

# Spring Football Practice Is Finally Under Way

With 110 candidates poised for the opening whistle — and three false starts already



Coach Devaney and frosh quarterback . . . Seen at Wednesday's practice session.

chalked up — Coach Bob Devaney has launched the Nebraska spring football season.

Devaney had originally primed his defending Big 8 champions for an April 2 jump-off, then next tried April 3 and finally Monday, April 5.

But the rains came, went and came again.

"Our practice field looks like a rice paddy during the Monsoon season," croaked Devaney from his sickbed earlier this week, where he parked to give a sore throat the cure after Monday's opening session to be was flooded out. But Wednesday all was changed.

The first practice saw veterans at most of the top positions.

"Our lineups at this time are purely experimental," Devaney stressed. "Upperclassmen rank high now, but we'll start shuffling before long. Another thing, too, is that we

are going to drill both ways during the first portion of spring practice. After we see who can do what, we'll start lining up offensive and defensive units."

Senior fullback Frank Solich did not practice football, but was a sparkplug on the Husker baseball team.

Quarterback Fred Duda was working out in sweat clothes, and will not see contact this spring.

Unless more rainy weather intervenes, the squads will scrimmage Saturday.

### Elgin Out Of Playoffs

Elgin Baylor of the Los Angeles Lakers underwent surgery Sunday to repair a torn left kneecap.

The operation will keep him from leading his team in the National Basketball Association play-offs.

The Laker star twisted his knee in the early minutes of Saturday night's Western Division play-off game with Baltimore.

### SPORTS PAGE

## Daily Nebraskan

BOB SAMUELSON—Sports Ed.

### Missouri Helps Nebraska Open Conference Season

This afternoon Nebraska's baseball Cornhuskers take the field for their first conference action. Tony Sharpe's forces will be attempting to upset last season's Big Eight champ and NCAA runner-ups, Missouri, and improve on their rusty opening of Wednesday.

Only four lettermen return from the champion squad of a year ago, but do not let the figure be misleading. The Tigers have sharpened their claws with a 26 to 3 smothering of Texas Tech, a club who inflicted two regular season losses on Mizzou last year.

John Simmons, winner of ten conference flags in 25 campaigns, will have veteran Mike Strode on second base, veteran Bob Robben in right field, veteran Dan Rudanovich in center field, and veteran

left-hander Jack Stroud will doubtless make one pitching appearance.

Robben was a good .270 hitter in a part-time role last season, and Stroud put together an 8 and 2 hill mark while compiling a 1.51 earned run average.

The remainder of the Tiger infield will be: Ron Cummins, first base; Tom Seal, shortstop; and Roger Lindstrom, thirdbase.

Third member of the outfield is Ray Thorpe. Thorpe is the first Negro member of a Tiger baseball brigade, and combines speed with solid hitting ability to spell excitement for the fans and more trouble for the Huskers.

Rounding out the pitching staff for Simmon's club will be a contingent of youngsters. Rookie Lloyd Carr leads the parade, followed by Orville Hollrah, Ernie Tebbe, Terry L'Ange, Mike Eader, and Bob Carpenter.

Today's twin-bill gets under way at about 1:30 p.m. on the Husker home field located north of the football stadium. Saturday afternoon the teams will play a single contest to round out the three game set.

## Rain Or Shine Husker Tennis Begins Today

By Bob Gibson

Tennis coach Ed Higgenbottom doesn't have an overly optimistic outlook for his team's success in the upcoming season.

There are only two returning lettermen from last year's squad which posted a fine 12-4 overall mark. They are Ted Sanko and Kile Johnson, both juniors. It looks right now like Sanko will have to fill the shoes of the departed Dick Gibson in the number one spot. They seem to be big shoes to fill but Ed seems confident when he says, "Ted is going to make anybody play a lot of tennis to beat him."

Johnson will probably play in the number three spot on the team. Kile is the tallest man on the squad at six feet three inches. He looks likely to do quite well in this spot with his overpowering serve and forehand.

The number two spot is a welcome surprise with sophomore Scott Nelson holding down this place.

Nelson is the type of player

who doesn't make very many mistakes and therefore can be beaten only by aggressive play.

In the number four spot going into Friday's match with South Dakota State is Nelson's teammate on last year's freshman squad Dean Beebe. Behind him in the fifth spot is a newcomer, Tom Tipton, a sophomore who didn't play on last year's Freshman squad.

Bob Cochran is in the sixth position while Choosak Yontrarak is seventh as of this writing.

All in all there are four sophomores and three juniors on the team.

Much should be learned in the season opener as to whether the sophs can come through to give the team enough depth to come out with a winning season.

Even if they don't come along fast this season, the future tennis teams look mighty bright with many sharp freshmen on this year's team.

### Fullback Solich Named Sigma Nu All-America

Frankie Solich, one of the smallest fullbacks in major college ranks, has been named to his fraternity's All America team.

The 158 pounder is a member of Sigma Nu here at the University.

The selection committee was headed by Rene A. Henry, director of public relations for Lennen and Newell Advertising Agency in San Francisco, and is composed of Sigma Nu alums who are prominent coaches, professional athletes and sports writers.

Some of Solich's company are: Bill Malinchak, Indiana end and All Big-Ten pick; Joe Cerne, Northwestern center

and All Big-Ten selection; Marvin Kristynik, Texas quarterback and leader; and a guy named Fred Marshall from Arkansas, ('nuf said).



Frankie Solich . . . Sigma Nu All-America



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