

LADY RAIDER TENNIS



TECH WOMEN HOME TO FINISH BIG 12 SCHEDULE

The Texas Tech Women's Tennis team returns home after a successful weekend on the road in Kansas, taking two wins over Kansas State and Kansas. The Lady Raiders will wrap up their regular schedule at home, first hosting No. 68 Oklahoma State on Fri., April 11, at 5 p.m. followed by Oklahoma on Sun., April 13, at noon.

The women's team found themselves back in the Intercollegiate Tennis Association/FILA national rankings this week, sitting at No. 64. Currently tied for fourth in the Big 12 with Colorado, Tech holds a 4-3 conference record, 11-7 overall.

LAST TIME OUT

In Manhattan, Kan., Tech recovered from a disappointing loss the week before by moving passed the Wildcats 5-2. Two days later the Lady Raiders continued the momentum by pulling off a 4-3 upset over the ranked Jayhawks. Junior Samantha van der Drift sealed the clincher for her team in the No. 1 position, winning in three sets over Magdalena Tokarczyk, 6-4, 1-6, 7-5. Three players went 2-0 on the weekend, with senior Janet Durham adjusting well in the No. 3 spot, and freshmen Kelsy Garland and Simone Templeton holding down the No. 2 and 4 spots, respectively. The No. 1 duo of Durham and van der Drift also went 2-0 in matches, advancing to 4-2 in the Big 12.

BIG 12 CONFERENCE - STRONGER THAN EVER

Showcasing some of the premier athletes in college tennis today, the Big 12 Conference continues to have some of the top women's tennis programs in the country. Eight teams are currently ranked in the ITA top 75, including No. 6 Baylor, No. 20 Texas, No. 33 Texas A&M, No. 64 Texas Tech, No. 67 Nebraska, No. 68 Oklahoma State, No. 74 Colorado, and No. 75 Kansas.



SENIOR SPOTLIGHT

Leading the team this year is senior Janet Durham. Durham's noted strength is in doubles where she played the No. 1 spot last season with teammate Samantha van der Drift posting a record of 12-6 at No. 1, 7-5 in Big 12 play. She currently is number one in Tech's all-time record book in career doubles victories with 85, passing former teammate Lakann Wagley on March 1st against SMU. She also falls into six other categories, including No. 2 in career victories with 73, No. 1 in single-season doubles victories with 28 in 2006. Durham has posted a 21-10 overall record during the fall and spring, including a 2-0 record at No. 2, 2-1 at No. 3, and 8-4 in the No. 4 singles position.

THE LINE-UP

Playing in the No. 1 singles spot for the squad is sophomore Samantha van der Drift. The DeZilk, Holland native enters her second season at No. 1 for the Raiders, and will also play in the No. 1 doubles spot with teammate Janet Durham. Filling the No. 2 position this season is freshman, Lubbock-native Kelsy Garland, who already this season has 11-6 duals record.

Senior Durham moved into the No. 3 spot last weekend, where she has made herself right at home after holding a 14-9 record there last season and already is 2-1 in Big 12 play. Another outstanding freshman in this year's lineup is Simone Templeton who shifted to No. 4 and continues to build upon her 12-6 duals record. The freshman duo of Garland and Templeton will also play in the No. 3 doubles spot this weekend for the eighth straight time.

Rounding out the bottom half of the line-up includes sophomore Kerryn Potgieter and freshman Leah Roberts playing in the No. 5 and 6 positions, respectively. Potgieter doubles with teammate Brenna Jackson at No. 2, where the duo are 4-2 this season including two clinching victories for Tech at home.

