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Boilermakers overcome critics, prepare for Lady Aggies

The Associated Press

WEST LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Purdue coach Lin Dunn credits the lack of respect her team received from rival coaches for the Boilermakers winning a share of the Big Ten women's title and a Sweet Sixteen berth in the NCAA tournament.

"A turning point in our season was when the Big Ten coaches voted this team fifth," Dunn said Tuesday as her team prepared to meet Texas A&M in the Midwest regional semifinal Thursday night in Palo Alto, Calif.

"That was like a challenge to this group, to our staff and to our program, to go out and show people that they had us entirely too low."

Purdue (27-4) heads west seeded first in the region and Texas A&M (23-7) is the 13th seed. The winner plays either third-seeded Colorado (27-4) or No. 2 Stanford (24-5) in Saturday's regional final.

Dunn doesn't know what to expect from her

team, which doesn't have any seniors and starts one freshman and two sophomores.

"We're young and I think that sometimes younger players take things a little differently than older players," Dunn said. "I don't think they feel any pressure. They've done so much more than anyone away from this team thought."

"They've overachieved by just winning the Big Ten and getting to the Sweet Sixteen. But, they're having fun. They play relaxed all the time. They enjoy each other. They're really special."

Dunn, who is 160-48 in seven seasons at Purdue, says she isn't surprised by her team's record.

"I knew we had the potential to do exactly what we've done, but you never know how freshmen are going to mature," she said. "The freshmen have matured quickly. Our sophomores and juniors have played above their level of classification."

Forward Leslie Johnson, a 6-foot-1 freshman, leads the team in scoring and rebounding with averages of 18.5 points and 9.5 rebounds.

Center Stacey Lovelace, a 6-4 sophomore, is the only other player scoring in double figures at 11.6 and she is second on the team in rebounds at 7.3.

The Boilermakers, ranked No. 8 in the final poll, have limited their opposition to an average of 58.9 points per game while setting a school record for victories in a season.

Purdue has held opponents below 50 percent shooting in 30 of its 31 games and below 40 percent 20 times. Opponents have shot just 36.5 percent for the season.

"Our defensive intensity is a major weapon, the ability to use our size, our quickness ... the pressure that we put on our opponents to take them out of their game," said Dunn, whose team tied with Penn State for the Big Ten championship.

Looking at the Lady Aggies, Dunn is concerned with their size and shooting ability of their guards.

"They're big and they've got good post players inside," Dunn said, mentioning 6-4 Martha McClelland and 6-5 Kelly Cerny.

Atlanta woman files suit against Spurs' Rodman

The Associated Press

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — An Atlanta woman has filed a lawsuit against San Antonio Spurs forward Dennis Rodman claiming Rodman infected her with the herpes virus.

Lisa Beth Judd, 22, in a lawsuit filed Monday in state court in Fulton County, Ga., alleges Rodman transmitted the virus to her during a sexual encounter in January 1993.

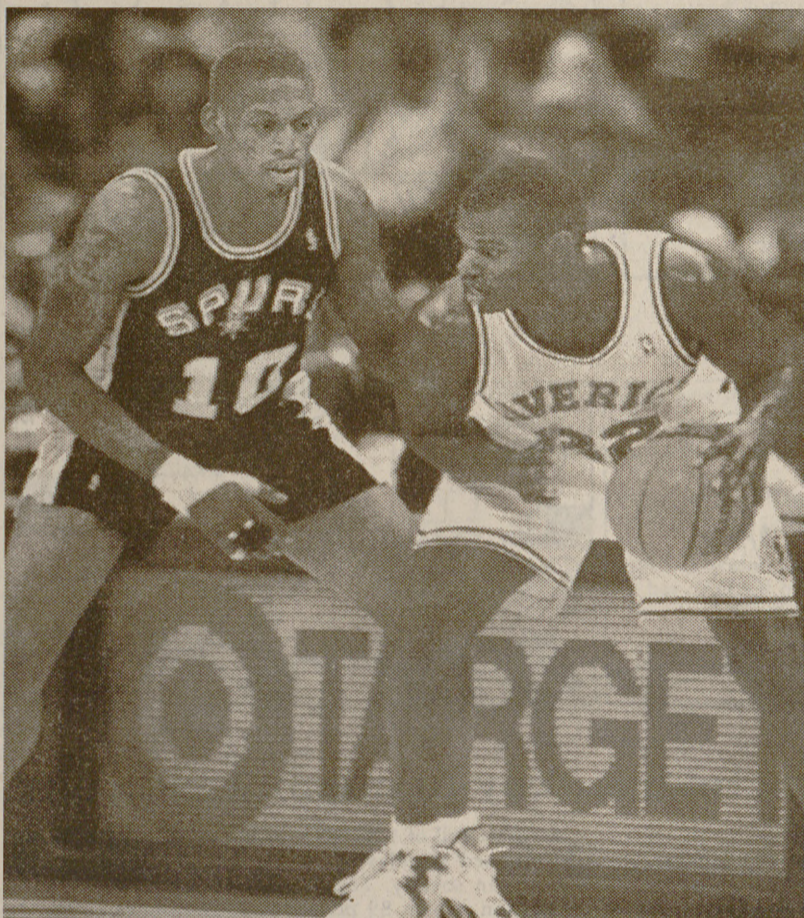
Ms. Judd, who was a dancer for the Atlanta Hawks when she met Rodman in 1991, claims in court documents Rodman had told her he did not have any sexually transmittable diseases.

