

sports

UNL tries to pick from best of high school crop

By Ken Havlat

Nebraska is about to see its best high school basketball recruiting crop ever, according to UNL Coach Moe Iba.

The Nebraska entrant in the Southern Nevada Coaches' all-star tournament last month finished fourth of 24 teams and Iba tabbed the team "the best high school players to come from Nebraska since I've been in this state."

Iba said UNL is going for as many as seven in-state recruits but said he is unsure how many of those could be enticed to attend UNL.

"Just because players come from Nebraska doesn't mean we are going to get them to play for their state. We have to recruit very hard and work at it," Iba said.

One of the new National Collegiate Athletic Association rules that went into effect this fall allows no contact between colleges and prospective athletes during the months of September and October so the student-athlete can properly train for the upcoming season.

Coach of the Nebraska contingent, Mick Anderson, said in a telephone interview he really didn't know what to expect from his team entering the tournament.

Mystery team

"We were the mystery team of the tournament. No one knew what to expect from us. We were disappointed that we lost the consolation finals in the last seconds against Utah and settled for fourth place. I hope the experiences we had this year are stepping stones for the future," Anderson said.

To prepare for a tournament like this, considered the top prep tournament in the country, the Nebraska team, according to Anderson, had little time to prepare for it but were able to make the most out of it.

"We were able to squeeze in 14 practices. It gave us the chance to be more organized on the level of basketball we were participating in," he said.

One of the competitors for the Nebraska team, Mark Diaz of Lincoln Northeast High School said the tournament was a good experience playing with and against some of the best high school players in the country.

"It was kind of scary at first, but once you got over that, it was great competing against them," Diaz said. He said he has received letters of interest from Wyoming, UNO and Nebraska Wesleyan. While they were at the tournament, Diaz said some of the players mentioned how they were being recruited by most of the Big Eight and Big Ten schools and how some of the schools were send-

ing a letter each week to keep them interested in playing for their school. He said he knows he'll be contacted several more times once the basketball season begins.

Expect more

Will people expect more from him next year?

"They might think I should do really well," Diaz said.

Anderson said Nebraska compared well with other teams but he felt the teams from New York and Alabama probably had more rough talent, although another team he mentioned, Oklahoma (which won the tournament) played in five tournaments over the summer.

"A thing to realize is California had six teams in the tournament, so they couldn't put out all of their best ball players on one team," Anderson said. "We had an advantage because we picked over a state-wide area. You can't say West Los Angeles had a representative team. The team from New York was good," he said.

Iba said improvement in the game of high school basketball has come because of summer basketball leagues.

"There aren't too many other states that have more people interested in basketball than Nebraska does," Iba said. "It is a credit to high school coaching because it is getting better every year."

Wildcat coach going all out for good '82 season

Editor's Note: This is the sixth part in a series pre-viewing Nebraska's 1981 football opponents. The stories will run in the order Nebraska plays the teams this fall.

By Tad Stryker

What does a year-in, year-out also-ran think about? Not all the dirt of the past decade, that's for sure. Coach Jim Dickey and his Kansas State Wildcats are looking toward the future. Not just in the trite manner that coaches with losing records often shrug off another bleak-looking season. Dickey has decided to more or less forego this year while looking for good things in 1982.

Dickey shocked the Big Eight Skywriters last week by announcing he was "strongly considering" reshirting seven of his finest players, many of them two-year starters, in an all-out attempt at bringing football respectability to K-State the following year.

The fourth-year coach said he wanted to make a winner out of K-State, that he has not been satisfied with mediocrity. Apparently he is willing to risk his own future to reach his goal.

"If we don't do well in 1982 I'll probably be working at a car wash somewhere, anyway," he said.

Among the seven starters to be redshirted are all-conference guard Amos Donaldson and linebacker Will Cokley, the Wildcats' leading tackler last season. Dickey said several of the seven had asked him to redshirt them.

Even with all the attention being given to 1982, Dickey still has a season to worry about this fall. He has said he hopes to field a "pretty decent team" without his red-shirts.

