

Women's tennis team hosts top-ranked Stanford

By PHILIP W. PETER
Staff writer

For only the third time in March, the Texas A&M Women's Tennis Team will play at home, and the competition could not be tougher as No. 1 Stanford visits the Omar Smith Tennis Center at 1:30 p.m. today.

Coach Bobby Kleinecke is excited about the opportunity to play the No. 1 team in the nation at home. But Kleinecke said playing at home against a school with the tennis history that Stanford has is not as big of an advantage as it might seem.

"In tennis, it (the home court advantage) doesn't play in like it might in other sports," Kleinecke said. "Obviously it's a tough road. But they're just coming off of

a match in which Harvard went 5-4 with them. Harvard was No. 25 and we're No. 30. That's not far off. Things can happen and we're looking forward to it."

Kleinecke said that the team's approach to the match was not necessarily team oriented.

"You need to go into this match thinking more individual wise," Kleinecke said. "When you talk about a team the caliber of Stanford, you go looking individually. Everybody needs to get an individual win and if five people get that, we'll get the team match."

After taking the week of Spring

Break off, junior Monica San Miguel said she thinks the team is ready to come back and work hard to finish off the last nine matches of the season. San Miguel said the team has nothing to lose and is pumped up to play a quality team like Stanford.

"There's a lot more excitement because there is such a challenge before you," San Miguel said. "You want to see how well you can do and maybe, if you're having a really good day and you put everything you have into it, you'll come out with a win and that would be great."

A&M will have to put everything into their performance to get a team win against Stanford because only two players on the team are riding a winning streak. They are confident, however, and ready to accept the challenge.



Sophomore Lisa Dingwall and the Women's tennis team will have their hands full

FURTICK

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**BOSTON
RED SOX**

78-84; 4th in AL East

Boston is trying to claw its way back onto the top of the AL East, but it won't happen this season. They have a great lineup, but don't have the pitching to carry them through the pitcher-rich AL East.

Boston's signing of Pedro Martinez was a step in the right direction, but he may again be the best pitcher in the league on one of the weaker teams. Tim Wakefield and Bret Saberhagen will have to have huge seasons to make up for Boston's lack of pitching depth.

Dennis Eckersley was brought in to add stability to Boston's future closer, Tom Gordon, but has flopped this spring. So even if the Red Sox starters can get the game to the bullpen, they might not be able to breathe easy and collect the win.

But Boston should be better. They have one of the most exciting new players in the game, Nomar Garciaparra, entering his second season, and have one of its most feared hitters, Mo Vaughn.

Boston probably won't contend, but it will beat some teams down the stretch. The Red Sox will be the spoilers in the AL East.

Important Additions: RHP Dennis Eckersley; OF Darren Lewis; C Jim Leyritz; RHP Pedro Martinez.

Big Losses: OF Wil Cordero; RHP Carl Pavano; RHP Aaron Sele.

Projected Record: 80-82; 4th in AL East.

1998 RED SOX

	AVG.	HR	RBI	SB
C-Jim Leyritz*	.282	0	14	1
1B-Mo Vaughn	.315	35	96	2
2B-John Valentini	.306	18	77	7
3B-Tim Lincecum	.286	9	40	1
SS-Nomar Garciaparra	.306	30	98	22
LF-Troy O'Leary	.309	14	34	6
CF-Damon Buford*	.224	8	39	18
RF-Darren Bragg	.257	9	57	10
DH-Reggie Jefferson	.319	13	67	1
SUB-Darren Lewis*	.299	1	10	3

*Leyritz in 37 games with Rangers; Buford with Rangers; Lewis in 26 games with Dodgers

	W-L	ERA	IP
RHP Pedro Martinez*	17-8	1.90	241.1
RHP Tim Wakefield	12-15	4.25	201.1
LHP Steve Avery	6-7	6.42	96.2
RHP Brian Rose*	1-7	3.02	190.2
RHP Bret Saberhagen*	0-1	6.58	26

	W-L	SV	ERA
RHP Dennis Eckersley*	1-5	36	3.91
RHP Tom Gordon	6-10	11	3.74

*Martinez with Expos; Rose with AAA Pawtucket; Saberhagen in 6 games with Red Sox; Eckersley with Cardinals

The Inaugural Season



**TAMPA
BAY
DEVIL
RAYS**

The Devil Rays are going about their first season much the same as the Diamondbacks are — signing big names to fill the roster. But Tampa Bay has strayed away from the big contracts and spent its money on more veterans and less superstars.

