

Report From Husker Training Camp . . .

No Fun In The Sun At Arizona

By Jim Pearce
PHOENIX, ARIZONA — The valley of the sun, has shown the nation's number three football team nothing but dark, rain laden skies since the Cornhuskers landed here Tuesday evening. Wednesday morning's

workout at Sun Devil Stadium on the campus of Arizona State University had to be called off because of intermittent showers and a very boggy field. A disappointed Coach Bob Devaney said Wednesday morning, "We would have

been as well off back home." He continued to speak in hushed tone as he gazed longingly towards Camelback Mountain, which was completely obscured by the low rain clouds.

"Does ASU have a field house?"—No. "Maybe we could run in their gymnasium."

Asked about how the delay in starting practice would affect the present plan, Devaney commented, "We will probably practice twice on Sunday now."

He hinted that Wednesday night workout might take the place of the scheduled trip to a movie.

Business manager Bill Fischer said it was out of the question to stay a day longer because of the lost time. "We are just too committed elsewhere."

What do 58 anxious Huskers do on a rainy day?

Well, try this. "Pass." "Pass." "Diamonds." No, it's not a game of back yard football with a trick play called to the line of scrimmage, it's a heated game of pitch.

Larry Wachholtz and Pete Tatman versus Bob Churchill and Bill Johnson. Wachholtz quickly laid down the ground rules. "There will be no cheating." Laughter followed.

Wachholtz changed the subject as he looked out the window. "I heard a report this morning that this weather is to last five more days."

Sports Information Director

Don Bryant loaded up his car with quarterback Fred Duda and a friend and headed for a tour of Phoenix. Harry Wilson was found poking around in the fireplace at the main lounge of Camelback Inn, the team's headquarters.

After lunch, a search began for an inside practice facility. Bryant and this reporter set out to investigate the possibility of the exhibition hall at the State Fairground but enroute to report the findings the sun broke through the clouds.

As though the afternoon temperature of 46 was a bit cool the Huskers dressed in full pads and took the field about 3:00 p.m.

The Scarlet and Cream ran through a pre-game type workout in the puddle-dotted Sun Devil Stadium. The basic purpose of yesterday's drill was to tone up some tired, some relaxed or tight muscles and get the Nebraska football machine oiled for heavy duty during the next few days.

Most everyone is in good health with the exception of a few colds, notably Jim Brown and Jerry Patton. Both are on medication and Patton today said, "The pills are doing the job just fine."

Though the last hour of Wednesday's drill was conducted under puffy grey clouds, the plan is to go ahead with the outdoor workouts on the scheduled two-day basis, as the Huskers load up for Bear.

Huskers Enter Big Eight Tourney

Nebraska's Cornhuskers will travel to Kansas City, Mo. over the Christmas holidays for the 1965 pre-season basketball tournament. Big Eight roundballers will clash in the pre-conference tourney Dec. 27-30.

Kansas boasts the favored spot with Kansas State, Iowa State and Colorado picked as rough competitors. Kansas has paced its way to the best overall record of the Big Eight schools in non-conference play so far this season.

Although Colorado has played strong in non-conference games this year, the Buff's mainstay, Pat Frink, is out for the season, and this may have some effect on Colorado's performance.

In the first round, Oklahoma will meet Oklahoma State. Kansas is pitted against Kansas State, Colorado faces Iowa State and Nebraska plays Missouri.

Last year, the Tigers dumped Nebraska for losses in both meetings. Last season Mizzou compiled a season record of 13 wins and 11 losses compared to the Huskers 10-15 mark. Missouri was 8-6 in conference and Nebraska finished up 5-9.

The Tiger's rebuilding

problems are made even more acute by the loss of six lettermen, four promising freshmen and two returning squadsmen on scholastic deficiencies.

A lack of scoring punch and a height disadvantage compounded by inexperience is expected to hamper the Tigers.

Kansas was boosted into national prominence this year with the return of six top scorers including Big 8 scoring king Walt Wesley and three other starters.

The only drawback to what looks like will be better team scoring and rebounding is that the Jayhawks will have to overcome the "one man team" and find a formula for balanced team scoring.

Kansas State soared to pre-season polls on the altitude of their team. The Wildcats have good depth at guard and center with 7' 1" Nick Pino leading their hopes for an upper division finish.

Pino is so essential to the inexperienced squad that coach Tex Winters stated "As Nick Pino goes so goes Kansas State."

Iowa State was tagged for an upper division finish on the strength of eight returning letterman with experience

at every position and a good pair of outside shooters.

Team height is improved by sophomores and the defense will have to improve with the sophomores.

Oklahoma State, last year's conference champ, has been the hardest hit of any team. The champs are expected to plunge to the bottom because of inexperience, only four returning lettermen and lack of help from the sophomores.

Colorado was hampered by the loss of all-conference choice Pat Frink but is boosted by another all-conference choice, Chuck Gardner and five other lettermen.

The Buffs will have to come up with some experience at the forwards in addition to lacking a big man and team depth, there are only 11 men on the team.

Oklahoma has shown improvement in size and more scoring potential — but the improvement is dubious when it's sophomores.

To improve on last year's overall 8-17 mark the Sooners will have to be more consistent, a difficult task because of the inexperience and the loss of all-conference forward Jim Gatewood, their leading scorer and rebounder.

GOAL DUST . . .

By Jim Swartz

After a weekend of home games, Nebraska cagers will head to Kansas City for the Big Eight Pre-Season Basketball Tournament.

The Huskers were placed in the lower bracket with Oklahoma State, Oklahoma and Missouri and are matched in the first round against the Tigers.

What the Huskers will be out to do is win a game. Head Coach Joe Cipriano reports that the Huskers have yet to win a game in the tournament since he has started coaching here, two years ago.

The Huskers are in the best bracket, the Tigers have been hit hard by scholastic problems and the Sooners and Cowboys are both fielding young and inexperienced teams.

It appears more than likely that they should win Coach Cipriano his first game in the tournament and could possibly advance to the finals, to face Kansas, the team picked to win the tourney and the Big Eight Conference.

Win or lose in the tourney, this year's version of Husker basketball has got off to a fast and successful start, through the aid of two sophomores, Stuart Lantz and Tom Baack.

Lantz stands just 6' 3" and on the court of giants, makes every inch of it count. Currently he follows Baack for the scoring lead, with a 14.4 average, which ties him with Grant Simmons for second place.

He is the leading rebounder, with 44 grabs off of the backboard. Nate Branch is the closet to Lantz with 34.

The other soph in the lineup, Baack, stands a tall 6'5" and is currently the team's scoring leader. His five game average is 15.0 and has been aided by his 27 for 21 at the foul line.

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