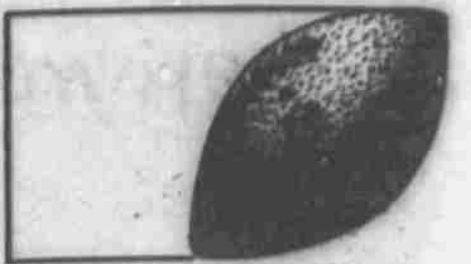


sports



Mizzou is through if stats are true

By Mike McCarthy

UNL's offense will cruise "Easy Street" and the University of Missouri's (MU) offense will hit a dead end tomorrow, at least if football statistics are indicative of performance.

The Huskers lead the Big 8 Conference in rushing defense, yielding 77 yards a game, MU is last, allowing 240 yards per contest. The Huskers also are first in total defense, giving up 203 yards, while the Tigers are last with 345 yards.

Husker defensive coordinator Monte Kiffin Thursday told a crowd of about 900 at the weekly Review-Preview breakfast at the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education that Missouri's weak point was defense.

"They might be the greatest team in the world on offense," Kiffin said, "but on defense they are very suspect. In fact, they're not very good."

UNL is first in scoring defense with opponents averaging 8.3 points a game. Missouri is second to last in the Big 8 allowing 20.3 points per contest.

MU has scored impressive victories over Southern California, North Carolina and Ohio State Universities. However, Iowa State and Illinois Universities upset the Tigers on MU's home field.

The Iowa State loss and a narrow 28-21 win over Kansas State University puts MU at 1-1 in Big 8 play and 4-2 overall.

"Yes, it was a disappointing loss to Iowa State," said Tiger head coach Al Onofrio. "I'm pleased we played as well as we did the second half."

"I was proud with the way we came back. We could have given up, but we didn't," he said. "We just have to put that game behind us and get ready for Nebraska."

Senior quarterback Steve (Zark) Pisarkiewicz's return

from a three-week shoulder injury should help the Tigers get ready for the Huskers.

He threw for 212 yards against Iowa State last week after relieving junior Pete Woods in the second quarter. Woods directed the Ohio State upset.

"Pisarkiewicz should help the team comeback," he said. "And now that he's back he should play even better."

However, despite MU's yard-yielding defense, its offense features the Big 8's leading rusher in senior Curtis Brown. He has rushed for 627 yards, but Onofrio said he also has good hands and good speed.

Tiger junior Joe Stewart also sparks the offense, leading Big 8 receivers with 444 yards on 24 catches.

Defensively, MU's front four are anchored by junior left tackle Keith Morrissey. Senior safety Chuck Banta, whose four interceptions lead the Big 8 with three other players, heads the secondary.

Kiffin said Husker fans can expect "a great football game Saturday."

"It's going to be a 60-minute headknocker," he said. "But the biggest thing and most important thing is who's going to do the most hitting."

Kiffin said a win Saturday is crucial if the Huskers are to reach one of their preseason goals—the national championship.

"We're on our way, but we have to take them one at a time. If we don't win this one, our goal is down the drain."

"I'll just say this, Michigan and Pittsburgh, you must be great football teams (to be rated ahead of Nebraska), but watch out, we're right on your tail."

Crew's Boston regatta experience includes protest, search for coach

A search for a new coach, an official protest and low finishes were part of the UNL crew club's competition in Boston's Head of the Charles Regatta.

At the regatta last Sunday, the Huskers finished 24th, 24th, 27th and 30th in four team events and 11th with a lone single's entry. Organizers call the regatta "the world's largest single day rowing event."

"With as many new people as we took this year, it proved to be a very beneficial experience," interim coach Mark Stormberg said. "I'm very happy with all of the results. I feel we rowed the best we could have on that particular day."

UNL's crew club sent 22 students to compete in the regatta last Sunday. Of the 22, only four had regatta experience.

UNL's protest is pending in the women's four race.

Last year the women's four placed eighth in the regatta, and before leaving for Boston, Stormberg said the

shell could finish in the top five and receive a medal.

Timing mix-up

However, because of a mix-up in timing this year, UNL's shell was forced to start dead last instead of their scheduled seventh position.

"The girls got caught up in slower traffic," Stormberg said. "We have a protest on file because the shell in front of us didn't yield. We had to stop dead in the middle of the race."

If the protest is allowed, the other shell will be penalized 30 seconds, but UNL's position won't improve.

"It's a matter of fair sportsmanship, though," Stormberg said.

