

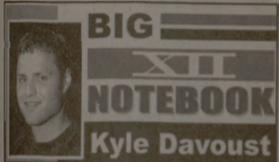
SPORTS

THE BATTALION

Page 1B • Thursday, October 2, 2003

UT happy with QB situation

ESPN College Gameday will be in Austin Saturday to watch the No. 13 University of Texas Longhorns host No. 16 Kansas State Wildcats. The last time the Gameday crew visited Austin was in 1999 when the Longhorns upset No. 3 Nebraska on their way to a Big 12 South title. The Longhorns hope to replicate that success in a game that should be this year's first marquee matchup between two Big 12 teams.



BIG XII NOTEBOOK
Kyle Davoust

Texas enters this game with the quarterback collaboration of Chance Mock and Vincent Young. UT coach Mack Brown is quick to point out that this time around there is no controversy in Austin.

"We like the fact that both quarterbacks are playing well," Brown said in his weekly press conference. "Right now, we like the one-two punch they bring us."

This one-two punch is making game planning harder for opposing defenses.

While the Longhorns are working on the collaboration of two quarterbacks, Kansas State is just happy to have starting quarterback Eli Roberson back. After missing two and a half games, Roberson will be ready to suit up Saturday.

Roberson's return can only mean trouble for the Longhorns.

"He can beat you with the quarterback draw, the quarterback counter, with the option and scrambling," Brown said. "Then he can beat you with his arm. He's a guy that will give us as big a challenge as we will have the rest of the year."

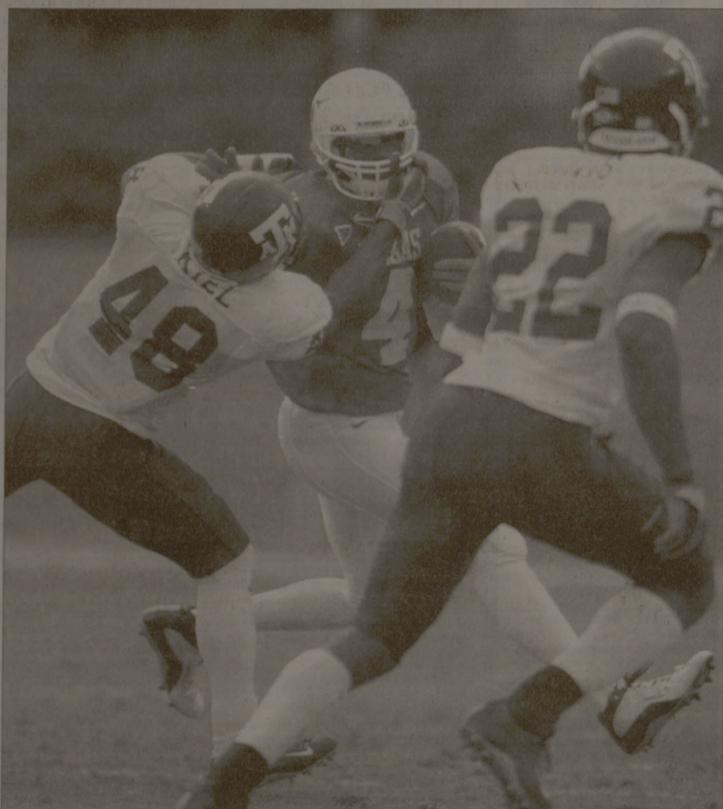
Kickoff is set for 2:37 p.m. on ABC Sports.

Snakebit Cyclones

There is not a more lopsided match-up historically in the Big 12 than that of No. 1 Oklahoma and unranked Iowa State. The Sooners hold a 64-5-2 overall record against the Cyclones, who have only one win and a tie to show for their last 37 meetings against Oklahoma. None of Iowa State's wins have come since the inception of the Big 12.

Things aren't looking any better for the Cyclones this time around. The team has 15 players who have been lost for the season or have missed games. The latest victims are running back Hiawatha Rutland, out for the rest of the year, and defensive lineman Jordan Carstens, sidelined indefinitely.

"It's one of the very few things I dislike



FILE PHOTO • THE BATTALION

University of Texas wide receiver Roy Williams, shown here during last season's win against Texas A&M, will probably catch passes from two different quarterbacks during Saturday's game with Kansas State.

about coaching football," Iowa State coach Dan McCarney said of the injuries while talking to The Associated Press Monday. "You still love them, you still support them and help them in any way we can. But obviously it's one of the toughest things we deal with in this position."

