

# Sports



"I think one team is going to win and one team is going to lose."

## Exclusive hype from Pontiac

There is something noticeably lacking in this year's Super Bowl: hype. Oh, ESPN is doing its bit, rerunning 60-minute highlight films of all of the previous Super Bowls. But CBS, the network that gets to telecast the game this year, has gone to the soft-sell approach. No stories about the

are Lee Iacocca.

Maybe the people whose job it is to push the Super Bowl have just ran out of things to say about it. There have been enough previous Super Bowls, and enough superlatives and claims attached to each one, that there just isn't anything new to say.

All of these are acceptable but shaky reasons not to push the Super Bowl this year, but nevertheless the 49ers and the Bengals deserve a better fate.

With that in mind, here is the first piece of Super Bowl hype, just to get the ball rolling:

Pontiac, Mich. — Both teams held informal workouts today in preparation for Super Bowl XVI. Forty-niners Coach Bill Walsh was optimistic, and expected an offensive struggle.

"I think the key to the game is going to be points. If we can score more points than they do, I think we can win," said the NFC Coach of the Year.

Cincinnati Bengals Coach Forrest Gregg disagreed, foreseeing a defensive struggle. "We have to make sure they don't score as many points as we do. I think that's the only way we can win," Gregg said, who guided the Bengals to the best record in the AFC.

Asked whether the Silverdome crowd pulling for the NFC team, the 49ers, might hurt the chances of his Bengals, Gregg said, "Sure, it will be like a road game for us, but we've been playing well on the road all year. Beats me why they won't let us play in the stadium, but the road will have to do."



Pat Clark

high-society types enjoying themselves at the Super Bowl site, no daily reports from the respective camps of the two teams gearing for the titanic struggle, no "expert analysis" from the usual heard of retired coaches and players, no anything.

While it is refreshing to get this close to a Super Bowl without it having already been played out on paper 100 times, it is also something to wonder about, given the ballyhoo surrounding the 15 previous Super Bowls.

Maybe CBS thinks it has a dog on its hands. After all, the San Francisco 49ers and the Cincinnati Bengals are not teams that we are used to seeing in the Game of Games.

Another possibility is that there isn't anything going on to hype. Most years, the very worst the television crews can come up with is a few predictions from some movie and television celebrities, but the fact is that celebrities who can afford not to don't go to Detroit in mid-January. Detroit doesn't have one of those real Fun City reputations anyway, especially if you

## Despite competition pressure coach confident for victory

by Patty Pryor

The UNL men's gymnastics team will be without the full services of Jim Hartung and Steve Elliott when they travel to Ames, Iowa, this weekend for a triangular meet with Iowa State and Oklahoma.

Hartung underwent elbow surgery over the holiday break and has regained "full range of motion," Coach Francis Allen said. But he still is not ready for all-around competition.

Freshman Mike Bowers will replace Hartung as an all-arounder this weekend, but Hartung will most likely compete in floor exercise and vaulting, Allen said. Hartung has been vaulting using only one arm during practices all week.

Elliott a floor exercise specialist, is recovering from torn ligaments in his ankle and will not make the trip, Allen said.

In addition to Bowers, UNL's all-arounders this weekend will be Phil Cahoy, Scott Johnson and Jim Mikus.

Cahoy has been troubled recently by an injured shoulder, but is "doing just fine now," Allen said. "We rested Mikus and Cahoy over vacation, which was real good for both of them."

Other competitors will include Frank Hibbitts and John Balluff on pommel horse, possibly Ron Gallegos on high bar and rings, and Brandon Hull on parallel bars.

Without Hartung and Elliott competi-

tion should be closer than in previous meets, but Allen said he still expects a Nebraska victory.

"Whenever Hartung's injured, I get real nervous," he said. "But we should still win by a couple of points if Bowers does OK."

Allen said that Bowers had some problems in competition against the Japanese All-Stars in December. He said the problems were caused mainly by scheduling conflicts rather than actual shortcomings in Bowers' performance.

Originally, Bowers had planned to be off the entire Christmas season, Allen said, but because of a change in the rules, he was told the day before the meet that he would be competing.

"A gymnast really needs a couple weeks to prepare, mentally and physically," Allen said. "We had to rush preparation too much, and he just wasn't ready."

Allen predicted a second place finish this weekend for Iowa State, for whom Bowers' twin brother Mark competes, but he did not underestimate Oklahoma's capabilities.

"Oklahoma had five gymnasts leave (at the start of the season) and five gymnasts stay, and they're not a bad team at all," Allen said. "If they rally at all, without Hartung and Elliott there, they could possibly win the meet."

The Nebraska Educational Television Network will televise the Ames meet, Saturday, Jan. 30, at 3 p.m.

## Huskers drop close contest

By Cindy Gardner

The hot second-half shooting of Oklahoma State's Leroy Combs spoiled Nebraska Coach Moe Iba's return to his old stomping ground as the Cowboys defeated the Huskers 52-50 at Stillwater, Okla., Wednesday night.

