

sports

Osborne says 'big, physical' ISU may be tough

By Tad Stryker

At the start of the season, Tom Osborne was hoping that Iowa State would provide his team with a breather before it faced Oklahoma in what could be an emotional encounter.

"But it doesn't look that way now," Nebraska's head coach said at the weekly Extra Point Club luncheon Monday.

The Cyclones started fast, racing to a 5-0 start before losing their last four. They seem to be on a downswing, but Osborne said if their running game is effective, they could be as tough as Missouri, which beat Iowa State 14-10 Saturday.

"Iowa State seemed to have more momentum at the end of the game. Missouri was on the ropes, but they hung on," he said. "Iowa State just flat ran over them." He said that ISU is a big, physical team.

"They'll have the biggest offensive line we've faced so far," he said, "and Dwayne Crutchfield will be the biggest quality back we've seen. We'll have to stop their running game if we are going to win."

No walkaway

"I was hoping Missouri would give Oklahoma a tough game and we could go to Iowa State and not have to play 60 tough minutes—kind of a turnaround from 1978," he said. Missouri still may give Oklahoma all it can handle, but Osborne said he's not counting on a walkaway at Ames.

Of the Kansas State rout, Osborne said, "All the coaches and players were pleased with the most complete game we've played all year.

"I thought the kicking game was pretty good," he said. The Huskers kicked two field goals, punted only once, and, according to Osborne, covered kickoffs pretty well, except for one. The Wildcats broke second-half return beyond the KSU 40 against the second-string kickoff team.

Also, "we didn't make real good decisions on punt returns," Osborne said. Dave Liegl had a 21-yard return, but on other punts he "fielded the ball when he shouldn't

have, and let a couple go he should have caught," Osborne said.

Osborne said jokingly that what really upset him about Saturday's game was that K-State tried and made a two-point conversion after their touchdown.

"I try to be a nice guy, and where does it get you?" he said. "We led 33-0 after (Mark) Mauer's touchdown near the end of the first half, and I could have gone for two. But when I did that at Lawrence, I got half the state of Kansas mad at me, so we kicked the extra point. Then Jim (KSU coach Dickey) turns right around and goes for two on me. I was real irate about that."

Unfriendly neighbors

"We don't have too many friendly neighbors right now," Osborne said, referring to the controversies that have followed him so far this year. "We've got half of Kansas, all of Missouri, and half of Iowa mad at us, all because of the game of football."

Osborne praised the freshman team's 5-0 season and said the freshmen would probably play the Huskers' redshirted players in a scrimmage Thursday.

"They (freshmen) will probably get more competition from them than they got from most teams they played this year," Osborne said.

A freshman-redshirt scrimmage was played last year, and Osborne said it turned into a spirited battle.

"Solich (Husker freshman coach Frank) already told me he wants to bring in some outside officials for the game," Osborne said. "He doesn't want me or Lance Van Zandt to referee the game, like we did last year. I think he feels his team got cheated," Osborne said with a smile.

The scrimmage will be the final action for most of the freshmen, but a few will be used on the scout team next week to help run the wishbone offense for the Husker defensive team, Osborne said.

"We'll take some of the faster guys, like Irving Fryar and Turner Gill, and use them in practicing against the wishbone," he said. "I think it's important that we get a lot of speed in there before we see Oklahoma."