With such a history of dominance and a banged-up team in front of them, many would assume the Sooners would be looking ahead to next week's Red River Shootout against Texas. OU coach Bob Stoops denies this claim.

Stoops refused to answer questions about the Texas game and even grew angry when asked about the upcoming rivalry game.

After letups against marginal teams have squashed Oklahoma's national title hopes in each of the past two seasons, Stoops has stressed realizing the importance of each game.

Kickoff is scheduled for 6 p.m. and will be televised on TBS Superstation.

Bufs wary of singing Baylor blues

After losing back-to-back games against Washington State and Florida State, the Colorado Buffaloes are eager to start conference play.

"It is a two season type of arrangement for us," said Colorado coach Gary Barnett during his Tuesday press conference.

"Coming off of two losses, you sort of want that part of the season to be gone. There is no question that this starts a second season, and its what you gauge all of your goals around in the conference."

Baylor is looking for its fifth conference win since joining the Big 12, and its first victory over Colorado since beating the then-No. 12 ranked Buffaloes 16-14 in 1991.

The Bears hope that an improved running game featuring senior Rashad Armstrong will help them finally compete against the big boys in the conference.

Kickoff is set for 11:30 a.m. and will be televised live on FOX Sports Southwest.

Aggies melt down in Austin, lose in 5

Staff & Wire
THE BATTALION

The Texas A&M volleyball team wasted a 2-0 lead Wednesday night on the road against the University of Texas, dropping a 29-31, 24-30, 30-21, 31-29, 18-16 decision to the Longhorns.

This was the second straight loss for A&M in Austin.

The loss drops the Aggies' record to 10-4 and 2-2 in the Big 12. UT improves to 8-5 and 3-1 in the league.

A&M's defense couldn't stop UT's double-edged attack of Mira Topic and Bethany Howden. The two combined for 42 kills, and Topic had a .306 hitting percentage.

After falling behind 10-8 in

the fifth game, A&M went on a run to take the lead.

The Aggies had match point twice, at 14-13 and 15-14, but two kills by Topic put the Longhorns ahead. Topic served UT's final point, which came on a hitting error by A&M's Beth Skypala.

After dropping games one and two, the Longhorns got on a roll in the third game, posting a .406 hitting percentage. The Aggies got as close as 21-18, but UT attackers, aided by two A&M miscues, pushed Texas to a 9-3 run to close the game.

The Aggies trailed by as many as five in the fourth game before rallying to tie the score at 29. But back-to-back kills by UT's Kathy Hann and Jenny Andrews forced the fifth game.

Middle blocker Melissa Munsch led the Aggies with 18 kills and hit .209 for the match. Four other Aggies reached double figures in kills: Carol Price (17), Laura Jones (15), Kendra Felder (13), and Skypala (12).



MUNSCH

Smith's return could be interesting affair

By Jaime Aron
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

IRVING — After years of only tapping Emmitt Smith in practice, some Dallas Cowboys defenders are ready to take him down for real.

And if there's a little extra oomph on their hits, well, Smith will only have himself to blame.

The feelings surrounding Smith's return to Texas Stadium on Sunday turned from nostalgic to nasty after he told Sports Illustrated that during his last season in Dallas he "felt like a diamond surrounded by trash."

Most players sullied by that statement held their tongues at first. Now that Smith and his new team, the Arizona Cardinals, are coming to town, the Cowboys are using the line to get them fired up.

"Whatever I need to use to

motivate me to have a good game, I'm going to use — and I'm definitely going to use that," said defensive end Ebenezer Ekuban.

Ekuban is among those who initially ignored the comment, saying, "I just blew it off as Emmitt being Emmitt." Even safety Roy Williams, a rookie last season during Smith's 13th and final year in Dallas, knew enough not to be offended by the now-infamous line.

"Man, Emmitt pops off all the time," Williams said.

Linebacker Dexter Coakley called the statement "very painful," but added that Smith was just frustrated with how far the team had fallen — from three Super Bowls in four years during the mid-1990s to three straight five-win seasons.

"Anyone who is a competitor,

See Emmitt on page 3B

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