



**MAKING THE
GROUND SHAKE!**

06-28-08

Quake swelter under the Texas sun

Bedford, Tx – California's foray into the playoffs for the first time in 7 years would not be what they had hoped for. For three weeks, the Quake players and coaches studied everything that the Dallas Diamonds do during the course of a game. Because of the location and knowing that the weather would be a factor, the Quake coaches upped conditioning to 30 minutes each practice. Combined with the hours spent watching film and the repetition during practice, California was ready for a showdown. Unfortunately, nothing could be done to replicate the heat and humidity that was present on gameday. Dallas played four of their five home games this season at 7 PM. This game, due to a scheduling conflict, started at 3 PM. Both teams would have to focus on their opponent and not the weather.

Dallas received the ball first and #44 Angela Mims, let everyone in Texas know that California knows how to hit. A couple plays later Dallas was faced with a 4th & 5 and like they have all year, went for it. They were unsuccessful as #88 Alex Kirby forced Dallas' superstar #46 Jessica Springer, to take evasive action. As Springer evaded the pursuit of Kirby, #74 Erica Morgan took a superb angle and forced the all-star out of bounds well short of the first down. The Quake offense quickly went three and out and punted the ball back to Dallas. The Diamonds then did something they had rarely been forced to do, drive the ball down the field. It took 10 plays but eventually found the end zone when #9 Karen Seimears, pressured by #81 Sarah Oliver, connected with #3 Odessa Jenkins for a short TD pass. The Quake offense needed to mount a drive of its' own to give the defense some time to regain some energy. Despite great field position, they were unable to do so and once again, punted the ball away.

The rest of the half was filled with missed tackles and most of the Quake team on the sideline suffering from heat exhaustion. On several occasions, California only had 10 players on the field. Down 28-0, the Quake managed to put together a drive that resulted in a 25-yard field goal by Oliver. #5 Monique Zaky was able to get the ball down to the 5-yard line but after being

tackled seemed a bit woozy. As she was being tackled at the 5, she took an unintentional hit to the head as she was already on the ground. At halftime, she was declared ineligible and would watch the rest of the game from the sideline.

The second half started off very similar to the first. The Quake offense unable to move the ball consistently and forcing the defense to keep the score from getting out of hand. The first two offensive possessions of the second half for the Diamonds would result in zero points. When the defense was fresh, Dallas struggled as much as the California offense. In the end, the weather and constant rotation of fresh players by the Diamonds would be California's undoing. California did move the ball better in the second half, getting ball to the 5-yard line once again. Unable to score a touchdown, they decided to line up for another field goal. The Quake would fake it but Dallas was ready and kept the Quake out of the end zone for the only the second time this year. The final score would read 69-3.

Here are some of the statistical highlights from the game:

Offense

- #5 Monique Zaky – 15 touches, 109 yards
- #12 Catherine Vivo – 4/9 passing, 44 yards
- #83 Melissa Strother – 2 receptions, 42 yards
- #33 Julie Blied – 3 receptions, 22 yards

Defense

- #44 Angela Mims – 6 tackles
- #52 Nancy MacLeod – 5 tackles
- #20 Alicia Freeman – 4 tackles, Fumble Recovery
- #74 Erica Morgan – 8 tackles, TFL

The 2008 California Quake would like to thank all of our fans for your unwavering support throughout the season. As the team says at the end of every game, "QUAKE FANS

California Quake

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