

Sports

Sooner shoot-out depends on quick-draw defense

By Larry Sparks

Oklahoma is sporting a new offense this season, but when the Sooners come to Lincoln Nov. 26 to play Nebraska for the Big Eight championship, Husker fans will see a formation they have become accustomed to, NU Coach Tom Osborne said at Monday's Extra Point Club Luncheon.

The Sooners had been running out of the wishbone for the past decade, but after a 1-2 start this season, switched to the I-formation. Osborne said OU now runs about 75 percent of its plays out of the I.

"I promise you, you look at their films now and you're almost looking at Nebraska," Osborne said. "They run the same plays and they block them identically as we do."

Three Sooner players — I-back Marcus Dupree, fullback Stanley Wilson and quarterback Kelly Phelps — have been the key to OU's successful switch to the I, he said.

Osborne compared Dupree, who is a freshman, with Georgia's Heisman Trophy candidate Herschel Walker. He said that Dupree and Wilson both have the ability to pick up yards even when the opposing defense is playing well.

Tough to slow down

"It will be tough to slow them down," he said. "I'm not saying we can't, but it will be tough."

Whites defeat Reds in annual scrimmage

By Bob Asmussen

BEATRICE — In games between teams with youth and teams with experience, the experienced team usually wins. It was no different Monday night at Beatrice High School.

The Nebraska men's basketball team's annual intra-squad scrimmage featured the experience of the White team against the youth of the Reds. The Whites came away with a 74-53 victory.

"I thought that one team was under a situation that was a little hard on them," NU Coach Moe Iba said. "The Red team played with only one guard, and that hurt them."

The Red team had three freshmen on it while the White team included three seniors — Terry Smith, Claude Renfro and Kenny Walton.

One of the major questions that needs to be answered entering the 1982-83 season is how well 6-11 Dave Hoppen will develop at center.

Fans got an early look at Hoppen, who was one of the freshmen playing for the Reds. After a shaky first half in which he scored only four points, Hoppen came back late in the game to push his total to 13.

Hoppen wasn't the only Red team member having troubles the first half. After jumping out to a 6-2 lead at 17:55, the Reds scored only two more points in the next 11 minutes. They trailed 36-18 at halftime.

The second half began like the first ended. Led by the outside shooting of Brett Hughes and Smith, the Whites pushed their lead to as much as 29 points at one stage, but the Reds pulled back to within 11 points with 3:56 remaining in the game. The Reds' comeback efforts were turned back, however, as they committed numerous fouls, sending the White team to the line several times in the final minutes.

Renfro led the White team with 17 points. Smith and Hughes scored 14 points each and Eric Williams added 11.

Hoppen's 13 points led the Reds. Randy Johnson added 12 and Lenard Johnson had 11.

The Reds outshot the Whites 51 percent to 45 percent from the field, but the Whites hit 18 of 23 free throw while the Reds hit only four of seven.

The Cornhuskers begin the season Saturday with an exhibition game against Windsor College at 7:30 p.m. in the Bob Devaney Sports Center. The regular season begins Nov. 26 against Denver in the sports center.

Intramurals

Alpha Tau Omega won the all-university men's water basketball championship with a 27-16 win against Sigma Phi Epsilon. Members of Alpha Tau Omega are Scott Schafer, Brad Liley, Gregg Pollard, Bob Maurer, Pat Trysla, Jim Witter, Pat Jones and Eric Todd.

The Sigma Chi B's defeated the Holysmokers, 25-18, to win the all-university flag football championship. Members of the winning team are John Meier, Ross Bahensky, Terry Krueser, Mike Rakbaur, Jim Connealy, Bo Poydence, Dave Haase, Dave Blotzer, Scott Schaub, Ed Merwald, Rick Thompson and Scott Borchert.

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"So many times they just hand the ball off to them and the (defensive) guy is there in good position to make the tackle but they just run over two or three guys and go for 50-60 yards. There's not much you can do about that," he said.

Osborne said it is difficult to make any kind of prediction about the NU-OU matchup by comparing scores of games against common opponents. Nebraska slipped past Missouri, 23-19, earlier this season while the Sooners rolled up a 41-14 win against Mizzou last week. On that basis, Oklahoma should be favored, he said.

"On the other hand, if you go on the way we played Iowa State (a 48-10 NU win) and the way Oklahoma played Iowa State (a 13-3 OU win), you'd have to favor Nebraska," Osborne said.