Tampa Bay will likely be the last stop for the careers of players such as Fred McGriff, Wade Boggs and Dave Martinez. But the Devil Rays hope they can muster a few more solid years out of these veterans to help the team turn the corner into the next century.

Tampa Bay does boast a decent pitching staff with Wilson Alvarez, Vaughn Eshelman, Dennis Springer and Tony Saunders. These starters will hand the ball to Roberto Hernandez who will be closing the expansion team's games.

It will likely be a long season for the Rays, but no one expected them to actually contend. The worst part about expanding into the AL East in 1998 is that Tampa Bay will be forced to battle the toughest pitching division

in baseball. But Tampa Bay may challenge the 1961 Angels' expansion record of 70 wins.

1998 DEVIL RAYS

	AVG.	HR	RBI	SB
C-John Flaherty SD	.273	9	46	4
1B-Paul Sorrento SEA	.269	31	80	0
2B-Miguel Cairo*	.241	0	1	0
3B-Wade Boggs NYY	.292	4	28	0
SS-Kevin Stocker PHI	.266	4	40	11
LF-Bubba Trammell DET	.228	4	13	3
CF-Quinton McCracken COL	.292	3	36	28
RF-Dave Martinez CWS	.286	12	55	12
DH-Fred McGriff ATL	.277	22	97	5
SUB-Mike Kelley CIN	.293	6	19	6

*Cairo in 16 games with Cubs

	W-L	ERA	IP
LHP Wilson Alvarez SF	4-3	4.48	66.1
RHP Rolando Arrojo*	5-6	3.43	89.1
LHP Tony Saunders FLO-6	4-6	4.61	111.1
RHP Dennis Springer ANA	9-9	5.18	194.2
LHP Vaughn Eshelman BOS	3-3	6.33	42.2

	W-L	SV	ERA
RHP Roberto Hernandez SF	5-2	4	2.48
RHP Jim Mecir NYY	0-4	0	5.88

*Arrojo with A St. Petersburg

Important Additions: 1B Fred McGriff; 1B Paul Sorrento; SS Kevin Stocker; RHP Wilson Alvarez; RHP Roberto Hernandez; OF Dave Martinez.

Big Losses: 1B Dmitri Young; OF Bobby Abreu.

Projected Record: 68-94; 5th in AL East.

— Jeremy Furtick is a senior journalism major.

AGGIE SPORTS BRIEF

from staff and wire reports

Men's swim off to NCAA

The Texas A&M Men's and Diving Teams will be ranked on the line in the NCAA Division I Men's Swimming and Diving Championships, held in Auburn, Ala. on Thursday through Saturday. Junior Mark Nash, lone representative of the Aggies, will be competing with the Aggies. Kevin Wright will be competing with the Aggies. The championships will be held at Auburn University campus. The championships will be held at Auburn University campus. Preliminaries will be held at 8 a.m. with finals set for 7 p.m.

Woody's

21 and over please
Ladies Night (no cover ladies)

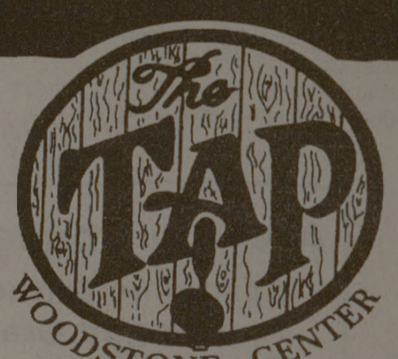
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HURRICANES
ALL NIGHT TONIGHT

Fajitas
Late
Night



Fajitas
Late
Night

\$2.75
Pitchers
ALL NIGHT
TONIGHT!



Cheap
Beer

Fri

Return of the Famous

CRAWFIS
BOIL \$3.00
5 p.m. - ?

Saturday

FINAL FOU

Doors open at 4:00 p.m.
27 TV's and Surround Sound
FREE HOT DOGS!!!
Drink Specials

Monday

NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP
Hotdogs • Nachos • Frito Pie
.50¢ DRAFT/BAR 'til Halftime
Party Safe and Always Designate a Driver