

Sports

Wildcats have positive attitude

By Jack Denker

The last time the Kansas State football team had a winning record when they came up against Nebraska was in 1970, when the Wildcasts were 6-3. KSU lost that match-up, 51-13, and finished the season 6-5.

One has to look back even further, to 1968 to be exact, to find the last time KSU beat Nebraska — a 12-0 game in Lincoln.

But 1982 has brought new life to the K-State program. Coach Jim Dickey believes this could be the year for a winning season — and possibly a KSU defeat of the Huskers.

"We're going to have to get some breaks to beat Nebraska," Dickey said. "But I've been coaching long enough to know there are upsets every week. I think we are going to do everything we can to prepare well."

Last season, the Cornhuskers routed the 'Cats 49-3 in Manhattan, but K-State was playing without the services of eight senior starters who had been redshirted. This year, those eight players are back along with eight other redshirts, giving the Wildcats depth at every position, a luxury they haven't experienced before.

The redshirt experiment appears to have been successful, because the Wildcats will come into Lincoln with a 3-1-1 Record, their best start since 1969.

Because of this fast start, KSU is approaching Saturday's game with a positive attitude, Dickey said.

"I've been here five years and they (Nebraska) have intimidated us each of the first four times, "K-State cornerback Greg Best said. "But that won't be the case this week. Us defensive players will have to make our minds up to shut them down."

Defense experienced

Much of the Wildcats' early season success can be attributed to an experienced defense. The 'Cats have given up only 56 points in five games for an 11.2 average, which ranks them ninth nationally in scoring defense.

The Kansas State coaching staff believes their pair of

senior linebackers, Dan Ruzich and Will Cokeley, are among the best in the Big Eight.

"Both of them are playing very well," Dickey said. "Our linebackers are going to do better because we are more physical on the line of scrimmage. We're getting situations now where our linebackers can just go make the tackles."

Ruzich has led the Wildcats in tackles every week so far this season and has 72 stops. Cokeley is second on the team with 52 total tackles. Dickey also cited tackles Reggie Singletary and Mike Simeta as tough competitors.

Injuries have plagued the K-State offense the last two games as it has scored only seven points in each outing.

The Wildcats played most of the game against Missouri last Saturday without their starting backfield. Dickey was forced to start two freshman running backs, Carlos Adams and James Ricketts.

Quarterback injured

Senior quarterback Darrell Ray Dickey suffered a mild concussion during that game, and his status for Saturday is unknown at this time. Starting tailback Mark Hundley, K-State's leading rusher with 274 yards, is the only running back expected to return this week.

"It's unfortunate that all of our injuries have hit one area," Dickey said. "We would be better able to cope if they had been spread throughout the team."

Coach Dickey said that injuries happen most often when a player is tired. To prevent further injury to K-State first-stringers, Dickey intends to substitute often against Nebraska, he said.

"If it looks like a physical mismatch we'll play a lot of people and try to keep them fresh," Dickey said.

Along with injuries, lately the K-State offense hasn't executed many of their offensive plays well.

"The biggest disappointment the last two weeks has been our lack of ability on throwing the ball and picking up the blitz," Dickey said. "We're not successful with very many running plays and we've missed a lot of blitzes."

