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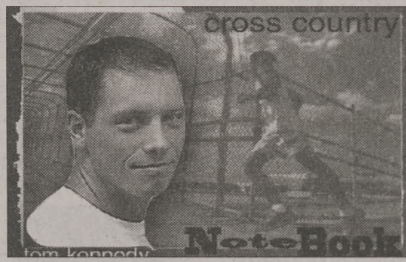
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8/98

Freshmen bring potential to CC team

The Texas A&M Men's and Women's Cross Country Teams both showed early-season promise last weekend, taking fourth and second, respectively, at the Miami (Ohio) University Invitational.



Measuring Success

The Aggies received their first team scores of the season last Saturday in Ohio. The women scored 53 points, placing second behind Ball State. The men scored 94 points and finished fourth out of seven teams.

Team scores are compiled by adding the places of the top five runners on each team.

The men's top seven runners — the number that is on the finalized roster — all finished within a one-minute span of each other.

The women were more impressive, having nine runners finish within a minute of each other. Their top five runners, which are the runners who count toward the team score, all finished with-

in a 30-second span. A small time span between teammates is ideal because it gives competing teams less opportunity for their athletes to place between the Aggies' runners.

Schedule Lightens

This weekend, the Aggie Harriers travel to Hattiesburg, Miss., to compete in the Southern Mississippi Open on Sept. 18.

This will mark the third weekend in a row the Aggies have competed. After this weekend, they will begin racing every other weekend. They will also get their first glimpse of district competition at the Texas A&M Invitational in mid-October.

Odds and Ends

This year's freshman class brought an impressive resumé with them.

There are a combined eight state championships among them as well as numerous All-State and All-American honors.

Chris Lee won the Texas Christian Interscholastic League Cross Country, 1600-meter and 3200-meter titles while at Dallas Jesuit High School.

Kayci Waters was a three-time Texas State Cross Country Champion at 3A Devine High School. Lockhart standout and USA Track and Field All-American Kristy Bonn won the Texas State 4A 1600-meter title.

Another Bonn from Lockhart High School, Tommy Bonn, edged A&M freshman Brandon Beasley in the 1600- and 3200-meter races to prevent him from sweeping the distance events. Beasley won the Texas State crown earlier in the year.

Freshman Melissa Gulli is currently ranked seventh on the Texas Track and Field All-Time 3200-Meter Rankings with a time of 10 minutes and 37 seconds...Sophomore Jim Darcey has come a long way since joining the team as a freshman walk-on. After redshirting last year, he has become a solid runner for the Aggies, coming in as A&M's top finisher last weekend...Freshman Lane Bartle is the only A&M runner to come out of 2A Poteet High school, mer Aggie standout and final Southwestern Conference Champion Matt Priest was also a runner for Poteet.

Runners of the Week

This week's Runners of the Week are sophomore Jim Darcey and freshman Melissa Gulli. Darcey led the team with a 14th-place finish while covering the five-mile course in a time of 26 minutes and 19 seconds. Taking the honor for the second straight week, led the women with a fourth-place finish. She ran the three-mile course in a time of 18:46.

Tech prepares to host resurgent Fresno State

LUBBOCK, Texas (AP) — After two weeks, Texas Tech hasn't allowed a touchdown, leads the Big 12 in total offensive yardage and has scored more than 30 points in each game.

But those stats were forged in victories against lightweights Texas-El Paso and North Texas. This week's matchup against Fresno State will be the team's first real test.

While not attracting much attention before the season, Fresno State has bolstered its reputation by giving No. 16 Colorado a scare last weekend, threatening to tie the game in the final seconds. Colorado hung on to win 29-21.

Tech players said they took notice of Fresno's performance and expect a tough game.

"They have a real quick defense," said offensive guard Erik Carruth. "They don't have a lot of big guys but they swarm to the ball the way our guys do. They're definitely the best team we've played this year."

Coach Spike Dykes conceded that Fresno will be a chance for the team to gauge how good it really is. "It's nice to be 2-0, don't get me wrong," Dykes said. "But the schedule has a lot to do with that."

In Tech's first game of the season, running back Ricky Williams ran for a career-best 251 yards and two touchdowns, leading the Red Raiders to a 35-3 victory over UTEP.

The following week, Tech left North Texas with

heads bowed on the bench after a 30-0 beating. In that game, Williams ran for 170 yards and two touchdowns, and the team gained 531 yards in first downs while holding the Eagles to 125 yards.

But defensive end Montae Reagor said the team did not take those victories for granted.

"We can't be patting ourselves on the back about something like that," Reagor said. "Fresno is tough. We have great athletes on both sides of the ball. We expect them to come out and give us a good game. Maybe they're better than people think they are."

Reagor said his team needs to live up to the reputation of the team on playing well.

"Our job is to not come into a game expecting this or that," Reagor said. "We come out and play the way we can if it's the No. 1 team in the nation or the No. 100 team."

Fresno State's loss to Colorado was the team's game of the season.

Bulldog coach Pat Hill said he expects Tech to be a tough challenge and struck down insinuations that should be pleased just to have played Colorado. "I don't believe in four year-year plans and year plans," Hill said. "Nothing else is acceptable. Not being young or any of that crap. I believe in winning now."



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