

Magazines tab . . .

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Street and Smith's College Football Yearbook 1982, published by Conde Nast Publications of New York, says "Nebraska's defending champions should outclass the Big Eight and make their strongest bid for a national championship since Tom Osborne became coach in 1973." Street and Smith picks the Sooners for runner-up honors and tabs Kansas for third place in the conference.

The magazine has Nebraska ranked third in the nation with Washington picked as champion and Pittsburgh as runner-up. Rimington is the only Husker on Street and Smith's all-American team, although Rozier made the second team.

Athlon's Big Eight Football, published by Athlon Publications of Nashville, Tenn., also sees the Huskers as conference champions but warns "it won't be a cakewalk. Oklahoma will put up a fierce fight." Athlon's tabs Pittsburgh for national title honors but has the Cornhuskers second. Oklahoma was sixth in the poll with Missouri coming in at No. 16.

The Big Eight, an annual publication distributed by Football Enterprises, Inc., of Oklahoma City, Okla., published a poll of 16 Big Eight area sportswriters. The Huskers were named the favorite on 13 ballots while the Sooners were the pick of three writers. The writers also picked an

all-Big Eight team. Huskers picked for that team are Craig, Rozier, Rimington, Damkroger, Williams, Felici and tackle Randy Theiss.

Huskers Illustrated, the Nebraska sports magazine published by Sports Publications, Inc. of Tulsa, Okla., picks Nebraska as conference champion. The Sooners come in at No. 2, followed by Missouri, Oklahoma State, Kansas State, Iowa State, Kansas and Colorado.

Not everyone sees good things for the Huskers this season, though. Danny Sheridan's 1982 College Football Magazine, published by Palisades Publications of Palisades, N.Y., says "Oklahoma appears to be the best bet for the Big Eight title, returning most of the offensive punch that fell just short in 1981." The publication picks Nebraska to finish second in the conference and seventh in the nation. Alabama is Sheridan's national champion pick.

Nebraska also is picked to finish behind the Sooners by Football Action, a publication of Sports Eye, Inc. of Port Washington, N.Y.

"Tom Osborne finally beat Barry Switzer last season but he will find it a difficult chore in the coming season . . . The Cornhuskers will again play second fiddle in the Big Eight," the magazine predicts.



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