

Devaney: Missouri's grass field won't change Huskers' game

Not playing on an artificial surface doesn't bother Nebraska football coach Bob Devaney. Even slotback Johnny Rodgers, who has discovered the advantages of cutting on the AstroTurf, doesn't seem concerned about the real grass field at the University of Missouri.

"I've played on a grass field before," said Rodgers. "I'm sure I'll have to get the feel of it at first, but I don't really think it's that important."

The Cornhuskers, who open their Big Eight schedule at Missouri Saturday, have been practicing on a grass field this week. Saturday's game will be one of three that the Huskers will be playing on a grass field this year.

Oklahoma State and Hawaii don't have artificial turf either.

"We don't look as quick as we did on the AstroTurf," said Devaney after Wednesday's practice. "The change shouldn't be anything to worry about."

The Cornhuskers will wear longer cleats this week instead of the rubber-soled shoes they wear on the AstroTurf.

"You just can't cut with those other shoes on the grass," said Devaney. "We've

made everybody wear cleats this week. We've had a few problems with sore feet because some of the shoes are new, but they're feeling better now."

Devaney doesn't think Missouri's dismal 1-3 record will have an effect on the Huskers either.

"All we have to do is tell them we're playing Missouri," said Devaney. "That should be enough to get them fired up."

"I'd like to have them go into this game with a certain amount of relaxation, but determination," said Devaney. "If they're relaxed then they'll play the type of ball they're capable of."

There will be no changes in the starting lineup from last week.

Husker quarterback Jerry Tagge continues to lead the Big Eight in passing with a 66 per cent accuracy. The Green Bay,

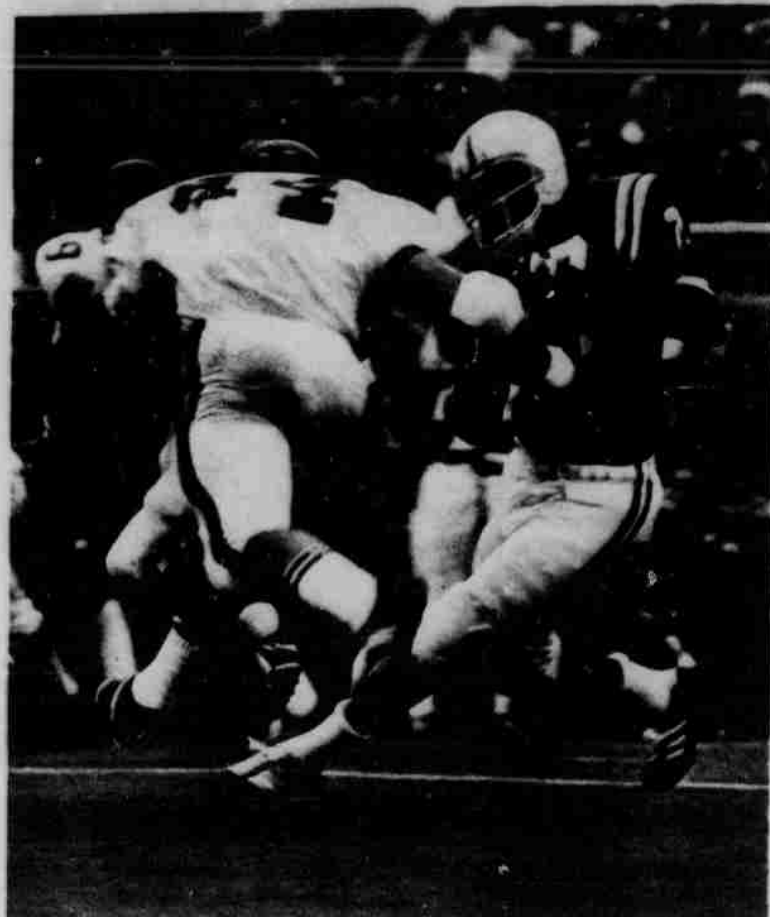
Wis., senior has completed 47 of 71 attempts for 677 yards and six touchdowns.

Rodgers leads the conference in touchdown receptions with five. Rodgers has caught 19 passes for 237 yards in the first four games. Johnny R also leads the league in kickoff returns with a 37.6 average.

Nebraska's defense leads the Big Eight in three departments—passing defense, scoring defense and total defense. The Huskers are second behind Kansas State in rushing defense.

Nebraska is giving up just 107.5 yards passing per game, 209.5 yards in total offense and 6.8 points. The Huskers have given up just 102 yards average in rushing in their first four games.