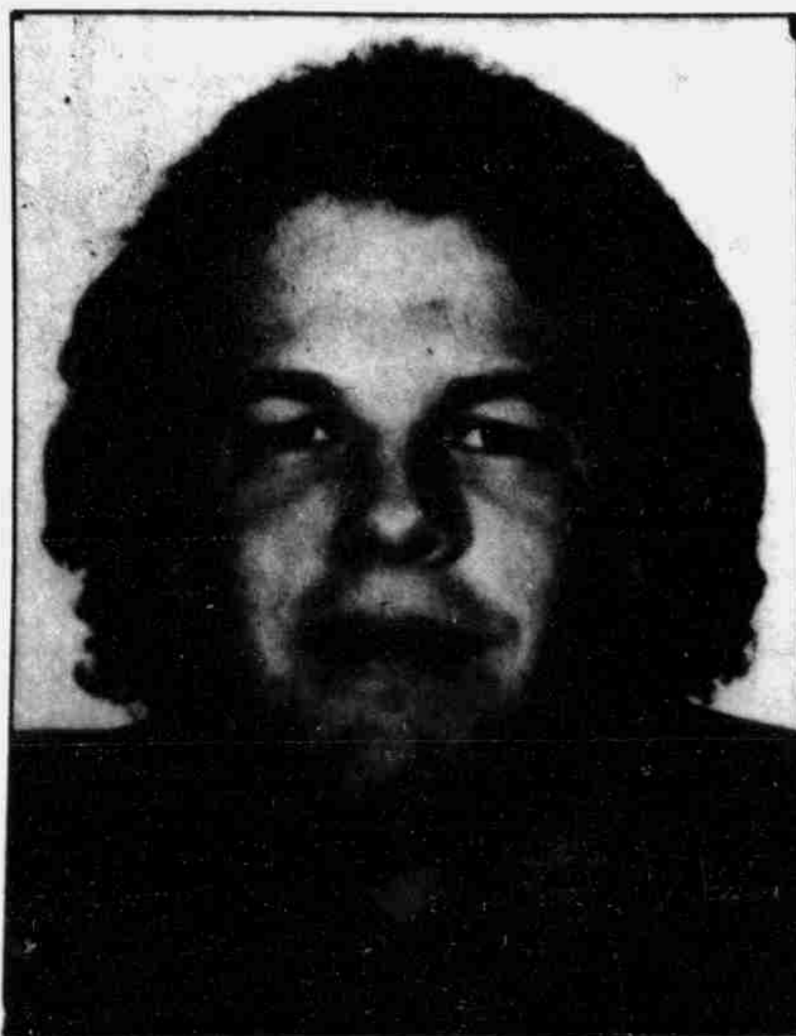


Photo courtesy of Big Eight Service Bureau

Kansas State quarterback Darrell Dickey

K-State is leaning toward a more pass-oriented attack behind coach's son Darrell Ray Dickey, the coach said. This change is eagerly welcomed by his son, a preseason all-conference selection in Big Eight magazine.

"We hope we can open up our running game by using the pass more," the junior quarterback said last week.

The Wildcat running game will be operating behind what the KSU Press Guide called a "vastly-improved" offensive line, but that was before Donaldson and tackle Doug Hoppock were removed from this year's picture.

Freshman kicker Steve Willis could be a bright spot for the Wildcats.

"Willis is one of the best young kickers I've ever seen," Dickey said.

Fledgling soccer club may gain clout after schools give sport varsity status

By Ward W. Triplett III

When Paul Hornby arrived on the UNL campus as a freshman, the Miami native was disappointed to notice the lack of soccer competition in Nebraska.

"It was such a big deal in Miami," Hornby said. "When I came up here, nobody seemed to care much about soccer."

Hornby, a 22-year-old senior, is the president of the UNL soccer club, a still fledgling group that opens its season this Saturday at Concordia College.

Hornby, a three-year veteran who will be the club's goalie, runs the club with fellow veterans Matt Brickell and Mike Bosilevac.

"In the past few years, interest has picked up a little bit, and that's hard to do here because of the football team," Hornby said.

In the past, the soccer club was made up of foreign players who, on the average, didn't attend school.

"We just changed it to where you have to be a student to play. Before that, we had these foreign guys who would come down and use the university fields and all, but were not a part of the school," he said.

Only two foreign players are among the 40 trying out for the team as of last Friday, Hornby said. Aside from the three captains, Joe Casey, Rich Bene, Phil Strey, Bill Rauth, Jon Morton, and John o'Connor will return from last year's 12-10 fall squad. The team was 7-4 in the spring season.

"When the practices are over, the three of us will get together and decide who stays and who doesn't. We'll keep 25 guys total and suit up 15 or 16 for road games," Hornby said.

Because there is no organization like the NCAA overseeing soccer matches, teams are responsible for their own scheduling and expenses, Hornby said.

"Right now, if you want to play somebody, you get on the phone, or write them, and then pick out a date to play," he said. Nebraska opponents include all of the schools in the Big Eight plus UNO, and state colleges like Dana, Concordia and York. "It's a pretty extensive schedule," Hornby said. "We're sponsored by the Miller Brewing Company, and they buy our uniforms and pick up the travel expenses, so we really appreciate them."

The number of people trying out is a good sign of the

sport's growth, Hornby said, though some of those people eventually quit.

"When they see the level of play we have here, some of the guys who know they aren't that good will drop. But the game takes a lot of dedication. You have to be in it because you like the game, nothing else."

Because soccer is not a varsity sport, players less dedicated often drop out. But Hornby doesn't see that as a problem this year.

"We practice from 4:30 through 6 p.m. and if you're into other things, like a fraternity, and have to study a lot too, it's hard to keep up. Especially during the season when we'll have a game every fourth day," he said.

Since Missouri and Colorado are close to being varsity teams, Hornby said he feels it won't be long before soccer is picked up by the public and made into a scholarship sport.

"In the near future, I think there's going to be a big interest in the game around here. After Missouri and Colorado get big enough in it, some other schools are going to start growing that way too."

sports shorts

Men's, women's and co-recreational intramural punt, pass and kick competition will be at the Cather-Pound Recreation Field today, 4 through 7:30 p.m.

Women's and co-recreational flag football entries and men's and women's fast pitch softball entries are all due before 5 p.m. today at the Recreation Office, 1740 Vine St.

A mandatory managers meeting for all women's and co-recreational intramural flag football teams will be held at 4:30 p.m. Sept. 3 in Coliseum 7.

Nebraska's Jim Hartung won his second consecutive Caesar's Palace Gymnastics Invitational all-around championship at Las Vegas, Nev., Saturday.

Hartung edged runner-up Bart Conner of Oklahoma, 58.05-57.95. Scott Johnson, also of Nebraska, finished third with a 57.55 and Phil Cahoy was seventh at 56.25.