"We have tried for weeks to get this resolved discreetly and confidentially," Ms. Judd's lawyer, Mark Trigg of Atlanta, said in Tuesday's San Antonio Express-News. "But our requests have fallen on deaf ears."

Rodman and his attorney declined to comment on the allegations.

Spurs spokespeople did not immediately return telephone calls Tuesday from The Associated Press.

Spurs coach John Lucas told the Express-News: "I support Dennis in the matter, but I really know very little about it. We will get through this, too."



San Antonio Spurs' forward Dennis Rodman (10) guards Dallas Mavericks' forward Jamal Mashburn, during a game last fall.

Stars try to replace Tinordi with three trades

The Associated Press

DALLAS — The Dallas Stars built the equivalent of a new offensive line through three separate trades Monday, adding center Pelle Eklund, right wing Mike Needham and left wing Alan May.

The Stars also made a fourth deal before the trading deadline, sending left wing Reid Simpson and defenseman Roy Mitchell to the New Jersey Devils for future considerations. Both players spent the entire season with Kalamazoo in the IHL.

Dallas continued revamping its roster by recalling left wing Jarkko Varvio from Kalamazoo.

The moves wrapped up a busy weekend for the Stars (37-25-10), who clinched a playoff spot with a 2-1 overtime victory over Vancouver Sunday. On Saturday, the team traded defenseman Doug Zmolek and Mike Lalor from San Jose for right wing Ulf Dahlen and future considerations.

"From the time we decided to make a real push towards filling Mark Tinordi's hole ... we had to open up another spot and today was really a reaction toward that," Stars coach and general manager Bob Gainey said.

Tinordi, a defenseman and the team captain, was lost for the season Feb. 23 when he severely broke his leg against the Los Angeles Kings.

NFL Free Agents

Moon could go to Minnesota

The Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — Houston Oilers owner Bud Adams says he's waiting to see what the Minnesota Vikings will offer for quarterback Warren Moon.

"They'd like to have Warren, but it would be tough to trade him," Adams told the Houston Chronicle. "He wants to stay with the Oilers. We'll just have to work on it. They do have some extra picks."

Minnesota has two first round

picks and two second picks but they are offering lower selections.

"In the next two-three days, we'll see what we might come up with," Adams told The Houston Post during a break in the NFL owners' meetings in Orlando, Fla.

Adams admitted that Oilers won't be able to keep Moon, who will earn \$3.25 million next season, and backup Cody Carlson, who will make \$3 million, under the team's \$33.8 million salary cap.

Johnston to consider offers

The Associated Press

IRVING, Texas — The "Moose" is loose.

Fullback Daryl Johnston has said he plans to consider offers from as many as four National Football League teams besides the Dallas Cowboys.

Johnston told the Fort Worth Star-Telegram in Tuesday's editions that he feels assured of making his desired \$1.5 million annual salary over two or three seasons — al-

though it might not be with the Cowboys.

The agent for Johnston told the Star-Telegram and The Dallas Morning News that the Pittsburgh Steelers have entered bidding with the Washington Redskins for the unrestricted free agent.

The only offer that Johnston, known to fans throughout the league as "Moose," has received so far is a three-year deal worth \$4.2 million from the Redskins, agent John Maloney said.

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