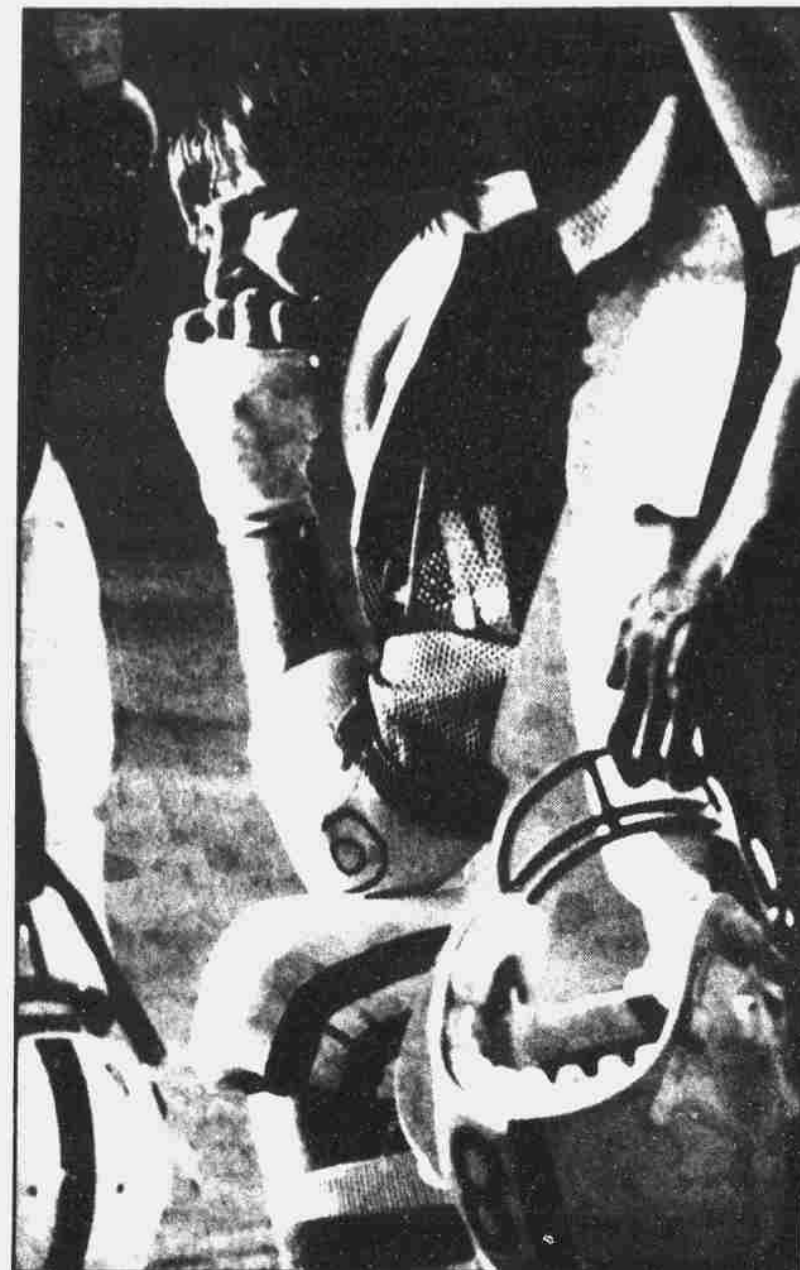


Photo by Mark Billingsley

Defensive end Derrie Nelson watches Saturday's action from the sidelines because of a pulled hamstring. Coach Tom Osborne is hoping to have Nelson back in time for this week's Iowa State game.

Training changes increase swim team optimism

By Joni Kramer

Competing in the Iowa State Relays the weekend of Nov. 1 opened the Nebraska women's swim team season. Finishing fifth, Coach Ray Huppert said the team score wasn't that good, but individual times were.

"This year we have a smaller team. We lost quite a few through graduation, and three swimmers are injured, so we just don't have the numbers," Huppert said. "The individual times, however, were quite good for this early in the season."

According to Huppert, the practice format from last year hasn't changed, but the team is concentrating on different areas.

"We've made some changes in our program," Huppert said. "Our weight program is centered more around power and our swimming workouts are run with more intensity each day."

Huppert said there has not been any problems with the changes, and practices are going extremely well.

"We're already ahead of ourselves from last year by quite a bit. This comes from the girls hard work and acceptance of workouts," Huppert said.

Mental boost

Beginning the competitive season has been the best mental boost for the Huskers since training started in September, he said.

"The mental attitude is getting better now that the team is going into their meet season. They have the opportunity now to see themselves under a competitive meet atmosphere, so the spirit's better," Huppert said.

The average age of this year's team is 19, which has its advantages and disadvantages, Huppert said.

