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Coach: Huskers need to crack Auburn wishbone

By Bob Asmussen

The Huskers haven't played Auburn since the 1964 Orange Bowl, but they are very familiar with the Tiger offense. Like Oklahoma's Barry Switzer, Auburn Coach Pat Dye employs the wishbone.

In the last five years the Huskers have played against the wishbone in eight games. They have lost six of the eight with the two wins coming against Alabama in 1977 and Oklahoma in 1978. Coach Tom Osborne said the wishbone presents a problem because there are so few teams that use the formation.

"The wishbone is hard to adjust to," Osborne said. "It doesn't give you a chance to get much continuity going." Osborne said the Saturday game against Auburn will help prepare the Huskers for the Oklahoma game.

"It's awful hard to get ready for a wishbone team the

last week of the season," Osborne said.

Osborne said the Tigers do more things with their wishbone than Oklahoma. He said the Tigers use more variations, motions and put the ball in the air more.

"They do a lot of things offensively," Osborne said. "It's still basically the wishbone."

Osborne said Auburn's 1-2 start may be because of the adjustment the players have had to make. Auburn ran out of the I-formation until Pat Dye took over the program last spring.

"It sometimes takes you a year or so to get things fine tuned," Osborne said.

In general, Osborne said Auburn appears to be an aggressive, hard-hitting team.

"They've moved the ball pretty well," Osborne said. "They have a very good fullback."

Osborne said the Huskers' attitude going into the game is good. He said this week's practices have been reasonably good.

"I think if they're ever going to play hard they'll do it now," Osborne said. "We've got our backs against the wall. I haven't seen any indication they're not going to play hard and fight back."

As far as injuries are concerned, Osborne ruled out two players for sure, Steve McWhirter and Nate Mason.

"We hope Steve will be able to play next week," Osborne said.

Second team fullback Doug Wilkening suffered a pull behind his knee in practice early this week.

"We're hopeful he'll be all right for Saturday," Osborne said. "We have Mark Moravec running number two at fullback."



Photo by Mark Billingsley

Nebraska players Tony Felici, Jimmy Williams, Henry Waechter and Jeff Krejci scramble for a second quarter fumble in last week's game against Penn State, while PSU's quarterback Todd Blackledge looks on. Husker cornerback Ric Lindquist eventually recovered the ball and UNL scored a field goal seven plays later.

Auburn's wishbone pale imitation of OU's

Cornhuskers picked to be 2-2 after the Tigers

Iowa cracked the top 20 this week. Big deal, you say? Consider this: The last time Iowa was in the top 20 Ronald Reagan was still an actor.

But excuse the Hawkeye fans if they aren't exactly jumping with joy. United Press International rates the two teams Iowa has beaten — UCLA and Nebraska — ahead of the Hawkeyes. That is so ludicrous that it defies comment. Suffice it to say that it points out once again how unequal the polls are.

jeff goodwin

Auburn at Nebraska. Probably no one thought before the season started that Nebraska would be 1-2 heading into the Auburn game. But virtually everyone thinks the Huskers will be 2-2 heading into the big showdown with Colorado.

Of course, any team that runs the wishbone is dangerous (except UNO), but Auburn's wishbone is only a pale imitation of Oklahoma's. Add the fact that this is the first year Auburn's had the wishbone offense and you have the possibility of numerous fumble recoveries by the Black-shirts.

If Nebraska can't beat Auburn it's time to pick up the footballs for the rest of the year and start the gymnastics season early: Nebraska 31, Auburn 13.

Missouri at Mississippi State. After beating three lame teams, Missouri faces its first real test of the year.

Mississippi State is ranked ninth, a position it may or may not deserve (see above). Mississippi State's ranking isn't likely to make a great deal of difference to the Tigers, who have a tradition of beating highly ranked teams.

Mississippi State probably has better material than Missouri but the team was busy last week preparing for Florida. It's hard to believe that Warren Powers hasn't found a few minutes during those preparations for Army, Rice et. al., to get ready for the Bulldogs: Missouri 28, Mississippi State 23

Colorado at UCLA. The bookies have made UCLA a 20-

point favorite in this game, which is interesting when you consider the UCLA Bruins won 56-14 last year.

What does this mean? Is Colorado 22 points better than last year? Is UCLA 22 points worse? Or is Colorado 11 points better and UCLA 11 points worse? None of the above. It means Colorado is just as bad as ever but someone is giving the team the benefit of a doubt. Add UCLA's loss last week to Iowa and you have the makings of another rout along the lines of last year's: UCLA 42, Colorado 10

Other games:

East: Harvard 14, Army 10; West Virginia 26, Boston College 14; East Carolina 21, Duke 12; Maine 31, Lafayette 30; Navy 24, Yale 20; North Carolina 38, Georgia Tech 14; North Carolina State 23, Virginia 7; Penn State 41, Temple 20; Maryland 24, Syracuse 23.

CFA wants stronger academic rules

By Kevin Warneke

The College Football Association has been out of the news lately, but according to Elayne Donahue, administrative assistant to CFA director Chuck Neinas, that doesn't mean it still isn't around.

"The CFA is having a board of directors meeting this weekend to come up with legislation that will be presented at the NCAA meeting," Donahue said.

The NCAA meeting will be Dec. 3 and 4 in St. Louis, Mo.

The meeting, according to Dave Cawood, director of public relations for the NCAA, is to introduce legislation about the restructure of Divisions 1A and 1AA. The legislation would make the criteria for being in the two divisions more stringent.

One of the major differences between the CFA and the NCAA concerns TV property rights.

"We feel that television rights should belong to the individual colleges, whereas the NCAA feels they should be governed by themselves (NCAA)," Donahue said.

Cawood said the NCAA says college property rights

should belong to the individual colleges, but in a different sense.

"Nebraska has property rights to television," Cawood said. "For example, if ABC called and wanted Nebraska to change the date of the Oklahoma game, they could, but they still must abide by the NCAA restrictions concerning television."

Another major issue with the CFA, according to Big Eight Commissioner Carl James, is academic regulations for athletes.

James said the Big Eight has always had stricter academic regulations and the CFA is pushing for that.

Donahue said the purpose of the CFA includes providing a unifying organization for similar athletic philosophies and programs. The CFA also hopes to show that sponsoring a quality intercollegiate football program is consistent with goals of higher education, he said.

The organization plans to continue efforts to eliminate abuse attributed to college football, particularly the exploitation of the student athlete, Donahue said.

Also included in the purposes of the CFA is a clause which reads, "to operate within the structure of the NCAA."

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Men's, women's and co-recreational intramural place-kicking will be at Memorial Stadium from 2:45 to 6 p.m. Sunday. Participants should enter the stadium at the time of the event.

The UNL soccer club will play in the Ed Chartrand Tournament Saturday and Sunday at Manhattan, Kan. The Huskers have a 3-0 record with wins against Concoria College, UNO, and York College.

The Chartrand tournament, which is at Kansas State's Memorial Stadium, includes UNL, Oklahoma State, Colorado, Iowa State, Kansas and Kansas State.

The Nebraska baseball team will have an intrasquad scrimmage game at 10 a.m. Saturday at Buck Beltzer Field. Admission is free.

The Nebraska junior varsity football team will play Oklahoma State at 1 p.m. today in Memorial Stadium. The game time originally scheduled for 1:30 p.m. was changed to accommodate a request by the Auburn Tigers for a late afternoon practice at the stadium.

The Nebraska volleyball team will compete in the Southwest Missouri State Invitational today and Saturday at Springfield, Mo.