Combs tipped the ball in with just three seconds remaining to hand the Huskers their sixth loss of the season.

After leading by as much as seven points in the first half, the Huskers ended the period up by one, 29-28. The Cowboys were able to control first-half tempo and forced the Huskers to play their faster-paced style of ball.

The opening minutes of the second half also belonged to OSU. Behind the shooting of Combs, the Cowboys grabbed the lead and went ahead by seven with 13:00 remaining.

The Huskers played successful catch-

up ball and a jumper by Jack Moore knotted the score at 46 with less than 10 minutes remaining.

Nebraska went ahead 48-46 with 7:00 left when Kenny Walton hit both ends of a one-and-one. Iba's crew ran some time off the clock by employing a spread offense. The tactic failed, however, as the Huskers lost the ball on a five-second call.

Freshman Joe Atkinson tied the score and OSU went ahead when Matt Clark made good at the foul line.

Nebraska knotted the score again at 50 before Combs put in the winning basket. The Cowboys were able to stall nearly 2:00 off the clock while waiting for the final shot.

Combs lead all scorers with 20 points while Jack Moore paced the Huskers with 10.

Nebraska, now 1-2 in Big Eight Conference play, meets Iowa State at the Bob Devaney Sports Center Saturday.

## Royals' outfielder sets sights on World Series

By Bob Asmussen

Kansas City Royals' outfielder Willie Wilson has some interesting advice about stealing bases.

No, he doesn't advocate a certain amount of lead when a runner gets on base. No, he doesn't say which pitchers are easy to steal on or anything about the mechanics of stealing. Wilson's advice deals with numbers.

"One of these years I want to go out and steal 120 bases," Wilson said. "But if I do it now, they'll expect me to do it every year."

Wilson was in Lincoln Monday night along with first baseman Willie Aikens and announcer Fred White to promote Royals baseball. The promotion was sponsored by radio station KFOR which broadcasts the games in the Lincoln area.

Wilson has mixed feelings about last season. He expressed disappointment that the Royals didn't get back to the World Series.

"I was disappointed in the way we played the first half of the season," Wilson said. "The second half gave us a chance to show we weren't as bad as the first half indicated."

Last season, which included a two-month strike by all major league players, was not a good one for the Royals. They went from being a 1980 World Series team to a 1981 cellar dweller. The strike caused the season to be split into two halves. Kansas City made up for its poor play in the first half by winning during the second half and earning a spot in the Western Division playoffs. But Oakland defeated them 3-0

in the playoffs, so they had to watch the World Series on television.

"When you go from second best to one of the worst it really disappoints you," Wilson said. "Guys got cocky and took things for granted."

### Manager a problem

Wilson said one of the team's problems was former manager Jim Frey.

"Managing had a lot to do with it," Wilson said. "Frey wanted to play a power game and not a running game. He (Frey) was from Baltimore and he wanted us to play like Baltimore."

How does Wilson account for the 1980 season when Frey was everyone's manager of the year? Wilson said it had very little to do with Frey.

"He didn't have to manage in 1980," Wilson said. "We'd get up 5-0 and he'd have it made. You don't have to manage when you got a player batting .390 (George Brett) and another leading the league in hits (Wilson)."

Wilson said he didn't like the split season even though it did help the Royals. He said he would not be in favor of expanding the playoffs to more teams.

"It was like a hand-me-down play-offs," Wilson said. "It was too much time involved. It was not baseball. I like to go 162 games, one playoff, one World Series."

### World Series his goal

Wilson said he has set no personal goals for the 1982 season. He said his only goal is a team goal of getting back to the World Series.

"The first time I set goals I hit .217 and sat on the bench," Wilson said. "The next year I hit .315 and didn't set any goals. The year after that I hit .326 and led the league in hits. I'm not going to set personal goals anymore."

Wilson was a three-sport star at Summit High School in Summit, N.J. He can run a 40-yard dash in :04.3, but never participated in high school track. "I was the alternate on my playground relay team," Wilson said.

"I wanted to play college football at Maryland," Wilson said, "but I was drafted by Kansas City and couldn't pass that up. Longevity had a lot to do with it. As a running back my career could end on one play. Baseball is a little less hazardous."

Wilson will move to center field in the upcoming season. He said he expects the Royals to win again.

"We can still win and win consistently," Wilson said. "Winning starts upstairs in the head."

Wilson said it's tough to maintain concentration throughout the long season. He said every player tries to find something that will motivate him.

"If you're a competitor and you don't like to lose, you find something to get you going," Wilson said. "I hate to lose and I hate to strike out."

One thing that haunts Wilson is his performance in the 1980 Series. After his tremendous season, he struck out 12 times in the Series.

"The year seemed like nothing after the Series," Wilson said. "I want to get back in the World Series and redeem myself."