2007-2008 ROSTER

Maria Jose Andres (ma-ree-a ho-say on-dress)	SO	San Luis Potosi, Mexico/Instituto Lomas del Real
Ingrid Ballus (ball-yoo)	FR	Barcelona, Spain/Lycees Francais
Kyla Coleman	SO	Levelland, Texas/Levelland
Janet Durham (dur-um)	SR	Corpus Christi, Texas/Flour Bluff
Kelsy Garland	FR	Lubbock, Texas/Coronado
Brenna Jackson	SR	Wichita Falls, Texas/Rider
Kerryn Potgieter (pot-gee-ter)	SO	Pietermaritzburg, South Africa/Epworth
Laura Ring	FR	Friendswood, Texas/Pendleton
Leah Roberts	FR	Wrexham, United Kingdom/Yale at Wrexham
Simone Templeton	FR	Austin, Texas/Oregon
Samantha van der Drift	JR	DeZilk, Holland/Sint Joris

2008 SCHEDULE

1/22	Texas State	W, 7-0
1/25	Texas-Pan American	W, 7-0
1/27	Air Force	W, 6-1
2/1	#39 Arizona	L, 4-3
2/2	San Diego	W, 4-0
2/8	North Texas	W, 6-1
2/9	#68 Nevada	W, 4-3
2/15	#49 Boise State	L, 5-2
2/16	#58 BYU	L, 4-3
3/1	#62 SMU	W, 5-2
3/2	#31 TCU	L, 7-0
3/14	#58 Nebraska*	L, 6-1
3/15	Iowa State*	W, 5-2
3/22	#5 Baylor*	L, 7-0
3/28	Missouri*	W, 6-1
3/30	Colorado*	L, 6-1
4/4	Kansas State*	W, 5-2
4/6	Kansas*	W, 4-3
4/11	Oklahoma State*	5 PM
4/13	Oklahoma*	12 PM
4/18	Texas A&M*	5 PM
4/20	Texas*	Noon
4/24-27	Big 12 Tournament	
5/11-13	NCAA 1st & 2nd Rounds	
5/17-20	NCAA Championships	

*indicates Big 12 Conference match

SCOUTING THE OPPONENT

#68 OKLAHOMA STATE APRIL 11, 2008 - 5 PM

The Oklahoma State Cowgirls hold a 8-7 record this season, 2-4 in the Big 12, beating both Nebraska and Iowa State at home. Iryna Tkachenko leads the team in singles with an 8-5 record at No. 1, and doubles with Sasha Belova with a 2-0 record at No. 1. Tech lost to OSU 5-2 in Stillwater last year, and trails in the series record 8-5.

OKLAHOMA APRIL 13, 2008 - NOON

Like their in-state rivals, the Sooners are also 2-4 in conference play, 9-8 overall in dual matches, heading to the South Plains. After a rough 4-3 loss to the Cornhuskers, OU's only Big 12 wins were over Kansas State and Iowa State. The Sooners are led in singles by Ana Constantinescu who has posted an impressive 12-3 record at No. 1, 4-2 in Big 12. Constantinescu teams with Chelsea Orr in the No. 1 doubles position, and the two are 11-4 at No. 1 this season. In their last meeting Tech suffered a 4-3 loss to OU in Norman, but looks to tab in another win in their favor as the Sooners lead the series 9-6.

WOMEN'S TENNIS CONTACT

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○ **GENERAL INFORMATION** ○

Name of School Texas Tech
 City/Zip Lubbock, TX 79409
 Founded 1923
 Enrollment 29,000
 Nickname Lady Raiders
 School Colors Scarlet and Black
 Facility McLeod Tennis Center
 Affiliation NCAA I
 Conference Big 12
 Chancellor Kent Hance
 President Dr. Jon Whitmore
 Athletics Director Gerald Myers
 Athletic Dept. Phone (806) 742-3355

○ **MEDIA RELATIONS** ○

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○ **COACHING STAFF** ○

Head Coach Cari Groce
 Alma Mater/Year Four-year Letterwinner at
 Nebraska
 Oklahoma State, 1988
 Record at school (yrs.) 54-42 (5 yrs.)
 Career record (yrs.) 204-178 (18 yrs.)
 Tennis Office Phone (806) 742-3355
 Best time to reach coach Contact SID
 Asst. Coach (Alma Mater/Year) Todd Petty
 Midwestern State

