

Men's team travels to Waco to wrestle Bears

By AL LAZARUS
Staff writer

The No. 17 Texas A&M Men's Tennis Team (12-4, 5-2) will take on the No. 25 Baylor Bears at 1:30 p.m. today in Waco and will return home to the Omar Smith Tennis Center on Saturday for a 6 p.m. match against the No. 39 Kansas Jayhawks.

The Aggies defeated Baylor last year, 5-2, when the Bears visited College Station. A&M Coach Tim Cass is quick to point out this year's Baylor team is a much improved one from last season.

"Baylor's coach has done a great job this year as far as being in contention for the Big 12 Championship," Cass said. "They are going to be a good rivalry for us now and in the future."

Baylor is the only Big 12 team that has defeated the University of Texas this season, no small feat considering the Longhorns are currently ranked No. 7 and have

been in the top-ten all season.

Carlos Tori, senior and team captain for the Aggies, stressed the importance of today's match against the Bears.

"This is a very big match for us," Tori said. "After losing to Colorado, we know we probably can't win (the Big 12 regular season championship), but this match is for us. We want to go in there and win every single match."

A&M's match against the Jayhawks on Saturday will mark the last Aggie tennis match at the Omar Smith Tennis Center, as the new Texas A&M Varsity Tennis Center is set to open in June.

The Aggies traveled to Kansas last year to take on the Jayhawks and were defeated, 4-3.

"Kansas is a great team," Tori said. "They were ranked very high in the nation last year and have returned almost the same team this year."

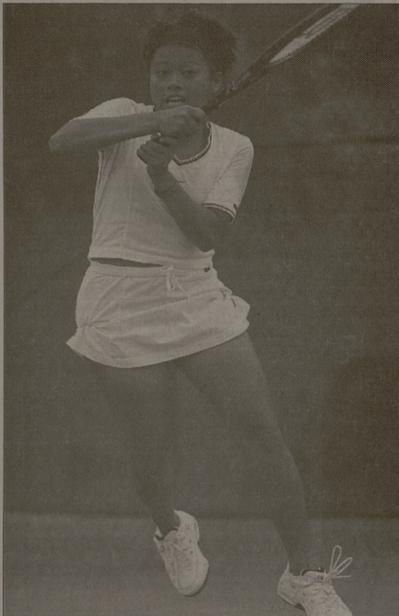
Tori said emotions will be running high for him on Saturday, as the match will mark his last home match as an Aggie.

"I know the Kansas guys very well, and if I could pick any team to play against in my last home match, it would be them," Tori said. "I will be ready to play."

Aggies prepare for last match at Omar Smith

Texas A&M Women's Tennis Team closes out era against Big 12 rival Kansas

By KATIE MISH
Staff writer



GREG MCREYNOLDS/THE BATTALION
Freshman **Eva Marcial** was the only Aggie victor against Texas and will face Kansas on Saturday.

The Texas A&M Women's Tennis Team plays their last match at Omar Smith Tennis Center against Big 12 opponent Kansas, Saturday at 1:30 p.m. The match is also the last of the season for the Aggies.

Coach Bob Kleinecke said it will be a hard day, because they are leaving a complex with a lot of history, and senior players Vanessa Rooks and Monica Rebolledo are playing for the last time in College Station.

"It's sad, but we're excited about the new facility," Kleinecke said. "We're closing down Omar Smith, but we're getting ready to start a new era over at a new court, so it's exciting too."

Rebolledo said she just wants to play well in her last match and come up with a win. Rebolledo is one win away from beating the Texas A&M record for career wins.

"I'm looking forward to the match," Rebolledo said. "I'm excited to play well, and I want to remember my last match."

Kleinecke said Kansas will be a tough match,

and that they have an even better team than the Aggies faced last year.

"We had a dog fight with them last year," he said. "We should have won the match last year. This year, they got their number one player back, but if we come in and we're as psyched to play as we were against Texas, I feel good about our chances."

Freshman Eva Marcial said she thinks the team wants to beat Kansas even more than they wanted to beat Texas, and she thinks they will play hard. Marcial said it should be as much of a battle as last year.

Rebolledo said the team has been looking forward to playing Kansas this year, and that everyone is prepared to give 100 percent.

"This year, we're giving it everything we have," she said. "We lost to them last year, but I think we can beat them this year."

Kleinecke said the Aggies need to play strong against Kansas and slow down the pace of the match.

"The key thing is just some errors, and taking our time on the key points, making sure we're there and concentrating," Kleinecke said. "It's something that we need to address."

"We're closing down Omar Smith, but we're getting ready to start a new era."



