

Big Eight Grid Scene

Champion Huskers Begin

"We do have a number of problems to solve this spring, but we are looking forward to having a good team again in 1966."

So says Husker football coach Bob Devaney as he anticipates the beginning of spring workouts this Friday, weather permitting.

The Huskers will have 34 lettermen returning from the 1965 team that went undefeated, won a third straight Big 8 title and played Alabama in the Orange Bowl.

Starters Return

Nebraska will have 23 of the 32 members of the unit which suited up for the Orange Bowl game with Alabama back in 1966, including starters: Guard LaVerne Allers, Center Kelly Peterson, Guard Jim Osberg, Halfback Ron Kirklind, Halfback Harry Wilson, and Quarterback Bob Churchich, who did not start, but played most of the game and set an Orange Bowl touchdown pass and point production record.

The Husker defensive team will have 19 of the 25 members this year that suited up for the bowl battle with Alabama, including starters: End Len Janik, End Langston Coleman, Tackle Dick Czap, Middle Guard Wayne Meylan, Linebacker Lynn Senkbell, Cornerback Kaye Carstens, Halfback Marv Mueller and Safety Larry Wachholtz.

"... We do have some outstanding players returning," says Devaney, "and we plan to do everything in our power to retain our Big 8 title."

The Huskers will have workouts on Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and Saturdays except during Easter vacation. Spring practice is scheduled to end May 14, with the annual intra-squad game.

1966 Husker Coaching Staff

Head Coach: Bob Devaney
Defensive ends and backs coach: Jim Ross
Offensive line coach: Carl Selmer
Defensive line coach: George Kelly
Offensive ends coach: Tom Osborne
Offensive backs coach: Mike Corgan
Freshman coach and varsity assistant: John Melton
Freshman line coach and varsity assistant: Cletus Fisher

Tigers Must Replace Lane

Columbia, Mo.—Spring practice started March 25 for the University of Missouri Tigers and will end May 7 with an intra-squad game.

"Our 1965 team capitalized on its senior leadership and experience," says Coach Dan Devine. "We won't have that factor going for us this year. However, the Big Eight conference has as many blue-chip athletes as I've seen in nine years here. Except for Oklahoma State and Missouri, everyone returns a starting quarterback."

Missouri must fill 12 of 22 first-team positions with new men. The Tigers return 18 lettermen, but lost many three-year regulars among the 14 departed seniors. Seasoned leadership will be scant, especially in the line and many positions will be up for grabs. The battle for departed Gary Lane's quarterback position is expected to produce a lively three-way tussle.

Says Devine, "I look for a close conference race, with Nebraska still in the driver's seat. Colorado and Oklahoma have excellent personnel, and will be tough. Iowa State's and Kansas' freshman teams looked good in beating us last fall."

Sooners To Work On Basics

Norman, Okla.—Evaluation of personnel will be the chief aim of Oklahoma's spring football drills starting April 7, says Coach Jim Mackenzie.

"We want to find out quickly who should be playing offense and who defense," explains the Sooners' new headmaster. "We'll have the boys going both ways the first three days, scrimmage them the third day, then study the films and try to decide in what platoon and at what position each youngster belongs."

Mackenzie plans scrimmages on Wednesday and Saturday. "We'll go out there and hit," he described it. "We won't have any contact after our fall season starts so we have to get physically and mentally tough during the spring."

The offense and defense run by the Sooners this spring will be basic compared to next autumn. "We'll use an I formation with a wide slot this spring, but not run nearly so many plays as we will this fall. We'll have power plays inside, sweeps outside and only about half as many passes as we intend to have next fall."

Defenses employed this spring will include the rover or monster with very little stunting. "We first have to

learn how to line up and play football without fooling anybody," Mackenzie puts it.

He said Oklahoma would probably use a multiple I formation with a split receiver next fall and stunt a great deal on defense.

Discussing recruiting, the new Sooner chieftain said, "We have 30 boys signed. We plan to sign 43. We feel like we've secured some very fine youngsters, but we still have a long way to go."

Wildcats To Go Both Ways

Manhattan, Kans.—Everybody both ways all the way. That's the rule in Kansas State's spring football practice which began here Friday (March 25). That is a distinct switch for the Wildcats, who have used platoons to the extent of the rulebook the past three seasons.

"In looking back, we feel one of our problems last season was in our attempt to specialize too much," Coach Doug Weaver explains. "Injuries, of which we had more than our share, made us too shallow at spots on both offense and defense."

"We feel that by using all men two ways this spring we not only can sort out our best talents, but can also increase our effective depth."

Weaver promised other experimentation, too, on offense, as the Wildcats look for means to add punch to an attack that netted only 75 yards a game on the ground last fall.

The Wildcat coach said he couldn't be certain that he had the answer to K-State's need for a running back, but pointed to upcoming freshmen and a junior college transfer as offering hope toward filling that need.

"We count spring drills as a chance for conditioning, for building squad spirit, for installing new plays and, this year especially, for the new men of both the squad and staff to get acquainted," he said.

The Wildcats will work five days a week during the spring, weather permitting. They plan to skip Friday's and scrimmage Saturday's, with their spring intra-squad game climaxing the workouts on April 30.

In uniform for the drills will be 84 'Cat candidates, including 19 lettermen returning from last fall. Among those lettermen are five starters on offense last season, plus three first-team defensive players. Missing, however, is Henry Howard, junior halfback who led 1965 rushing and scoring. He will miss the drills to undergo a knee operation.

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Huskers At NCAA

Nebraska's Keefe Ludwig took fourth place in the 50-yard freestyle consolation and sixth in the 100-yard freestyle consolation in the NCAA swimming and diving championships held at the Air Force Academy.

Ludwig's time in the 100 freestyle was :48.31; the winner, James VanKennen of Wesleyan, was timed in :46.98. The Husker sprint swimmer's time in the 50 freestyle consolation was :21.95. Bob Graham of Texas Tech won the event in :21.37.

Nebraska's Big Eight champion 400-yard freestyle relay team took sixth in the NCAA meet with a time of 3:08.05.

Husker diver Steve Sorenson compiled 256.05 points to place 11th in one meter diving. Indian's Ken Sitzberger won the event with 345.4 points.

Southern California's Roy Saari was one of the meets outstanding swimmers. He won the 500-yard freestyle on the opening day with a time of 4:50.69 and captured first place in the 200-yard freestyle in 1:44.66 on Friday.

Saari's blazing 45.2-second anchor leg Friday pulled Southern Cal to victory in the 400 freestyle relay.

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The green-eyed blonde who hails from Topeka, Kansas was a regular member of the K. U. Pom-Pom group this season. Miss Dunaway is 1965-1966 "Miss Topeka" and runner up to "Miss Lawrence". She is one of more than 800 college and university yell leaders entered in the fourth annual national cheerleading competition.

Five finalists chosen from photos and entry information will be flown, all expenses paid, to Cypress Gardens for final judging on Easter Sunday.

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