

BURCH

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In Saturday's 66-0 loss, USL put the ball on the ground eight times. Several of the turnovers came in or near the red zone.

Run N' Gun

If you want to beat the Washington Huskies (2-1), keep the ball on the ground. In the school's last three regular season losses, opponents have rushed 170 times for 1,107 yards, an astounding 6.51 average. In Washington's latest defeat, Nebraska (3-0) ran 66 times for 384 yards en route to a 27-14 victory.

In all other games in 1996, the Huskies allowed just 938 yards on 336 attempts. Any defensive coordinator would be thrilled holding opponents to 2.79 yards per carry.

Michigan Mauls Da' Bears

Baylor (1-2) did not gain a first down in the second half until picking one up against reserves with 2:10 remaining in the game. The Bears went 3-and-out on its first four possessions of the half and quarterback Jeff Watson was intercepted on the fifth. Baylor had just nine first downs overall and 154 yards total offense.

Jerod Douglas, Baylor's second all-time leading rusher with 2,619 yards, was held to just 12 yards on 12 carries.

Michigan's Anthony Thomas became the first Wolverine freshman to rush for 100 yards in a game since Tyrone Wheatley (1991). Thomas rushed for 122 yards and a touchdown on 21 carries, contributing to Michigan's 344

yards on the ground.

Games of the week

Texas (1-1) at Rice (2-1) — Rice Stadium
 ■ The Owls are flying high after an upset win at Northwestern. Rice downed the Wildcats 40-34 on the strength of Michael Perry's 7-yard touchdown run with 1:24 left in the game. Rice mounted 539 yards of total offense, including 461 yards via the run. The Longhorns must limit Perry's offensive output, as well as start James Brown at quarterback. We all saw that Texas is all or nothing without Brown, and Ricky Williams is not a true Heisman contender in UCLA's 66-3 lashing of the Horns.

#7 Ohio State (3-0) at Missouri (2-1, 0-1) — Memorial Stadium

■ The Buckeye's are on a roll after blitzing three straight opponents to start the year after ending last season with a 20-17 upset win over then undefeated Arizona State University in the Rose Bowl. Missouri, with one of the nation's best option running attacks led by quarterback Corby Jones, looks for its first 3-1 start since 1982.

#22 Texas A&M (2-0) at North Texas (2-2) — Texas Stadium

■ If North Texas can muster some of the mystique from the Cowboy's "Ring of Honor," the Eagles have a chance to upset the undefeated Aggies.

The Aggies must be careful not to overlook a talented squad in preparation for their showdown with Colorado, Oct. 4. The Eagles are not to be taken lightly. North Texas is coming off a last-minute upset of Texas Tech, 30-27.

Cross Country claims crown at Rice meet

STAFF AND WIRE REPORT

It was a happy homecoming for Houston native and cross country runner Scott Lengefeld last weekend. Lengefeld successfully defended his individual title in the 4.1-mile race at the Rice Invitational and led the Aggies to their third straight team victory of the season.

"Scott had all his family and friends and the entire Dobie cross country team as his personal cheerleaders out there, and he didn't disappoint them," Aggie Cross Country Coach Greg Hinze said in a press release.

With Lengefeld topping the list of Aggie placers, the Aggie men garnered five of the top seven places in the meet as they scored a season-best 18 points.

James Menze (21:03) placed second while Stephen Erath (21:04), Todd Fox (21:01) and Christian Henriksen (21:24) placed, third, fifth and seventh respectively.

Hinze was pleased with the team's performance, but believes the team needs to continually improve during the season.

"We didn't run as well as we did at Iowa State last week, but I expected them to be a little flat after such a big meet," Hinze said. "We did what we needed to do to get the win, which is a positive. But we have to race better, or we'll be in trouble at the more competitive meets."

In the women's race, Millie Ondras, Ann Dwyer, Kari Wyatt, Sandie Ramsey and Lauren Berryman, placed eighth, ninth, 10th, 16th and 18th, respectively, to lead the Aggies to a second place finish behind Rice.

Hinze said he is beginning to see improvement in the women's performance.

"I was very happy with the way our women ran today," Hinze said. "They ran much better today than they have all season. If they continue to improve the way they did today, then we are going to be very competitive by the end of the season."

Both the men's and women's cross country teams will compete in the North Texas Invitational in Denton on Oct. 3.

Gonzalez No. 40 against Oakland

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP)—For Juan Gonzalez, there's not a lot of joy in another 40-homer season.

"If I was healthy, I think I could match Griffey and McGwire," said the Texas slugger, who missed the first 24 games this season with an injury to his left thumb. "To hit 40 would be a dream, but I know I could do it."

Gonzalez hit his 40th, a three-run shot, against the Athletics on Tuesday as the Rangers routed Oakland 14-6 to end a four-game Texas losing streak. It was his fourth 40-homer season.

Gonzalez has hit eight home runs against the A's this season, and 26 in his career — the most against any club.

While Gonzalez was dreaming of matching Seattle's Ken Griffey Jr. and the Cardinals' Mark McGwire, Texas manager Johnny Oates was praising his designated hitter.

"It's been a frustrating year for Juan, with what he's had to deal with," Oates said. "He missed 23 games but then he's come through with 40 homers and 130-plus RBIs. He does that every time, and I find that remarkable."

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