

Tight Race Possible In Big 8 Basketball

With the Big Eight football championship safely tucked away once again by Nebraska and only one grid game remaining this season for most conference teams, a tight Big Eight basketball race is starting to come into focus.

The first chance conference teams will have to test each other will be the Big Eight Pre-Season Basketball Tournament in Kansas City which begins December 27th. However, the season starts on or around December 1st for all Big Eight teams.

Husker Coach Joe Cipriano, in his fourth year at Nebraska sees the Big Eight race this way: "This is the first year since I've been here that I feel there are six teams able to win the conference, and Missouri is an unknown because of so many junior college transfers. Perhaps Oklahoma State is a year away from being a challenger, but they will be improved."

"I do think it is going to be tough to tumble the champ out of there," said Cipriano. "Kansas has a lot of good returning players and they are going to surprise some people. Iowa State, Colorado, Oklahoma and Kansas State are all going to be better."

Ten Big Eight basketball games will be televised live this year by T.V. Sports, Inc., Patterson, New Jersey. Nebraska games will be televised January 14, February 18, March 4 and March 11.

Fred Casotti, Sports Information Director at Colorado, has expressed the coming basketball season in "An Ominous Ode":

Hark, I hear a distant drumming,
Canneth be that something's coming,
At first, a muffled clump-clump-clumping,
Then, a louder thump-thump-thumping.
Hark, I hear the clarion call,
The bounce-bounce-bounce of basketball.
Football season's soon forgotten,
Cram your ears with wads of cotton,
Teams leave home and take their lumps,
Hail to B-Ball's thump-thump-thumps.

NU Varsity Meets Frosh Saturday

With football experiencing an uncommon weekend lull on the University of Nebraska Campus, the sports spotlight will fall on the freshmen-varsity basketball game scheduled for Saturday night at 7:30 in the Coliseum.

Husker coach Joe Cipriano will have four starters on parade Saturday from his 20-5 team last year that topped runner-up honors in the Big Eight conference. They are Nate Branch, Palo Alto, Calif.; Stuart Lantz, Uniontown, Penn.; Tom Baack, Fort Wayne, Ind.; and Willie Campbell, Seattle, Wash.

Lack of a tall center and the replacement of graduated court general Grant Simmons are two major problems that Cipriano faces as he heads toward the home-court season opener against Oregon, December 2nd.

The Husker coach indicated he might call on either Ron Simmons, Sumner, or Jim Damm, Bellflower, Calif., to fill Simmons' spot and team with Lantz at the other guard position.

If this combination doesn't work out, Cipriano has mentioned the possibility of moving Willie Campbell to a forward position to team with Baack and starting Charlie Stone, Oakland, Calif., at the center spot. This would allow Branch and Lantz to team at the guard positions.

This experimenting is expected to be one of the highlights of the varsity's encounter with the freshmen. The Husker frosh, coached by Glenn Potter, have been called by Cipriano, "possibly the greatest group of freshmen basketball players we have ever assembled at the University of Nebraska." Cipriano noted speed and overall balance of the freshmen as contributing to their potential.

The abundance of freshman talent is reflected by the fact that Potter has narrowed his starters "down to nine" for Saturday's scrimmage. Possible starters for the frosh at guard positions are Sam Martin, Pawnee City; Tom Line, Los Angeles, Calif., and Tom Scantlebury, Oakland, Calif.

Ken Cauble, Kidland, Tex.; Larry Collings, Englewood, Calif., and Bob Grattopp, Grafton, have been mentioned for the forward spots. Battling it out for the starting center spot are Ken Peden, Aliquippa, Penn., and Ed McPherron, Ten Sleep, Wyo.

Jayhawks To Start Four Veterans

The annual Kansas State varsity-freshman basketball game will usher in the 1966-67 season Monday. Tip-off in Ahearn Fieldhouse is set for 8 p.m.

Coach Tex Winter is expected to start four veterans in the varsity starting lineup, including three seniors. Sophomore Steve Honeycutt, a 6-1 guard, is the only newcomer.

Roy Smith, a 6-10, 230-pound senior, will open at center and be joined on the frontline by Galen Frick, a 6-4 senior, and Earl Seyfert, a 6-7 forward. Dennis Berkholtz, another senior, and Honeycutt will start at guard.

Bill Guthridge's freshman starters will be able to match the varsity in head height. Ray Lavender, a 7-1 St. Louis prep product, will start at center. Lavender appears to be a good ball-handler, with better-than-average movement and adequate scoring potential.

