



Loss to Oklahoma would send NU to Fiesta Bowl

Analysis By Chuck Green
Staff Reporter

Saturday may be the longest day of the 1985 college football season for many teams.

It definitely will be the longest day for college bowl game officials.

The earliest time that bowl invitations may be extended is 5 p.m. Central Standard Time on Saturday — about the time the Nebraska-Oklahoma game will be winding to a finish.

Mickey Holmes, Sugar Bowl executive director, said the Cornhuskers will find themselves in a warm climate on New Year's Day, regardless of a win or loss Saturday.

"It's my understanding that they (the Big Eight) have worked out a deal to send the runner-up to the Sunkist-Fiesta Bowl," he said.

Holmes added that the deal also includes an agreement for the third-place team in the Big Eight to play in the Gator Bowl in Jacksonville, Fla., on Dec. 30.

Nick Crane, the Orange Bowl Selection Chairman, said top-rated Penn State will likely be the Big Eight champion's opponent in Miami, even if the Nittany Lions lose to Pittsburgh this Saturday night.

"The Penn State players voted to go to the Orange Bowl, if they go to any bowl at all," Crane said. "Also, we're able to extend invitations at 6 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) Saturday, and Penn State doesn't play until 7:30, so they'll be committed before they even take the field."

The big question concerning the Orange Bowl, of course, is who the Big Eight representative will be.

"In my heart, it'll be a hell of a game in Norman Saturday," said Alex Crutchfield, Sunkist-Fiesta

Bowl director.

Crane would not predict the outcome in Norman, but he did say that the Orange Bowl would be pleased with whomever the Big Eight sends to host the bowl game.

Here's how the other bowls appear to be shaping up:

● **Rose:** If Iowa beats Minnesota at home Saturday, the Hawkeyes will return to Pasadena, Calif., for the second time in four years. But if the Hawkeyes lose, the winner of the Michigan-Ohio State game will go. UCLA can clinch the Pacific-Ten berth with a win against cross-town rival Southern California, but 8-2 Arizona State isn't out of the picture either.

● **Sugar:** Holmes said the Miami Hurricanes, 8-1, are likely to face the Southeastern Conference champion. Tennessee appears to be in the driver's seat, needing wins against 5-5 Kentucky Saturday and 3-6-1 Vanderbilt next week. If the Volunteers sputter, they will be the likely opponent of Washington in the Freedom Bowl. LSU or Alabama will then earn the trip to New Orleans.

● **Fiesta:** Crutchfield said that if Michigan wins, the Wolverines will be invited, providing that Iowa isn't upset by Minnesota. If Nebraska loses to Oklahoma, they too will be spending New Year's Day in Tempe, Ariz. But if the Huskers win, the winner of the Oklahoma-Oklahoma State game will make the trip.

● **Cotton:** The Southwest Conference champion, which will most likely be Baylor, although Texas and surprising Texas A&M are coming on fast, will face either Auburn or Ohio State in the Dallas classic.

● **Gator:** Bobby Bowden's Florida State Seminoles are reportedly

set for an upstate drive to Jacksonville. According to Sugar Bowl Executive Director Holmes, the Big Eight's third-place team will be the opponent.

● **Florida Citrus:** Formerly the Tangerine Bowl, the inaugural Florida Citrus Classic (billed as "the best bowl trip in America") looks to be a good match-up. Lavell Edwards' 9-2 Brigham Young Cougars are likely to play either Ohio State or Auburn.

Other bowl projections look like this:

California: Fresno State vs. Bowling Green.

Cherry: Maryland vs. Syracuse.

Independence: Minnesota vs. Colorado or Clemson-South Carolina loser.

Holiday: Arkansas vs. Arizona State.

Liberty: Air Force vs. LSU, Tennessee or Alabama.

Sun: Georgia vs. Arizona.

Aloha: Alabama vs. Texas A&M or Baylor.

Freedom: Washington vs. Tennessee or Colorado.

All American: Georgia Tech vs. Michigan State.

Bluebonnet: Air Force vs. Texas A&M or Baylor.

Peach: Army vs. Illinois.

But the big game looks like the Orange Bowl — no matter who is there from the Big Eight.

"If Nebraska wins Saturday, they're in," Crane said. "If Oklahoma wins and then beats Oklahoma State, they're on their way. And if Oklahoma wins but then loses to Oklahoma State, then we'd be happy to have Oklahoma State. Only time will tell."

Time may seem to travel a little slower Saturday.

Freshman should bolster point spot

By Richard Cooper
Staff Reporter

For freshman Amy Stephens of the Nebraska women's basketball team, adjusting to college life hasn't been too hard: The two-time all-state selection from Alliance is the second string point guard for the Cornhuskers.

Nebraska women's basketball coach Kelly Hill said Stephens is pushing hard for the top point guard spot, but needs to get some experience and learn the system better.

"Amy is a real hard worker. She is definitely a positive addition to our program," Hill said. "She has good quickness and is an excellent perimeter shooter."

In her senior year at Alliance High School, Stephens averaged 35 points a game while leading her team to the state tournament. Last summer, she played in the Junior Olympics, and although her team was in the losers bracket, she made the Junior Olympic All-American team. Hill said that was a great accomplishment because players in the loser's bracket don't get much attention.

Hill said she first noticed Stephens in the Nebraska Women's Basketball Camp two years ago. She said she knew back then that Stephens was going to be a good player because every day during lunch and dinner Stephens was practicing her shooting.

"Amy is one of most dedicated players that I have seen in quite a while," Hill said. "She is very dedicated to improving herself in all skills."

Stephens said she chose Nebraska over Wyoming and Creighton because she has had a dream to play basketball at Nebraska. She signed her letter of



Photo courtesy UNL Sports Info.
Stephens

intent last November, which took a lot of pressure off her and allowed her to have a good senior season.

Stephens started playing basketball when her dad was a boys' coach at Alliance. She said she started hanging around the gym, and pretty soon she started shooting the ball.

"I remember when my dad would help my brother out after practice and I would hang around and watch," Stephens said. "It seems like I was the one that picked up all the tips, rather than my brother."

Stephens said she wants to go into teaching someday because she likes people.

"I know I need to improve in a lot of things, but I am looking forward to giving my best so our team can do well in the Big Eight this year," Stephens said.

NU wrestlers did well despite loss, coach says

By Doug Carroll
Staff Reporter

Despite the lopsided score, Nebraska's wrestling team didn't wrestle badly against Iowa State last week, Cornhusker coach Tim Neumann said.

Nebraska met the Cyclones in Ames, Iowa, and lost 34-4. However, