

MU: Moore of a threat

by Randy York
Sports Editor

Oklahoma's Steve Owens may be the Big 8's power deluxe running back, but Nebraska football fans may well see a reasonable facsimile of him Saturday in Missouri's Joe Moore.

This is not to say, however, that Owens upstages Moore, who is not only threatening but leading the Sooners' twice Big 8 rushing and scoring champion.

What Moore does is do. He wasn't even a starter before the Tiger season began. But when starting halfback James Harrison pulled a hamstring muscle in early fall drills, Moore moved into a starting role.

Harrison, who paced Missouri's Gator Bowl champions in scoring last season, will need powerful ammunition to remove Moore from the starting spot now.

Moore, who has rushed for 432 yards in Mizzou's first three victories to rank third nationally, knows how to cash in on opportunity.

He gained 120 ground yards in his first starting appearance when Missouri used four field goals to clip Air Force, 19-17.

Just openers
But that was just for openers. The 6-1, 195-pound St. Louis native punctured Illinois for 185 rushing yards and was named Big 8 Back of the Week following the Tigers' 37-6 blitz.

Big 10 rivals, however, have a tendency to disregard such credentials, even Missouri coach Dan Devine's 9-1 record against their conference.

Moore stretched his personal campaign against 13th-ranked Michigan Saturday. If he didn't increase his seeing-is-believing crowd, then Wolverine fans didn't see.

Someone had to believe his 117 yards on 19 carries in the 8th-ranked Tigers' 40-17 triumph.

Moore's 185-yard output against Illinois, accomplished on just 23 carries, came within 33 yards of Missouri's 1-game rushing record set in 1941 by Harry Ice, who gained 218.

Moore, however, is on one-ring offensive circus for the usually defense-oriented Tigers.

Take Missouri's quarterback, for instance, Terry McMillan, the three-touchdown hero of the Tigers' 35-10 romp past Alabama in the Gator Bowl last season, again is at the controls.

He isn't running as much this year, however, simply because he doesn't have to. Moore and fullback Ron McBride carry the brunt of the rushing attack.

But he is an effective passer, indicated by this seven completions in 12 attempts Saturday against Michigan. They accounted for 120 yards.

McBride, the Tigers' third-leading rusher last season, busted for 49 yards on 17 carries against the Wolverines.

Missouri's other starting back is a two-way threat. Jon Stagers, who snagged the

67-yard pass which toppled the Huskers, 10-7, two years ago at Columbia, rushed only nine times for 32 yards against the Wolverines, but also grabbed a pair of passes for an additional 51 yards.

The Tigers' most notable receiver, Mel Gray, may give Nebraska's secondary more than one footrace. The Big 8 champion in both the 100 and 220-yard dashes hauled in three McMillan

passes for 41 yards against Michigan.

Gary, a 9.3 sprinter, snagged 14 passes last year from his halfback slot for 337 yards. He scored four touchdowns.

The Tigers' overall success, for the most part, is contingent on their defense, a Devine trademark.

Guard Sam Adams and linebacker Nip Weisenfels each recorded nine tackles, including eight solo stops apiece, to pace the Tiger defense against Michigan.

End Mike Bennett, linebacker Steve Lundholm, and guard Adam Vital were next in statistics with five tackle credits.

The most important new fixture Saturday, however, will be tackle Rocky Wallace. The Tigers' leading candidate for All-America honors has not played this season.



Tiger Halfback Joe Moore



Nebraskan photo by Howard Rosenberg

The loneliness of a long distance runner . . . Jim Lang, a Cornhusker cross country sophomore, shapes up for a dual meet Saturday with the University of Missouri at Columbia. Lang finished only seconds behind the Kansas State winner of a dual meet with that school here last Saturday.

League bowling scores reported

Operations manager at the Nebraska Union, Steve Sandelin, reports the top bowling scores in the first week's student and faculty leagues.

They include:
Student High Games—Hal Luk, 247; Mike Schuster, 235; Terry Peterson, 226; Dick Chilvees, 213; Roy Kizzler, 212; Bill Sunderston, 212; Mark Pimper, 209; Casper Greenwalt, 208; Jack Nemi, 207; Bruce Lindquist, 205; Bob Renner, 202; Dennis Muller, 200.
Faculty High Games—D. Hodgotts, 225; B. Williams, 222; J. Porter, 219.
Faculty High Series—D. Hodgotts, 418; J. Porter, 396; B. Williams, 394.

Geddes moves up on defense

Nebraska middle guard Ken Geddes' effort against Minnesota last week moved him into second place in Husker defensive statistics. Geddes collected 14 tackles, including seven solo stops, to register 23 tackles in three games. The total is surpassed only by linebacker Jerry Murtaugh's 32.

Tackle Bob Liggett and safety Randy Reeves are credited with 22 tackles apiece. Monster Al Larson has 19 credits and halfback Dana Stephenson has 16.

NU, Mizzou frosh collide in Columbia

Nebraska's freshmen football team opens its season at Columbia, Mo., Friday afternoon against the Missouri yearlings.

The Husker frosh, eyeing their 11th straight victory, are paced by quarterback Max Linder, who was sidelined last year with injuries.

