

sports shorts

KU opener to test Big 8 dominance

When the University of Kansas (KU) Jayhawks open their 1976 season Saturday in Corvallis, Ore., against Oregon State University, it could mark the beginning of another season which Big 8 Conference football teams dominate those from other conferences.

Last season, Big 8 schools posted a 29-7 mark against non-conference opposition, despite winning only one of four post-season contests. The 29-7 mark translates into a winning percentage of nearly 81 per cent, a Big 8 record.

In the last five years, the record has been equally impressive. Beginning with the 1971 season, the Big 8 has posted successive marks of 28-8-1, 25-12, 27-7-1, 23-11 and 29-9 against non-conference opposition.

The Big 8 has fared best in games against schools from the Missouri Valley Conference, winning all 12 games between the two conferences in the last five years.

The only major conference the Big 8 has failed to dominate in recent years is the Southeastern Conference. The Big 8 five-year mark against SEC opponents is only 10-9. Big 8 schools were victorious in all three games

between the two conferences last year however, including the University of Missouri's (MU) stunning 20-7 nationally televised upset of Alabama in MU's opener.

Other major conferences and the Big 8's mark against them are: Big 10, 16-5; Southwest, 23-10-1; Pacific 8, 14-6-1; Atlantic Coast, 6-1; Western Athletic Conference, 14-4; major independents, 29-8 and others, 7-2.

The University of Oklahoma (OU) Sooners lead the Big 8 in non-conference winning percentage with a 22-0-1 record. The Huskers are second at 23-3 and the University of Colorado (CU) is third with an 18-5 mark.

Other Big 8 schools and their non-conference records are: Kansas State University, 14-6; Oklahoma State University, 14-6-1; Iowa State University and MU, 14-8 and KU 13-9.

Missouri appears to have the toughest non-conference schedule in the Big 8 this year, facing the University of Southern California and Ohio State University on the road and hosting the universities of Illinois and North Carolina.

The sale of UNL season football and basketball student tickets continues today and Friday in the Coliseum.

Season football tickets cost \$20 for six home games and basketball tickets cost \$8 for 11 games in the new NU Sports Complex.

The Coliseum will be open from 9 a.m. to noon and from 1 to 4 p.m. today and Friday. Students who purchased football tickets last spring can pick them up by presenting their student identification cards and ticket receipts.

All new students and those who did not purchase tickets in the spring will be seated in the North or South Stadiums.

The first home football game is Sept. 25 against Texas Christian University. The home basketball opener is Nov. 27 against the University of Iowa.

Entries for intramural fast- and slow-pitch softball are due today at 5 p.m. in the Recreation Office, 1740 Vine St. A \$7 entry fee must accompany each entry.

Play will begin Sept. 7. For additional information, contact Gale Wiedow, coordinator of program planning intramurals, at 472-3467.

A meeting for all freshmen who want to play baseball at UNL will be Tuesday, Sept. 7 at 4 p.m., in the second floor auditorium of the South Stadium office bldg.

To participate in fall varsity baseball tryouts, students must attend the meeting.

Any female student who wants to try out for one of the nine intercollegiate women's sports at UNL should attend a meeting Thursday at 7 p.m. in the second floor auditorium of the South Stadium office bldg.

The women's coaches will be introduced and practice times for each sport will be announced.

Women interested in playing field hockey for UNL this fall should attend tryouts today and Friday from 2 to 4 p.m. at the Women's Physical Education (WPE) Bldg.

Final tryouts for the UNL women's volleyball team are at 3:30 p.m. today and Friday in WPE 313.

Workouts for UNL's women's swimming and diving program begin next week. Women should report to the WPE pool Tuesday, Sept. 7, at 2 p.m.

UNL students who want to play rugby this fall should meet at the Cather-Pound Recreation Field Tuesday, Sept. 7, at 6 p.m. For additional information, contact Tom or Jim at 432-7751.

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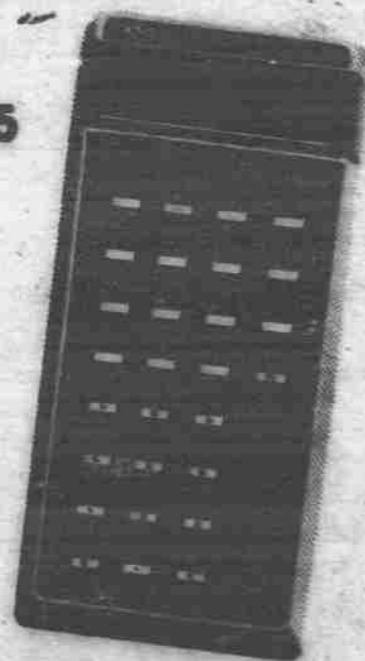
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