Three forwards are in the running for starting nods. Kent Litton (6-4) is slated to open at one spot, with either Doug Dodge (6-4) or Dennis Weinhold (6-7) to start opposite Litton.

Jeff Webb, a quick backcourt player who also can operate at forward, will team with Greg Dickerson at guard.

Guthridge said Wheeler Hughes, an outstanding guard prospect, will see some action.

"Wheeler has fine potential," said Guthridge, "and as soon as his shoulder comes around from an early-September operation, he will move into the starting lineup."

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Intramurals

Basketball Results
Wednesday, Nov. 16
Gunners 38, Dirty Old Men 35
Aggies 33, A.I.A. 26
Bachelors 43, Syndicates 32

Choctaws 71, Bandits 48
Gunners 38, Dirty Old Men 35
Misfits 53, Scholars 27
Boozers 41, Bunnies 35
Burners 45, Executioners 23
Raiders 51, Red Lions 32
Sigma Phi Epsilon B 40, Beta Theta Pi B 38
Sigma Chi B 45, Alpha Tau Omega B 35
Phi Kappa Psi B 52, Phi Gamma Delta B 28
FarmHouse B 58, Sigma Alpha Epsilon B 30
Delta Tau Delta B 41, Delta Tau Delta B 41, Beta Sigma Psi B 11
Sigma Nu B 55, Alpha Gamma Rho B 27
Triangle B 25, Ag Men B 16
Delta Sigma Pi B 1, Delta Sigma Phi B 0 (forfeit)
Cornhuskers B 25, Alpha Gamma Sigma B 20
Pi Kappa Alpha B 23, Piонер B 18
Sigma Phi Epsilon C 23, Beta Theta Pi C 19

Phi Delt, Glem Win IM Trophies

Two intramural football champions were crowned Wednesday in the IM football tournament.

Phi Delta Theta and Triangle battled for the fraternity A-team championship with the Phi Delt emerging victorious, 18-6.

Glenn was the other winner, beating Kiesselbach 14-2 for the University dorm championship.

Glenn will take on the Mousers tonight at east campus to decide the University independent title. The winner will battle Phi Delta Theta Monday to determine the All-University champion.

Hidden Grid Statistics Change Offense Table

Coaches maintain that the hidden statistics of football are too often overlooked, pointing specifically to lost fumbles and passes intercepted. Big Eight coaches are vocal in this respect, too.

Figuring that these errors cost a team at least 40 yards—the distance of an average punt this year—a new total-offense table for the Big Eight Conference, while it doesn't change Nebraska as the leader, both offensively and defensively does shake up the standings.

Best example, offensively, might be Oklahoma State, loser of the fewest yards under the revised computation. The Cowpokes have had fumbles stop eight drives and pass interceptions kill six more—a loss of only 560 total yards, a figure which moves them from eighth to fifth with a 139-per-game average.

Nebraska, fourth in "yards clipped off," still has the best average, 218 a game, followed by Colorado's 207—the Buffs have been penalized 1,000 yards, though. Iowa State, penalized only 640 yards for two fumble losses and 14 pass intercep-

tions, is now third with a 201 mark.

Defensively, using the same method for ranking, the alertness of the stopping unit provides just as great a juggling act. Nebraska is still the total-defense leader, but even more pronounced, showing a sterling 87-yard allowance.

This figure comes because the Cornhuskers have pounced on 12 loose fumbles and pilfered 18 passes, clipping a whopping 1,200 yards off their allowance.

LEADING PUNTERS

Player and School	No.	Yds. Avg.
David Morgan (Kansas)	39	43.6
Tom Sidiham (Oklahoma)	40	42.5
Dick Anderson (Colorado)	14	42.4
Bob Coble (Kansas State)	65	41.7
Joe Armstrong (Nebraska)	43	38.9
Bill Bates (Missouri)	67	37.9
Ronnie Johnson (Oklahoma State)	65	37.6

LEADING PUNT RETURNERS

Player and School	No.	Yds. Avg.
Larry Wacholtz (Nebr.)	29	229
Eddie Hinton (Oklahoma)	8	233
Don Shanklin (Kansas)	16	211
Roger Wehrli (Missouri)	19	194
Charles Gree (Colorado)	12	138
Danny Lawson (Okl. St.)	16	123
Larry Carwell (Iowa St.)	12	109

Tickets Available For Home Games

Nebraska Ticket Manager Jim Pittenger has announced that basketball season tickets for all home games are now available to University students.

In Devaney Era . . . Nebraska Winless At 'Snake Pit'

By Ed Icenogle
Sports Assistant

Nebraska's Bob Devaney has never coached his Huskers to a win over Oklahoma in Norman's Snake Pit.

But the third time could be the charm. And the most charming part of this third time is that it could earn the Cornhuskers their second undefeated season in succession.

With this year's Big Eight title stashed away already, Nebraska's squad would like to give the Norman crowd a better show than the 1962 and 1964 presentations.

The Sooners walked away in '62 at a 34-6 pace and then won again in '64, 17-7.

Does all this worry Bob? "Not any more than any other game," said Devaney.

In '62 Oklahoma was simply a better team and in '64 they played like a better team, the coach reasons.

If the Huskers can play the Thanksgiving Day contest just like "any other game" this season, the 5-3 Sooners, with a 3-2 conference mark should be no great trouble.

That the Sooners are upset-minded is no big secret and injuries may yet take their toll on the Huskers.

Tom Smith, a reserve end behind Dennis Richnasky and Tom Penney, will be out of the season's finale. Richnasky, who is fourth in NU pass receiving with 121 yards on 12 receptions, is not as far along as Devaney would like. That goes for halfback Ron Kirkland, too, who saw limited action with Richnasky against Oklahoma State last week.

"Kirkland is not running well yet," noted Devaney. He also included Richnasky in the same category.

The NU coach had hoped to take some of the duty off injured Richnasky with the help of Smith.

"With Smith hurt," Devaney said, "we're probably going to be forced to use him (Richnasky)." Smith's injury came in this week's practice when a fall dislocated his shoulder.

Starting left end Dennis Morrison is the front-running catcher, catching 21 aeriels for 262 yards and two touchdowns. Penney is second in the statistics with 244 yards gained on 20 passes.

Most of those passes are coming from quarterback Bob Churchich, who has completed 89 of 159 for a .560 mark, 1,060 yards and four touchdowns.

The rushing lead belongs

to Harry Wilson who has gained 578 yards for a 4.6-yard per carry average. Pete Tatman ranks next with a 4.0-yard average and 394 net yards.

Ben Gregory took over the scoring lead for the Huskers, leaving Larry Wachholtz on top of two statistical areas. Gregory has 42 points on seven touchdowns, while Wachholtz has one TD, 21 extra points and four field goals for a total of 39.

Wachholtz' 299 yards on 29 punt returns commands that category, as do his seven interceptions in the theft department.

Carel Stith and Wayne Meylan dominate the tackling in the interior line-men. Stith has 40 unassisted and 33 assisted tackles, and Meylan has 35 unassisted and 36 assisted.

Jim McCord has 17 unassisted and 26 aided tackles for the third spot.

Langston Coleman has 21 unassisted takedowns and 26 with help, plus two fumble recoveries. Jerry Patton has 21-19 on the tackles, one recovered fumble and seven passes broken up.

Lynn Senkbell has 34-42 tackles at linebacker. He also has a recovered fumble, a pass interception and three passes broken up to

his credit. Marv Mueller has 34 unassisted tackles and 21 assisted to lead the backs in statistics. He has broken up seven passes, intercepted one and recovered a fumble.



Husker right end Tom Smith . . . out for season.

Oklahoma Linebacker Earns Position Through Student Manager's Mistake

Because of a student manager's misake, Harry Daniel Hettmannsperger Jr will start the Nebraska game here Thanksgiving.

When the Sooners changed coaching staffs last winter, Swede Lee, one of the new assistants, was studying movies of last year's Nebraska game. He noticed that No. 56, a Sooner linebacker, was cutting down Cornhuskers all over the field.

Lee hunted up a roster and discovered that No. 56 was an obscure sophomore named Hettmannsperger.

"I thought I'd found me a gem," Lee chuckles today. "I didn't know that a manager had forgotten to

pack Carl McAdams' jersey and that McAdams was wearing Hettmannsperger's number."

When spring practice began, Lee started Hettmannsperger at linebacker. "He did terrible," Lee remembers. "After two days, I switched him to nose-guard. Later, I found out about the manager's mistake and everything dropped into focus."

This fall, when the Sooners lost starting linebackers Thurman Pitchlynn and Richard Goodwin with knee injuries, Lee was desperate. Then he remembered Hettmannsperger and the jersey mixup.

"We moved him back and tried him at McAdams' old job. Although it was new to him, he worked hard and began to apply himself mentally. It's hard to be a linebacker and ours has the extra burden of calling our defensive signals. But he's improving. He's just a sophomore. He just needs to play more."

Hettmannsperger may yet become a gem. As Oklahoma meets Nebraska, he's leading the Sooners in unassisted tackles with 33, in assisted tackles with 50 and in pass interceptions with 3. He has deflected three enemy passes.

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