The Plattsmouth natives' primary receivers are ends Kelly Schulz of Palo, Alto,

Calif. and Frosty Anderson, the ex-Scottsbluff all-stater. Former Omaha Tech standout John Rodgers paces the running backs.

The Tiger frosh unit was the last team to dump the NU yearlings. Since Bob Devaney assumed direction of the Huskers, Nebraska has compiled a 20-2 frosh mark. Both losses, however, have been inflicted by Mizzou, in 1965 and in 1966.

Defensive tackle is the Huskers' most solid position with Rich Glover of Jersey City, N.J., and Marc Douglas of Redwood City, Calif., manning the spots.

Jim Ross directs the freshmen team and is assisted by Bill Thornton.

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Predictions

By Randy York
Sports Editor

Remember when people used to say the Big Eight Conference consisted of Oklahoma and the Seven Dwarfs?

Well, this year's script is somewhat along the same line. Now, it's the Seven Giants and One Dwarf (Kansas is the conference gnome).

The Jayhawks not only have lowered league prestige, but also have taken a sizable chunk from my batting average.

Of 23 conference predictions, I have bulls-eyed 18. Two of the five stumbles were Jayhawk blunders to Texas Tech and New Mexico, a pair of college football zeroes.

A KU bounceback? No way.

After that was the week that was (six hits in seven picks for a .782 seasonal mark), this is the week that is:

Kansas State 31, Kansas 14 — KU fans may leave the stadium early, go home, take a quick shower and still have enough time to catch the 5 o'clock scores. The Jayhawks have proven themselves. They definitely are NOT for real.

Missouri 17, Nebraska 14 — It seems a flick of the toe usually decides these brutal

conflicts, and Mizzou's Henry Brown has been much more effective than the Huskers' slumping Paul Rogers. If Nebraska can dissolve its fumblybits for once, it may find itself with the 17 points.

Oklahoma 21, Texas 17 — The second-ranked Longhorns are the favorites, and they should be after scoring 112 points in their first three games. But with Steve Owens his super-healthy self again, the Sooners send shock waves through Dallas.

Colorado 21, Iowa State 14 — Iowa State has the superior first-line talent, but the Buffs' depth and methodical 1-2 punch of Bob Anderson and Steve Engel will melt the Cyclone gust.

A glance at some of the better matches across the country: Wyoming over UTEP; CSU over Utah State; Air Force over North Carolina; USC over Stanford; Notre Dame over Army; California over Washington; Penn State over West Virginia; Ohio State over Michigan State; Auburn over Clemson; Houston over Arizona; Iowa over Wisconsin; Michigan over Purdue; UCLA over Washington State; Arizona State over Utah; Navy over Pitt; Mississippi over Georgia; Indiana over Minnesota.

Huskers need passing effort

Nebraska, featuring quarterback Jerry Tagge and halfback Jeff Kinney, staged their own rendition of "I Believe" last week at Minneapolis.

Sideline skeptics who still insist Nebraska's football team can't muster any type of ground game either haven't sobered up or haven't returned to the states after their weekend cruise.

The Huskers' 256 ground yards against the Gophers were for real, but the rushing game gets a much more severe test Saturday at Columbia against defensive-minded Missouri.

The last three Tiger-Husker scraps in Columbia have been close. Mizzou missed a 2-point conversion try in 1963, giving NU a 13-12 win. Larry Wachholz's late field-goal gave the Huskers a 16-14 comeback triumph in 1965.

But the two clubs' last matchup in Columbia saw Missouri reverse the tables in recording a 10-7 decision on the strength of a field goal by Rocky Wallace.

Wallace also may hold the key to this year's encounter. The 1968 unanimous All-Big 8 choice has missed the Tigers' first three games, but has been declared healthy for the Husker game.

Nebraska Coach Bob Devaney and Mizzou Coach Dan Devine combine for one of the most interesting coaching duels in the country, much like the Texas-Arkansas scrap between the Longhorns' Darrell Royal and the Razorbacks' Frank Broyles.

Devaney has emerged victorious four times in seven confrontations with Devine. They were coaching aides together on the Michigan State staff under "Biggie" Munn and "Duffy" Daugherty in the early 1950s. Devine, however, owns the



Dan Devine

last two victories in the rivalry, including a 16-14 verdict in last year's Lincoln scuffle.

Wallace also paced Mizzou to that triumph. He was named Big Eight Lineman of the Week for his defensive effort.

The Huskers' hopes Saturday may rest more upon Tagge's passing arm than anything else.

The sophomore signal-caller, who compiled 202 aerial yards in 301-yard total-offense day against Minnesota, is the conference's best percentage passer and was named Big Eight Back of the Week for his role in the Gopher win.

Missouri, with the reacquisition of Wallace, will be even stronger in rushing defense than it has been. But the Tigers' pass defense, fifth in the Big Eight, is not as reliable.

Tagge's primary targets — Larry Frost, Jim McFarland, Frank Patrick and Guy Ingles — are bracing for a lot of football.

The new discovery (the Husker ground game) will keep Mizzou honest. Nothing more.

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