The women's four finished 30th with a time of 23:03.3. Other Husker entries, place of finish and time were women's eight, 27th, 20:09.6; men's heavyweight four, 24th, 19:22.1; and men's lightweight four, 24th, 19:38.7.

Stormberg competed

Stormberg also competed in the regatta, placing eleventh in the intermediate singles.

"I feel I raced the best race I could have rowed with the preparation I had," he said. "It was very surprising to me. It was quite encouraging. I'm reassured to keep trying and going."

Stormberg said he has aspirations to row in the 1980 Olympics.

He said each shell's times were satisfactory, but an exceptionally strong field prevented higher finishes. Shells from Canada, Mexico, Europe and the United States were entered in the regatta.

Stormberg, who replaced former coach Bob Spousta who resigned in August, said one of the crew's objectives in attending the regatta was to look for a full-time coach.

"We talked to a lot of possibilities and had a very encouraging response," he said, Stormberg said he asked the chairman of the U.S. Men's Olympic Rowing Committee to help UNL find a new head coach.

The crew's next competition will be Nov. 13 at the Midwest Fall Regatta in Manhattan, Kan.

Frosh after 14th win

UNL's freshman football team will be going after its 14th consecutive win this afternoon when the Huskers host the University of Missouri's junior varsity. Kickoff will be at 1:30 in Memorial Stadium. Tickets cost \$1.

Missouri was the last team to beat the Husker frosh, winning 24-22 in 1973 in Columbia, Mo.

UNL is 2-0 on the season, having beaten Kansas State University's junior varsity 34-6 and the University of Nebraska at Omaha's junior varsity 43-0.

Missouri sports a 2-1 record, with wins over the junior varsity teams from the University of Kansas (34-20) and Iowa State University (40-10). The Tigers' lone loss was 10-9 to Kansas State.

Summary haunts preseason pollsters; MU game overshadowing gymnastics

By Pete Wegman

Most preseason top ten college football predictions are just that, preseason predictions that few people will remember a week or two after reading them. Rarely do the preseason prognostications come back to haunt writers who made them.

However, this season a major insurance company is issuing a weekly summary of how some well-known foot-

Leading the top ten predictors is Joe Harris, whose predictions for Saturday's games appear on pages 8 and 9 of today's *Daily Nebraskan*, with 16 preseason picks in the current top 20 and 181 Proper Order Factor (POF) points.

Playboy is second with 15 teams and 173 POF points, and AP is third with 15 teams and 184 points. Rounding out the top ten are United Press International, 15 and 185, GamePlan 14 and 183, Kickoff 14 and 201, Football News 14 and 217, Goal Post 13 and 203, Sporting News 13 and 212, and Sports Illustrated 12 and 220.

With all the publicity and excitement surrounding the big football game on ABC television Saturday, one UNL sporting event may have been overlooked.

Saturday, coach Francis Allen will unveil his 1976-77 Husker gymnastics squad, which in the last five years has become a national powerhouse.

The Huskers will open their season Saturday against perennial conference power Iowa State University. The meet will start at 7:30 p.m. in the UNL Sports Complex. Tickets are \$1 for students and \$2 for adults.

Last year the Huskers finished fourth in the NCAA tournament. Yet this year Allen insists that his team may be even better, with more depth and talent.

Allen said the meet should not be indicative of the season, unless the winner wins decisively. However, for those still sober and not exhausted from the football game, the meet should be very worthwhile.

fourth and twenty

ball writer's and publications' preseason picks are doing.

The MFA insurance company rates each preseason prediction poll by comparing it with the weekly Associated Press (AP) poll. The more teams that appear in both the preseason and weekly poll, the higher the preseason prediction is rated.

The company also has developed what is called a proper order factor, which according to some mysterious formula not described in the company's release, assigns points for accurate preseason predictions. The point standings are weighted on the basis of the number of teams a prognosticator has in the top ten.



Photo courtesy of Missouri Sports Information

Missouri split end Leo Lewis is among the top receivers in the Big 8 Conference. Husker defensive coordinator Monte Kiffin says his defense has been preparing for the Missouri pass attack.

sports shorts

The Lincoln Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring the second annual Fall Fun Run Sunday at Pioneers Park. The run is to start at 10 a.m. near the train engine.

The run features both a four- and an eight-mile course through the park, and each runner completing a course receives an award certificate.

The \$1 entry fee covers the cost of the award certificates and other administrative costs. Runners may sign up for the run in Coliseum 140 in Women's Physical Education Bldg. 232.

Last year's fall and spring runs attracted over 100 entrants each, ranging from grade school age to over 60 years old.