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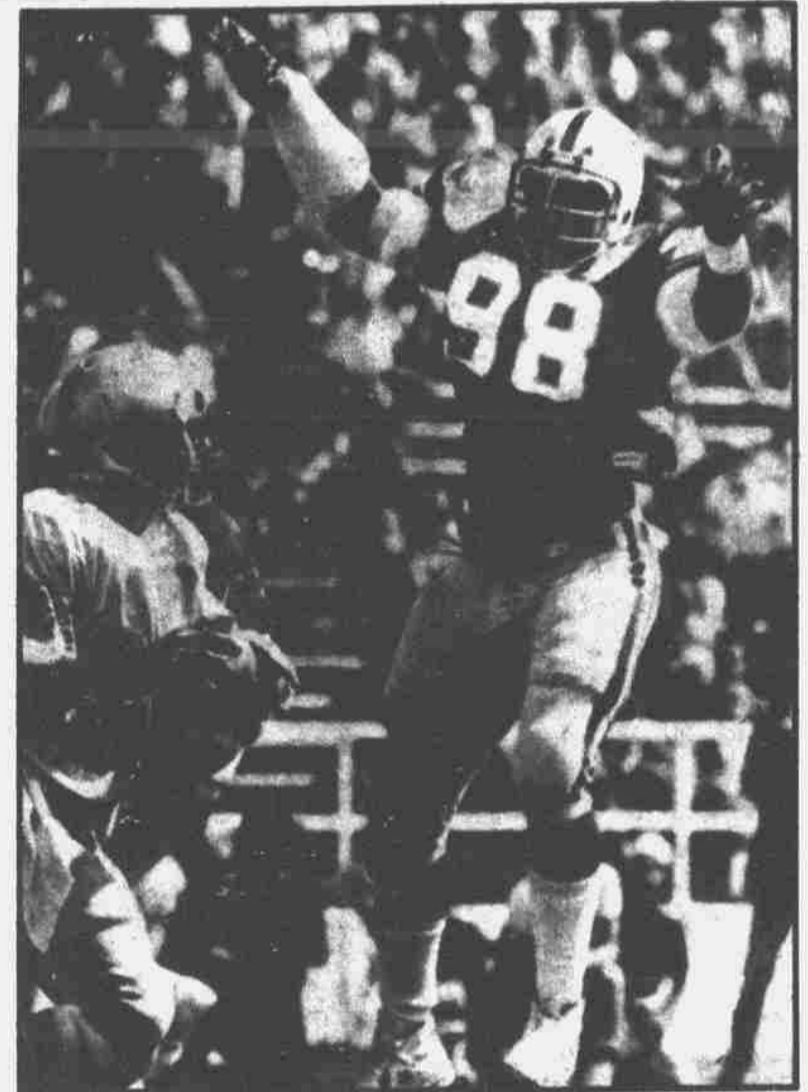


Photo courtesy Big Eight Service Bureau

Kansas State defensive tackle Reggie Singletary

Basketball recruits add needed stature to reorganizing team

By Bob Asmussen

Before the 1982 college basketball season even starts the Nebraska Cornhuskers have improved in one area — height. Nebraska has added to its roster 6-11 Dave Hoppen and 6-7 Jim Moore. Both players are taller than any of last season's players.

"I think there are a lot of question marks that we still have to answer," Nebraska Coach Moe Iba said. "Talentwise we're maybe more optimistic than a year ago."

"One thing is how well Dave Hoppen comes along at center. If he comes along to a point where we see he's going to be a major factor then we'll be able to try and move one of our centers to a forward position."

Not only does Iba believe that Hoppen's performance is important, but the other players agree. They see Hoppen as the possible big man in the middle that they have never had.

"I think his height will add an extra dimension that we've never had," Nebraska forward Claude Renfro said. "He'll be more of an intimidator. Last season teams would come into the game and post up on us. With Hoppen there now they'll have to think about it."

Iba said it was hard at this time for the team to set goals for the season. He said he'd have a better idea after the team practiced awhile as to what the team's realistic goals should be. While Iba doesn't have the goal set, Renfro does.

"I think everybody has high expectations for the team this season," Renfro said. "I'd like to have a successful last season. Success would be the team winning at least 20 games and getting into a post-season tournament."

One area of concern entering the season is the replacement of two of last season's starters, Jack Moore and Ray Collins. Iba said he didn't have any idea how the replacements for those two would perform.

"One of the players we were counting on, Eric Williams, has had a knee operation in the last two weeks," Iba said. "We've got a junior college guard who's never played major college basketball." "When you replace somebody who's handled the basketball as much as Jack did, as a coach, you're concerned."

Looking at the schedule, Iba said he sees several fine teams. He named Montana, Baylor, Creighton, Wyoming and a possible game with Indiana as teams that will present a stiff challenge to Nebraska.

"Our schedule is very difficult," Iba said. "I think our conference is going to be as good as it's been in the last eight to 10 years."

Hoppen said he doesn't expect to start at the beginning of the season. He said he would be happy to try to contribute as a reserve player and learn from the other Nebraska center.