Kleinecke

Tech reports another NCAA rules violation

LUBBOCK (AP) — Texas Tech improper paid 66 current athletes' fees to take the Texas Academic Skills Program test and has reported the violation to the NCAA, which was already considering whether to punish the school, an official said. We (reported) it to the NCAA in regard to the university paying ATP fees for student-athletes and for students, so it was an extra benefit," Tech compliance director Burton said.



internal memo obtained by the Lubbock Avalanche-Journal.

The violation probably would not be so bad if Tech were not already in trouble, Burton said. The school on Tuesday announced massive scholarship cuts in six sports and a three-year probation while admitting to varied NCAA violations.

The NCAA could further sanction the university within the next two months.

"I think it was an issue lingering when I got here," said Burton, who arrived at the athletic department last summer to repair Tech's ineffectual academic compliance program. "It was an issue that had been raised, and it probably came up during our audit."

Manning vs. Leaf

Chargers general manager Bobby Beathard cannot lose with No. 2 draft pick

SAN DIEGO (AP) — Fifteen minutes. That's all it will take for the San Diego Chargers to learn the identity of their franchise quarterback.

The Indianapolis Colts will open Saturday's NFL draft by taking Peyton Manning or Ryan Leaf. Choosing second, the Chargers get whoever's left. They hope it's Leaf, with his strong arm and emotional leadership.

Leaf hopes to go to the Chargers, too.

"It would probably be the ideal situation," said Leaf, a 6-foot-5, 244-pounder who has relatives in the San Diego area and has let it be known for months he wants to wear the Chargers' lightning bolts.

General manager Bobby Beathard, who generally loathes first-round picks, is glad he has one this year.

Whether their new quarterback starts right away or needs more time to learn the offense, the Chargers begin a new era. Stan Humphries, the only quarterback

to take San Diego to the Super Bowl, retired rather than risk another concussion.

And the Chargers paid a king's ransom to Arizona just to move up one spot in the pecking order. Knowing the likes of Leaf and Manning don't come around often, Beathard sent this year's second-round pick and next year's No. 1, plus star punt returner Eric Metcalf and linebacker Patrick Sapp to the Cardinals.

Only time will tell whether the Chargers are getting another Dan Fouts, who guided the Chargers during the Air Coryell years and landed in the Hall of Fame.

"I can't compare anyone to Dan because he's a Hall of Famer," Beathard said. "But you hope and expect that either one of these guys can be the kind of quarterback who's recognized as that special, in that elite group. Barring injury and having a good supporting cast, that's how we evaluate these guys."

Beathard said the Chargers will

be happy with Leaf or Manning, but it's believed they favor Leaf, a junior who left Washington State after leading the Cougars to their first Rose Bowl in 67 years.

Leaf and Manning are both big and come from successful programs. Leaf is a little bigger and the Chargers like his arm strength.

"There just aren't many guys who come along with any stronger arm than a Ryan Leaf," Beathard said.

When asked which of his attributes means the most to him, Leaf said: "I just think I'm an emotional leader. The players around me feed off it."

Leaf, who grew up in Great Falls, Mont., says he plays for the love of the game, but now he and Manning will get a lot of money. The two are expected to seek signing bonuses ranging between \$7 million and \$8 million.

Leaf said if the Chargers draft him, he won't expect to start, but rather earn the job. He said he's told his

agent, Leigh Steinberg, he wants to be in camp on time, with no holdout.

A key decision for the Chargers will be when the rookie, be it Leaf or Manning, is ready to start.

"These two guys probably can handle it, going in there," Beathard said. "If by the time we play our first regular-season game, if the decision is that this guy's going to play, I think that'll be part of it, that they're going to be able to handle the bad things that happen," Beathard said.

For the Chargers, lots of bad things happened last year as they lost their final eight games to finish 4-12. The team has rebuilt its offensive line and brought back running back Natrone Means to help ease the pressure on a rookie quarterback.

"I think there will be lots of pressure," coach Kevin Gilbride said. "I think probably we ourselves would love to see what he could do and we'll be tempted to put him in right away. I think what we have to do is be very smart about our decision, when to do that."

Attention Seniors

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English 210 & 301 (Tech Writing)
Force Dates

<p>Summer I</p> <p>Wednesday, May 6 Thursday, May 7 Friday, May 29</p>	<p>Summer II</p> <p>Wednesday, May 6 Thursday, May 7 Monday, July 6</p>
<p>Fall</p> <p>Wednesday, May 6 Thursday, May 7 Monday, August 28</p>	

Forcing Hours for all dates
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1. Make sure you have the correct prerequisite (English 104 or equivalent).
2. Come to **Blocker 224** during the force dates and times listed above.
3. Bring a letter on department stationery from your academic advisor stating that you are graduating in the semester for which you are registering.

No forces will be done during pre-registration.
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If you can't make these dates, send a representative with your letter and a list of preferred times.

Forcing Information line: 862-7724

Web site:
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For additional info: 845-4728

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