \$456 million. Pound said the IOC "clearly hopes" NBC will offer some programming to a U.S. cable company.

Besides TBS, the cable companies that have shown interest include such heavyweights as ESPN, HBO, USA Network, Prime Network and SportsChannel America.

"Right now, he's in charge. This is his ball game," HBO executive producer Ross Greenburg said. "We have to take Dick Ebersol's lead and see what kind of

Broadcasters considering sharing investment

cable window he's going to create, and we'll be right in there pitching."

Ebersol said Wednesday that he was willing to talk to any cable company interested, but there were some conditions.

First, no cable outlet will be allowed to sell local advertising during the Olympics. Second, NBC will not pay anyone "to carry our signal," and third, "we will expect some form of compensation, some form of risk taking from any cable group," Ebersol said.

He said he expected to begin entertaining serious offers after Labor Day and could have an announcement by Nov. 1.

NBC turned down an offer of \$75 million from Turner Sports for the Barcelona Games, opting instead to create its own pay-per-view TripleCast. NBC lost \$100 million at Barcelona.

None of the cable networks has made a financial offer yet, and there are reports

that Turner won't. Turner has been told by shareholders: Don't let civic pride cloud your judgment. Don't get involved unless you can make money.

"I don't think there's any bigger fan of what Ted Turner has done for American television viewers than me," Ebersol said.

But... They really felt strongly that making their channels available was deserving of payment for that channel capacity and also payment for their production assistance," Ebersol said. "We never put a figure on it because they could never get away from the fact that they wanted to be paid."

While Turner Sports said Wednesday that it had no comment, senior vice president Kevin O'Malley said recently: "We're not only a pretty major sports organization, but we're also an Atlanta-based company and we'd like to be in-

involved in what's going to be the biggest event in the history of this city."

USA Network and ESPN both remain interested. USA said it will continue to explore the possibility, but ESPN could be out of the running.

"We haven't talked to this point because it was always clearly understood that if there was one absolute marriage going in, it was ABC and ESPN," Ebersol said. ABC and ESPN are both owned by ABC-Capital Cities Inc.

"I'd love to hear from them, but I don't see it because they have local sales problems. They guarantee their affiliates so much time per hour and we can't put the Olympics on cable with any local sales available," Ebersol said.

ESPN president Steve Bornstein said: "If we can be involved in televising the Atlanta Olympics, we'd love to do so. We'd be happy to talk, and we look forward to it."

Ebersol said HBO's status as a premium network would not necessarily stand its way.

Oilers, first-round pick Hopkins agree to contract terms

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN ANTONIO — The Houston Oilers agreed to terms Wednesday night with first-round pick Brad Hopkins of Illinois and the offensive lineman will report to training camp Thursday.

"We worked extremely hard," agent Mark Bartelstein said. "We had to be extremely creative but we came up with some ideas to get it done."

No figures were released, but the contract reportedly is for four years.

Hopkins, projected as a rookie starter at left tackle, has been a holdout since Oilers rookies reported to training camp last Wednesday.

Owner Bud Adams said Sunday the club would take \$10,000 from their offer to Hopkins for each day he did not report. Bartelstein said Adams' statement was not a

factor in the settlement.

"The issue was trying to get a deal done and now it's up to Brad to play football," Bartelstein said.

Oilers general manager Mike Holovak was delighted to finalize a deal with Hopkins, whom the team traded up to get.

"I love to get this fellow, we gave up third round pick for him and our left tackle from last year (Don Mags) is gone, we got a good one," Holovak said.

Maggs signed a free agent contract with the Denver Broncos.

Holovak said he expects Hopkins to put up a battle against third-year pro Kevin Donnalley for the starting job. Hopkins was a projected starter, but Donnalley excelled in the rookie's absence.

"I hope Kevin will fight tooth and nail and I think will," Holovak said. "We might turn out to be the ball club everybody is talking about."

Hopkins said he was just glad the ordeal was over.

"It was just a matter of wanting to get involved in the organization and not dragging it out," Hopkins said. "In the long run it might be more detrimental to me than the Oilers."

Hopkins said he realized he faced an uphill battle to get the starting job.

"I don't think holding out was detrimental, I'd have a hard row to hoe regardless, whether I missed a week or not," Hopkins said. "It's going to be hard work for me anyway."