○ **TEAM INFORMATION** ○

Overall record last year 11-11
 Conference record/finish 4-7/t7th
 Final Ranking last year (poll) NR
 Letterwinners returning/lost 5/6
 Newcomers 6



GROCE BRINGS HONORS TO TECH

At the helm for the Lady Raiders is Coach Cari Groce, who enters her fifth season as head coach of the women's tennis program at Tech. After spending 12 years coaching at Washington State, Groce holds a career record of 204-178, 54-42 at Tech, Groce's resume reflects her devotion to the game of tennis, both on and off the court. She was named the 2006 Professional Tennis Registry Coach of the Year and received the 2007 USTA/ITA Community Service Award for the Texas section.

With a good mixture of veterans and newcomers, Coach Groce is excited to see what this season has in store for her team. "I think we have come through the first half of the season putting things together well, playing hard, and fighting in each match," said Groce. "Our players are able to hold their composure in tough matches, and I know they will do well in conference matches."

In reference to the team as a whole, Groce commented, "I am a very fortunate coach this year because we have a great group this year. We have a great fan-base, especially with our parents who come and follow us on the road because they are very supportive of the team and the program. The team is an amazing group of ladies and works hard for the school, the fans, and the coaching staff everyday."

Quick Facts:

- 2007 USTA/ITA Community Service Award-Texas Section
- 2006 PTR Coach of the Year
- ITA Board of Directors
- Former PAC-10 and ITA Northwest Region Women's Coach of the Year (2001-02)

NEW ASSISTANT COACH



Head Coach Cari Groce added a new face to her coaching staff this season, Assistant Coach Todd Petty. Petty joined the team in November replacing former Tech letterwinner Irina Tereschenko.

"I grew up in Texas and am familiar with Texas Tech tennis," commented Petty on choosing the position. "Over the year's I've seen a lot of potential and growth in the program. I look forward to working with Coach Groce and learning from her and her experience with the sport. I think Tech is in a great conference and this is a great starting point and great opportunity for me."

During his collegiate career, Petty garnered several post-season honors. He was named to the Southland All-Conference team in both 1999 and 2000 at Texas-San Antonio. After transferring to Midwestern State he was named to the 2002 Lone Star Conference All-Academic team and named an ITA Academic All-American.

Petty came to Lubbock after serving as the head coach at Rider High School in Wichita Falls, Texas. At Rider Coach Petty mentored several students to state qualifying berths, including in 2003 when three Rider tennis players qualified for the 4-A state tournament. In addition, his teams have finished in the top five in the state of Texas from 2004-2006, with the 2006 team placing third. The Rider tennis program has grown to have 70 participants, the largest it has ever been.

While in school, he also served as a graduate assistant for Midwestern State where he was involved in recruiting, coaching, and traveling with the men's and women's tennis programs. In 2003 and 2004, the men's tennis team qualified for the NCAA Tournament.

MATCH DAY

All matches are scheduled to be played at the McLeod Tennis Center located next to UMC Hospital on Indiana Ave. Changes will be made accordingly in such cases as bad weather, and matches will move indoors to the Lubbock Country Club located off of I-27 near the Lubbock International Airport. Notification of all changes will be available on-line at www.texastech.com.

Live updates will be available for every home and road match on-line, as well as final results posted on the women's page in the post-game release. For more information and to view live updates, please visit the women's tennis page at www.texastech.com.

● MATCH DAY EVENTS ●

PROMOTIONS:

- **FREE PIZZA**
- **INFLATEABLE JUMPER**
- **RAFFLE FOR TECH MEMORABILIA**
- **FREE WATERBOTTLES AND T-SHIRTS**
- **SERVING FOR DOUGH CONTEST**