"Getting young people from different parts of the country brings in different philosophies that can add to the program. The only problem with a young team is the adjustment to a different environment that freshmen have to make, but most make the adjustment quite well," Huppert said.

New recruits

New recruits this year include Marie Suppers from Minnesota and Sandra Killon from Toronto, Canada. Huppert said both are very talented as well as versatile. Another recruit is Ann Stahlmecker, a diver from Canada who Huppert said he is happy to have.

Walk-ons include Ann Briggs, a diver from Lincoln, and Janet Goodridge, a swimmer from Illinois.

Coming up on Nov. 13 to 15, Nebraska has three meets back to back. They meet Colorado State in Fort Collins on Thursday, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming in Laramie on Friday, and a seven-team relay meet in Laramie on Saturday. Huppert said having three meets so close together

is not hard for the swimmers to handle at this point in the season.

"Early in the season, consecutive meets aren't bad, because of the intense training we're going through right now," Huppert said.

Tough competition

The toughest competition Nebraska might face this season, according to Huppert, will be in the first home meet against Kansas, and the Husker Invitational.

"The week following Kansas we host the Husker Invita-

tional. It should be an interesting meet with a lot of talent and it should be one of the finest meets in the country this season," Huppert said.

Eight of the nine teams competing in the Husker Invitational scored at the national meet last year.

Huppert said he expects a tough, but good season, and hopes for a lot of support.

"We've had tough competition before, but we have to maintain our philosophy and have to swim the best to get better," Huppert said.

Women win; freshman bowls perfect game

By Scott Ahlstrand

The UNL Bowling Team has a new look this year, and has started the season off right.

Competing in the Husker Invitational Collegiate Bowling Tournament at the Nebraska Union lanes, Nebraska's women finished first among the four-team field, while the men finished third.

The women were paced by Judy Harrington, who finished the twelve-game tournament with a 170-pin average. Freshman Kevin McGeer led the men with a 193 average that included a 300 game. McGeer's game was the first sanctioned 300 game in the history of the UNL bowling team and also the first sanctioned 300 by a UNL bowler on the union's lanes.

Husker Coach Rollie Hughes said that he hopes the changes the team has made will allow it to remain successful for the rest of the season.

"We change the team concept every year, trying to get closer and closer to the perfect format," Hughes said. "This year, more and more responsibility lies with the bowlers. They make up their own rules, and except for a few basics that I set down, they have total control over the team."

Hughes said he feels that the main reason for all the changes comes from the lack of financial support that the team receives.

"Except for a little bit of aid that the rec room provides, the bowlers have to pay their own way. Since bowling isn't recognized as a collegiate sport, we don't receive any aid from the university," Hughes said. "I've always had the philosophy that it is hard to dictate rules to a team when they pay their own way a good deal of the time."

The students decided where and when they would practice and what meets they would attend.

The team decided to drop out of the Kansas-Nebraska league to save money.

"I think the move to drop out of the Kansas-Nebraska league was just about the best thing we could've done," Hughes said. "The league took too much time and traveling. The team decided to attend more team tournaments instead. Now the team doesn't have to miss as much school, and because we've cut down on our traveling we have less financial problems."

To alleviate some of their fiscal worries, the bowling team is going to hold a bowl-a-thon Nov. 14. The bowlers will take pledges for each game bowled and their goal is to earn \$100 per bowler.

The money that the team earns will go to paying their way to tournaments. The team will attend the Kansas State Classic, the St. Louis Collegiate Invitational and the Las Vegas Collegiate Invitational, among others.

Although the team is preparing for these tournaments, its main goal is to reach the National Collegiate Finals in March.

"We have to finish first or second in our regional tournament to make it to the sectionals, then if we win the sectional, we'll be in the finals," Hughes said. "We're in a really strong regional, we've got Wichita State (the defending men's national champion) and some other tough teams in there."

"Our women should have an excellent chance," he said. "and if our men perform well they'll have an opportunity. The regional being held here will also give us a home-lanes advantage, and that should help our chances."