Defensive tackle Toby Williams, who strained his knee against Iowa State, is the only player currently listed as questionable for the OU game. I-back Mike Rozier, offensive guard Dean Steinkuhler and fullback Doug Wilkening all suffered sprained ankles Saturday but are expected to be back in time to play against the Sooners.

Extra time an advantage

Osborne said having moved the OU game from Nov. 20 so it can be nationally televised probably will work to Nebraska's advantage because it will give the Huskers two weeks to recover from their injuries. Even with the

Huskers in top form, however, it will be difficult to defeat the Sooners, he said.

"We are really going to have to play great defensive football. We're going to have to have 11 players around their ball carrier every time," he said. "Offensively, we just can't afford to have many drives where we stop ourselves. We're going to have to make them stop us."

Osborne said he gave the Huskers Monday and today off but will resume workouts Wednesday in preparation for the shoot-out with Oklahoma.

Assessing Saturday's 48-10 win against Iowa State, Osborne said he was most pleased with the fact that the Huskers didn't commit any turnovers, despite the frigid temperatures.

"When you think of playing in that kind of a day and trying to handle the football, having only one turnover by both teams combined was really kind of remarkable," he said.

Osborne said the Huskers played well against what he called a good ISU football team. He said the key to the victory may have been in the first half after the Cyclones had tied the game at 7-7. At that point, the Huskers took the kickoff and moved it downfield to go on top for good.

"I was afraid that the momentum was going to get going, their crowd would enthuse and their players would start believing they could win the game," he said.



Staff Photo by Dave Bentz

Nebraska defensive tackle Rob Stuckey tries to stop an Iowa State player at Saturday's 48-10 win against the Cyclones in Ames, Iowa. The win raised Nebraska's record to 9-1 overall and 6-0 in the conference. The Huskers will meet Oklahoma Nov. 26 in Lincoln to decide the Big Eight championship.

Huskers aim for Orange Bowl

By Cindy Gardner

The bowl picture is beginning to take shape and it appears that the loser of the Nebraska-Oklahoma game will go to the Fiesta Bowl, Nebraska Athletic Director Bob Devaney said Monday.

"They (the Fiesta Bowl) seem very interested," Devaney told the Extra Point Club. "They have not given us a definite yes. We're going to find that out sometime tonight."

Of course, Devaney said, the Huskers' No. 1 choice is to beat Oklahoma and go to the Orange Bowl. At this point the Fiesta Bowl is considered the second choice.

The Fiesta Bowl has the advantage of being a New Year's Day game in a warm climate. The Bowl also pays \$875,000 to each team. But Devaney said the Fiesta Bowl does have one drawback.

"If you have to play Arizona State down there it's just like playing them on their home field. It's not a good situation as far as the football game is concerned," he said.

Arizona State is the likely candidate to meet the Big Eight runner-up in the Fiesta Bowl, but Devaney cautioned that it is not a sure thing. Should Washington State upset Washington this Saturday, the Sun Devils could still back into the Rose Bowl.

If a Fiesta Bowl deal should not pan out, Devaney said the Bluebonnet Bowl is "somewhat interested" in being host of the Big Eight runner-up. The problem would come if Texas receives a Bluebonnet bid.

"Oklahoma did not want to play Texas again and we'd almost have to kind of make a deal with Okla-

homa as the other party," he said.

Devaney also said the Tangerine Bowl was still interested the last time he talked to them. The athletic director ruled out both the Gator Bowl and Liberty Bowl, which he said already have chosen their teams.

It looks like the winner of the Husker-Sooner shoot-out may meet Florida State in the Orange Bowl. Devaney said the Orange Bowl Committee is talking to Florida State but Pittsburgh and Penn State are also in consideration. LSU is apparently out of the picture after losing to Mississippi State last Saturday.

A Penn State-Nebraska rematch in the Orange Bowl seems unlikely because the Nittany Lions are in the position to call the shots and choose which bowl game they want to go to, Devaney said. It is speculated that Penn State is likely to choose a Sugar Bowl matchup with first-ranked Georgia.

Bowl bids will be announced Saturday after 5 p.m.

Four Huskers all-Big 8

The 12th-ranked Nebraska volleyball team, which won its seventh straight Big Eight championship Saturday, placed four players on the Big Eight all-Conference team that was announced Monday.

Sophomore Cathy Noth, junior Erin Dean and senior Gwen Egbert were first team selections, while sophomore Mary Buysse was named to the second team.