

daily nebraskan sports

Everett, pressure was evident

By Bob Cullinan

Nebraska vs. Wisconsin was just another road trip for Earl Everett. He assumed his customary position on the sidelines, and proceeded to watch the game.

Then, mid-way through the first quarter of play, veteran quarterback Dave Humm sustained a hip pointer injury, and Everett was called into action.

"It was a totally new experience for me," Everett said. "Usually I go into a game when we're winning by 30 points." This time the story was different, as Nebraska had a slim one touchdown lead.

Everett was prepared to play at any time during

the game, but this chance came unexpectedly. "I didn't have time to prepare myself mentally," Everett said. "It hit me all of a sudden. I didn't have a chance to say to myself, 'Earl, you've got to do this,' or 'Earl, you've got to do that.'"

The pressure on Everett was evident as he mis-cued the center and the backfield, causing the offense to look sluggish and disorganized.

Everett spent the majority of his freshman season learning the Nebraska offense, and saw limited game action. He is not bitter at sitting out last year, saying that he didn't really expect to play much when he came to Lincoln.

"I lacked the timing between myself and the center, and the backs," Everett said.

To improve that timing, Everett is now working with the first unit this entire week. Previously, he had practiced only one day each week with the first stringers.

Every Big 8 school except Oklahoma recruited Earl Everett. He was also sought after by such prestigious football schools as UCLA and Iowa. He decided on Nebraska on the basis of its academic programs, and the familiarity he felt here.

His former high school coach, Bill Myles, was very influential in Everett's decision. Myles is now Husker offensive line coach.

"I wanted to go somewhere that I wouldn't be a complete stranger," Everett said.

Everett has gained the reputation as a running quarterback, although he would actually prefer to throw the ball more.

"I hardly ever ran in high school," he said. "But when I got into a game here, we were usually ahead and it would have been crazy to throw the ball. We wanted to keep it on the ground and run out the clock."

Saturday Everett will face his first test in front of 76,000 screaming fans. If he passes, his name will become a household word. If he fails, he may spend the rest of the road trips sitting on the bench.

Upsets on the horizon

Hi, fans! Sorry to report that I only predicted two out of 14 games correctly last week, but my crystal ball seems to be in better focus this week.

Look for the favorites to come through in most instances. I see only a few upsets on the horizon.

After much study and contemplation, my predictions:

West Chester 14, East Stroudsburg 10

This game should decide the championship of the Western Division of the Pennsylvania Conference, with West Chester seeking its sixth straight title. The Golden Rams handed East Stroudsburg its only loss last season, but the revenge factor should be more than offset by West Chester's home field advantage.

Richmond 30, The Citadel 7

The Citadel was trounced by Delaware last week, but don't expect them to find any mercy at the hands of the Richmond Spiders. Besides, how can a team lose with a nickname like that?

dennis onnen press box review

Alma College 28, Grand Valley State 7

My special of the week. I pick Bob Devaney's alma mater in a mild upset.

Nevada at Reno 59, Portland State 7

I won't gamble on this one. Player of the Year Mike Ballentine and virtually the entire defense returns from the Wolf Pack squad which demolished Portland State 59-0 last year. Portland State is improved, but not that much.

Arkansas Polytechnic College 24, Henderson State College 14

This fierce intrastate rivalry is so unpredictable the bookmakers have refused to take bets on it. When the Wonder Boys of Polytechnic and the Reddies of Henderson meet, anything can happen. Although the Reddies are favored and have looked impressive so far this year, they could be looking ahead to Harding College. With their vociferous fans behind them, the Wonder Boys will make the Reddies turn pink.

Austin College 17, Nebraska Wesleyan 0

The Austin Kangaroos should hop all over the Plainsmen. After convincing opening losses to Colorado School of Mines and Peru State College, Wesleyan is well on its way to a nonwinning season.

Nebraska 35, Northwestern 3

The other Lincoln team also is in action, and the Huskers should recover from their shocking loss to Wisconsin. Northwestern wouldn't have a chance even if quarterback Mitch Anderson was healthy.

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