

Osborne well acquainted with 'Missouri rollercoaster'

No one can blame Nebraska head coach Tom Osborne if he had a sinking feeling when he heard Kansas State upset Missouri 19-3. Especially since the Huskers play the Tigers Saturday in Columbia.

Osborne probably knows better than any other coach in the country the success the Tigers have had being the "giant killers" of college football the past seven seasons. In six meetings against Missouri, Osborne-coached teams have two victories. And every one of those Missouri upset wins have darkened what otherwise were bright

seasons for the Huskers.

What might bother Osborne even more is the knack Missouri has for coming off disappointing losses for stunning upsets. Nebraska has been victims of this "Missouri rollercoaster" two times.

Here is the history of Missouri's upset victories:

It all began in 1972. Nebraska had demolished the Tigers 62-0 the week before they were to meet Notre Dame, the seventh-ranked team in the country. What was to be the "wipeout of the year" turned

out to be the "upset of the decade" when the Tigers shocked the Fighting Irish 30-26 in South Bend.

THE NEXT UPSET was in 1973 and was against—you guessed it—Nebraska. The Huskers entered the game unbeaten and ranked second in the nation, but a Husker two-point conversion failed in the last minute of play to seal a 13-12 Tiger win.

Illinois. But Missouri rode the rollercoaster to the top again the next weekend with a 22-21 upset of Ohio State at Columbus, Ohio.

Six weeks after ruining the season for USC—it was the Trojans' only loss of the season—Missouri put a damper on the Huskers season as well, using a 98-yard touchdown pass in the fourth quarter to hang the first loss on the Huskers 34-24.

This year was supposed to be different for Missouri. Instead of being a "giant killer," the Tigers were supposed to be one of the giants. But losses in three of the past four games, however, have cut the Tigers from that status.

The question now is if Missouri will play the role of the "giant killer" again. With the Huskers ranked second in the country and a major contender for the national championship, the Tigers might be primed for another major upset.

The Tigers also could use a win over Nebraska to try to salvage what is left of the season and for a possible bowl bid. It's definitely going to be a fired-up Missouri team that will play Nebraska Saturday.

But if you balance that against the revenge factor the Huskers will have and the improvement the team has shown every week, an upset by Missouri doesn't seem as likely. Despite that though, Osborne probably won't relax until the Huskers have this one under their belts.

Husker tankers prepared to 'make a mark' in Big 8

By Paul Martin

Nebraska men's swimming coach Cal Bentz says he feels that had just a couple of things gone differently at last year's Big Eight meet, his team could have won the conference championship.

As it was, Kansas took home the title and NU finished fourth. This year Bentz and his swimmers envision a different ending.

The team began two-a-day practices last week and the atmosphere at the Bob Devaney Sports Center's swimming pool is one of confidence and optimism.

"We've seen improved performances in our practices this year," Bentz said. "We're ready to make our mark."

Husker sophomore Steve Elliott, who will be looking for his second Big Eight crown in the three-meter dive, is also confident the team will be competitive.

"I definitely think we'll be strong because of the great coaching and the excellent attitude the team has developed this year," he said. "This team is practicing harder than the team ever did last year."

Besides Elliott, the Huskers have returning Big Eight champions in sophomore Rick Rhodes (100-yard breaststroke) and junior Will Douglass (200-yard backstroke).

Douglass said the team's goals go beyond winning the conference championship.

"We don't want to stop there," he said. "We want to go on to the NCAA meet and be competitive."

The Huskers, however, will not go un-

challenged in their quest for a Big Eight championship.

"There's no doubt the Big Eight championships will be the finest ever held," Bentz said.

The three teams that finished ahead of the Huskers last year, Kansas, Iowa State and Missouri, should all be strong again this year, according to Bentz.

Bentz said that both good recruits and walk-ons have added to the team's overall strength this year.

Kansas State has dropped their swimming this year, leaving six Big Eight schools with swimming programs. Because of this, Bentz said depth becomes an important factor for the remaining teams.

Rhodes said a much improved weight-lifting program has helped the swimmers considerably this year.

Bentz also said he feels the weight-training facilities have been valuable to his team. He said that weight-training provides a great supplement to the swimming program.

The team members held a meeting earlier this year where individual and team goals were discussed. Douglass said one of the team's primary goals was to concentrate on winning the Big Eight this year. Douglass said the team is "getting rid of the attitude that we can't win the Big Eight."

According to Elliott, Bentz has the team aimed in the right direction.

"He knows what it takes to be champions," he said. "And what else could you ask for?"

No financial aid? Visit that office

Students who filed for financial aid after July 15, 1979, and have not received an award or other contact should immediately visit the Financial Aids Office, Director Don Aripoli said.

"Students who turned in financial aid request forms before July 15 will be automatically considered for spring financial aids," Aripoli said. "However, those students who brought in documents following July 15 cut-off date will now have to fill out another short form."

He stressed that students planning on applying for Guaranteed Student Loans also apply for aid through the Financial Aids Office.

"In the past, it was easy for a student to get a guaranteed loan," he said. "But now, guaranteed loans will be much harder to obtain," Aripoli said, explaining that high interest rates and a tight money market have reduced the availability of money to be loaned out through the program to banks.

sports shorts

UNL students interested in officiating and timing during Nebraska swimming meets for the 1979-80 season should attend a meeting 7:30 Thursday night in the Conference Room at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

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1974 was another rollercoaster year for the Tigers. After upsetting Arizona State the third game of the season, Missouri came back the next weekend and was swamped by Wisconsin 59-20. A supposedly down Missouri football team came back the next weekend after the Wisconsin loss to knock off Nebraska 21-10, in Lincoln.

Missouri kept the tradition going in 1975 when they shocked a highly rated Alabama team 20-7 in Birmingham. That year the Huskers smashed the Tigers 30-7 in Columbia.

It was 1976 that Missouri had their best year as the "giant killer" as well as spending the whole season on the rollercoaster. The Tigers opened the season with a 46-25 win over USC, but followed the next weekend with an embarrassing 31-6 loss to

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