The Oilers also announced that reserve running back Gary Brown had signed a one-year contract. He worked out Wednesday afternoon.

However, the team is still without transitional players Ernest Givins, a wide receiver, and running back Lorenzo White.

On to baseball . . .

Anthony Young ends losing streak at 27

NEW YORK (AP) — Anthony Young's major-league record 27-game losing streak came to an abrupt end Wednesday night when the New York Mets rallied for two runs in the ninth inning to beat the Florida Marlins 5-4.

Young's previous win was April 19, 1992, a span of 74 appearances. It looked like he would make it 28 losses in a row after the Marlins scored a run in the top of the ninth.

Ryan Thompson singled in the tying run for the Mets and Eddie Murray doubled in the winning run off Bryan Harvey (1-3).

Young (1-13) was mobbed by teammates and coaches and the crowd went

wild when his nightmare finally ended. He allowed one run on two hits, while striking out one in the ninth inning.

Young broke the previous record of 23 straight losses by Cliff Curtis of the NL's Boston team in 1910-1911.

"Thankfully it's over with," Young said.

Ken Griffey Jr. ties home run record

SEATTLE (AP) — Ken Griffey Jr. tied a major-league record Wednesday night by hitting a home run in his eighth consecutive game and number 30 on the season.

The home run, a 404-foot shot off the facing of the third deck in right field, came in the seventh inning of the Seattle Mariners' game against the Minnesota Twins.

Griffey tied the record set by Dale

Long of Pittsburgh in 1956 and equaled by Don Mattingly of the New York Yankees in 1987.

Rangers take another from Kansas City, 10-3

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Rafael Palmeiro's second home run of the game capped a five-run fifth inning and powered the Texas Rangers past the Kansas City Royals 10-3 Wednesday night.

Palmeiro hit his 22nd home run in the fourth off Hipolito Pichardo (5-7) to forge a 1-1 tie.

After the Royals took a 2-1 lead in the bottom of the fourth, Palmeiro hit a two-run homer in the fifth. It was Palmeiro's third multi-homer game of the season and the seventh of his career.

Ivan Rodriguez went 4-for-4 and tied the Rangers' record with eight straight hits over two games.

Palmeiro and Butch Davis had three hits apiece. Roger Pavlik (6-5) gave up nine hits and three runs and had a career-best eight strikeouts. Lefferts relieved in the seventh.

Houston's Portugal wins third straight, 4-2

HOUSTON (AP) — Craig Biggio and Luis Gonzalez drove in two runs each, and Mark Portugal won his third straight game Wednesday night as the Houston Astros defeated the Cincinnati Reds 4-2.

Portugal (9-4) allowed 12 hits, struck out seven before leaving in the seventh. Xavier Hernandez pitched the final 2 1-3 innings for his fifth save.

The Astros took a 2-0 lead in the second on Biggio's two-run single. Biggio's hit scored Eddie Taubensee and Andujar Cedeno, who had back-to-back singles.

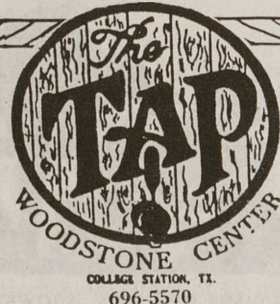
Scoreboard

American League

Texas	10	Kansas City	3
Minnesota	5	Seattle	1
Chicago	9	Cleveland	4
New York	12	Detroit	7
Toronto	5	Baltimore	4
Boston	8	Milwaukee	4
California	3	Oakland	2

National League

Chicago	8	San Diego	6
Los Angeles	2	San Fran	1
Houston	4	Cincinnati	2
New York	5	Florida	4
Philadelphia	12	St. Louis	6
Pittsburgh	3	Montreal	2
Atlanta	3	Colorado	2



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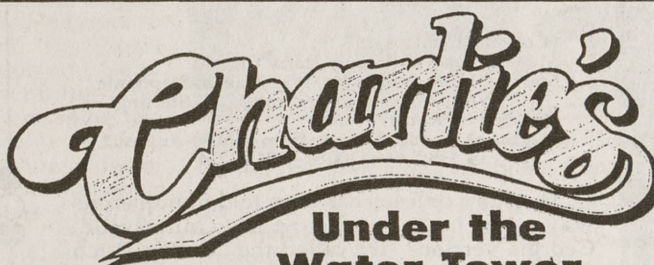
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