Kansas State leads the league with a stingy 56.3 average against the rush.



Rodgers...doesn't think grass surface will hinder running.

Frosh will meet MU in season opener

by Jim Johnston

You just don't live in Chillicothe, Mo., without being a University of Missouri football fan. So Nebraska freshman defensive back Ardell Johnson won't be discouraged if he doesn't have the full support of his hometown fans when the Cornhusker frosh open their season Friday against Missouri at Columbus

Johnson, an all-stater in Missouri while playing for Chillicothe, was a walk-on at Nebraska this fall. He will be a starting defensive back for the Husker frosh Friday.

"I TALKED TO a Nebraska coach by telephone last May about playing football at Nebraska," remembers Johnson, "but I was still undecided if I wanted to play college football. The Nebraska coaches informed me that they didn't have anymore scholarships to offer, but to let them know if I wanted to play football at Nebraska."

The University of Missouri also contacted Johnson. But Johnson didn't give Missouri much consideration because

the school didn't have an architecture program to offer.

"That was one of my problems in deciding if I wanted to play college football," said Johnson. "I wanted to spend time studying architecture and didn't want football to interfere."

Johnson decided to attend Nebraska because of the school's architecture program. But he didn't decide to go out for football until later.

"I WAS INJURED in high school and I felt it might affect

me in college football," says Johnson. "But now I'm glad I decided to play football. I don't think being a walk-on made things any tougher. I was treated fairly."

Johnson isn't the only walk-on starting in the Nebraska defensive secondary. George Kyros, a walk-on from Grand Island, will be starting at safety and walk-on Herbert Roundtree will be at the other cornerback position.

Nebraska freshman coach Jim Ross is optimistic about his team.

"I think they're a good bunch of kids," said Ross. "We don't have a real standout player, but we have a good group of solid football players."

Terry Luck, a 208 pounder

from Fayetteville, N. C., will be the starting quarterback. Luck is a hard runner who has adapted quickly to Nebraska's style of football.

HE WAS AN all-conference performer in high school for four years and lettered in football, basketball and baseball each of his four years in high school.

Greg Pickington and Tony Davis will be sharing the I-back spot.

The fullback slot will be filled by Tom Ruud from Bloomington, Minn. Ruud, who weighs 212 pounds, was also an all-state performer in football. Ritch Bahe from Fremont is the leading contender for the wing back position.

Neinas named Big Eight commissioner

Charles M. Neinas, assistant executive director of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, Wednesday was named commissioner of the Big Eight Conference. Neinas succeeds Wayne Duke who resigned in August to become commissioner of the Big Ten Conference.

Neinas, 39, was named by conference faculty representatives, the league's governing body.

Intramurals

Thursday, October 7

5:00-V1, Abel II B vs. Sigma Phi Epsilon B; V2, Phi Delta Theta B vs. Tau Kappa Epsilon

B; V3, Gooding vs. Schramm IV; V4, Schramm X vs. Schramm VI; W1, Schramm VIII vs. Schramm II; W2, Abel XIII vs. Abel IX; W3, Abel XII vs. Abel X.

6:30-V1, Abel XI vs. Abel VIII; V2, Abel VII vs. Abel III; V3, Abel VI vs. Abel IV; V4,

Abel V vs. Abel II.

7:30-V1, Abel VI B vs. Farmhouse B; V2, Chi Phi B vs. Theta Xi B; V3, Triangle B vs. Alpha

Tau Omega B.

8:30-V1, Kennedy vs. Pershing; V2, Governors vs. Pike; V3, Custer vs. Patton.

CO-REC SCHEDULE

Sunday, October 10

Vine Street fields

2:00-V1, Burr 1 vs. Alpha Chi Omega; V2, Alpha Xi Delta 2 vs. Superstuds; V3, Abel 2 & Sandoz 8 vs. Cornhuskers; V4, Alpha Tau Omega vs. Burr 2.

3:15-V1, TKE & KD vs. He's and She's; V2, The Ramparts vs. Triangle Fraternity; V3, Rabbits vs. Frank Zappa; V4, Delta Upsilon vs. Students.

4:30-V1, Farmhouse vs. Ag Men; V2, Abel 10 vs. Burr 3 Memorial Stadium.

3:30-Alpha Xi Delta 1 vs. Gus 3

4:45-Custer House vs. Jim Chilners



Ardell Johnson

two supergroups jam at the Royal Grove this Saturday night. . . .

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SUNSHINE and TILLIBUCK

(the no-name group you heard on Broyhill Mall a few weeks back)

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The Royal Grove

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