

Injury cancels defense contest

This was supposed to be the week that Nebraska's defensive secondary would be put to the test. The week when the Big Eight's leading passer goes against the leading pass defense in the conference.

It ain't gonna happen. Well, it probably ain't gonna happen. David Jaynes, Kansas' junior quarterback who has passed for 1,204 yards this season, was injured against Kansas State last week and probably won't play against Nebraska in Lawrence Saturday. Jaynes has a deep bruise in his right shoulder.

But Nebraska coach Bob Devaney isn't overlooking the possibility of Jaynes playing against the Cornhuskers.

"He may still be the best quarterback Kansas has, even if he is hurt," Devaney said. "He may still start. I guess we wouldn't know if he could pass until they had a third and eight situation and decided to run."

Kansas coach Don Fambrough, however, has indicated that flanker-turned-quarterback Bruce Adams will call the signals for the Jayhawks. Adams is the leading receiver at Kansas this year, but was a quarterback in high school and quarterbacked Kansas' freshman team.

Bob Bruegging, who is recovering from an ailing back, also is considered as a possible quarterback starter.

Devaney admits that Jaynes' doubtfulness has made the Huskers prepare more against KU's running game this week. And the Husker coach doesn't hesitate to say that "Kansas is the best offensive team we've played since UCLA."

The Cornhuskers had little trouble against the Jayhawks' running game last year. Kansas lost 55-0 in Lincoln and was held to minus 42 yards rushing. Those statistics may be misleading, however. Most of those minus 42 yards resulted

from dumping the quarterback. And Delvin Williams, the Jayhawks' leading rusher, played only two plays against the Huskers before being injured for the rest of the game.

"Anytime you have good football players carrying the ball and the other fellows get inspired there is a chance for offensive spark," Devaney said. "Kansas had good people at pivotal positions."

Since Kansas had concentrated on its passing game this season, Williams has carried the football only 56 times in five games. He is averaging, however, 5.2 yards a carry.

Williams is expected to carry the football more against Nebraska. He's quick and he finished third in the Big Eight indoor 60-yard dash last year behind Colorado sprinters Cliff Branch and George Daniels.

KU's other leading rusher is Jerome Nelloms, who has carried the football 53 times for a 5.1 average.

Kansas operates mainly out of a pro set formation—two running backs split behind the quarterback, with the split end and flanker spread to opposite sides.

"I doubt if Kansas can change their offense drastically in a week," Devaney said. "We have to prepare as if Jaynes was still the quarterback, and they will be doing the same things."

Nebraska also will be without one of its offensive backfield starters. I-back Gary Dixon, Nebraska's leading rusher, will not make the trip to Kansas. Dixon suffered a fractured jaw and bruised knee against Missouri last week.

Dave Goeller will start at I-back with Jeff Moran serving as the No. 1 backup. I-back Don Westbrook also will make the trip.

Devaney still was uncertain of his starting fullback. Bill Olds, who didn't play against Missouri because of a fractured bone in his hand, is expected to play this week.

jim johnston

B-ball letterman leaves the court to assist Cipriano

It went unnoticed by most basketball followers in Nebraska.

There was no mention of it during press day for Nebraska's basketball team last Monday. There wasn't even a little asterisk next to the list of returning lettermen with a note that Randy Watts, a two-year letterman at Nebraska, was not playing basketball his senior year.

Watts decided to forego his senior year on the basketball court "because I didn't think I had a chance of playing much this year." Watts now is assisting Head Coach Joe Cipriano as a graduate assistant.

Watts didn't reach the decision not to play until this fall.

"I went to see Coach Cipriano. I just wanted to know where I stood," Watts said. "I've always felt I was good enough to play at Nebraska, but I didn't think I'd gained enough experience sitting on the bench the past two seasons to make it worth while this year."

So Watts and Cipriano came to an agreement. "I think coach Cipriano was a little surprised at first," Watts said, "but he leveled with me. He said I had a chance to play this year, but he didn't make any promises."

Cipriano then offered Watts the position of graduate assistant.

Watts had no trouble in deciding to take the position. The experience can't hurt. He plans to return to his home state of Kentucky and coach basketball after he graduates next fall.

Entertaining the fans

Nebraska football fans—and even the players—are finding ways to keep entertained in between those weekly slaughters on Saturday afternoon. Kansas, the Huskers' opponent at Lawrence Saturday, hasn't been the topic of conversation this week unless you're one of those folks who hopes Nebraska gets back on the betting sheet.

Look what's been keeping the fans entertained this week.

An Omaha paper quotes former Nebraska I-back Jeff Kinney as saying "I think Oklahoma will beat Nebraska this year." The article is slapped on the bulletin board in Nebraska's dressing room with a notation—"Good Old Number 35."

Kinney then responds by saying he was misquoted and that "I've always been a Nebraska fan—and am real close to the Nebraska alumni in Kansas City."

Then there was the incident with the card section. Some folks were offended by the "Screw Mizou" and "Johnny R is Shifty" captions mysteriously flashed at halftime. Why all the excitement? It's probably the first time anybody has ever paid attention to the usually boring card section. The plot was ingenious. That took more strategy than planning the 62-0 win over Mizou.

The week concluded with a drawing on the front page of *The Omaha World Herald* of a football player hiking a football over Interstate 80. Included was a revolving restaurant in his helmet and student housing down the player's hairy legs.

Sounds real attractive. Maybe they could include a bowling alley in his jockstrap.

Then there was the announcement of Johnny Rodgers' engagement to Maxine Proctor of Chicago. That should keep the society women buzzing. Johnny likes to keep everybody entertained.

Oh well, it's better to have those things to worry about than next week's opponent. Think of poor Colorado. The Buffs not only have to worry about Oklahoma Saturday, but the Colorado pep club also is concerned about Ralphie, the buffalo mascot, who did her thing right on the field last week. Thankfully, however, Ralphie dumped on the Iowa State side of the field.

Predictions

Nebraska 52, Kansas 0... David Jaynes is fortunate that he won't be playing. At least it won't hurt his statistics for all-Big Eight quarterback.

Oklahoma 35, Colorado 20... Tickets for the Nebraska-Colorado game may be easier to obtain after this loss.

Iowa State 31, Kansas State 21... The Cyclones should rebound after their first loss, unless they're still complaining about the officiating at Colorado.

Oklahoma State 28, Baylor 17... Brent Blackman is healthy again.

Notre Dame 42, Missouri 0... The Irish will try to score more points than the Huskers.

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