Defeat by Texas Christian sends Rice to the top of The Bottom 10

The Small Fry

From its swampy vantage point, Claremont-Mudd (Calif.) can finally see a ray of sunshine. After all, the Mudders (0-4) scored for the first time this season Saturday — a touchdown, no less — though, of course, losing 7-30 to Azusa Pacific.

And with their margin of defeat declining from 49 points to 33 in 23 recent weeks, the Muddmen may be sufficiently improved by the end of the season to



Steve Harvey

hold La Verne to a 0-0 tie in their finale.

Elsewhere, Eastern Michigan, with a 23-game losing streak on the line, played badly when it needed to and pulled off a clutch 19-20 defeat to Toledo.

But previously winless Prairie View's dreams of capturing The Little Bottom 10 title evaporated in a 24-13 upset victory over Bishop (Texas). Somewhat less than inspired, Bishop was assessed a 15-yard delay-of-game penalty for showing up late for the second-half kickoff.

The Rankings

| TEAM, RECORD | NEXT LOSS |
|----------------------------|---------------|
| 1. Claremont-Mudd (0-4) | Occidental |
| 2. E. Michigan (0-5) | Ohio |
| 3. Cal Poly-Pomona (0-5) | Hayward St. |
| 4. Kent St. (0-5) | Ball St. |
| 5. Ohio St. (2-3) | Illinois |
| 6. Lubbock Christian (0-4) | McMurry |
| 7. Tex. Southern (0-5-1) | SE Louisiana |
| 8. Richmond (0-5)* | Louisville |
| 9. N. Illinois (1-4)** | Bowling Green |
| 10. New Mexico St. (1-5) | Wichita St. |

*Plagued with the nickname The Spiders.

**Includes loss to Northwestern.

Crummy Game of the Week: Lubbock Christian (0-4) vs. McMurry (1-4).

Special Citation: After losing three of its first four games, Southern Mississippi fired whom? The head coach? Nope. The play-by-play radio announcer.

The Big Fry

When Texas Christian elects to take three points off

the scoreboard against a team, you know the Frogs' opponent is poor. Rice-poor.

TCU had made a field goal to go ahead 3-0 Saturday, but on the play, one of the myopic Owls had stumbled into the Frogs' kicker. TCU took the penalty instead of the field goal and marched in for a touchdown en route to a 24-16 victory.

The Frogs' show of contempt was enough to send Rice (0-5) to the top of The Bottom 10. Virginia (also 0-5) fell from No. 1 despite a 0-48 drubbing by Clemson because (1) Ralph Sampson has agreed to play tight end for the Cavaliers, and (2) Clemson is still considered a threat to forfeit some of its wins.

Responding to last week's charge by Michigan Coach Bo Schembechler that Big 10 teams are ignored in the rankings because of "jealous" voters, The Bottom 10 selectors donated spots 11-20 to the conference. Enjoy, Bo.

The Rankings

| TEAM, RECORD | NEXT LOSS |
|--|-------------|
| 1. Rice (0-5) | Texas Tech |
| 2. Virginia (0-5) | Wake Forest |
| 3. UTEP (1-5) | Arizona St. |
| 4. Memphis St. (0-5) | Tulane |
| 5. Dartmouth (0-4) | Harvard |
| 6. Oregon (0-5) | Cal |
| 7. Cornell (0-4) | Brown |
| 8. Kentucky (0-4-1) | LSU |
| 9. Oregon St. (0-4-1) | Washington |
| 10. Texas ASM (2-3) | Baylor |
| 11. Michigan St. (0-5); 12. Purdue (0-5); 13. Minnesota (3-2); 14. Ohio St. (2-3); 15. Indiana (2-3); 16. Iowa (3-2); 17. Wisconsin (3-2); 18. Michigan (3-2); 19. Illinois (5-1); 20. Northwestern (2-4). | |

Military organizations receiving votes: Pentagon (Army, Navy, Air Force) (7-9).

Crummy Game of the Week: Memphis State (0-5) vs. Tulane (1-4).

Route of the Week: Arizona State (6-0) vs. UTEP (1-5).

Quote Book I: Virginia Coach George Welsh: "You're only as good as your last game, and on that basis, we're a terrible football team."

Quote Book II: Summing up his team's 21-31 loss to Northwestern, Minnesota Coach Joe Salem said: "This means we're terrible."

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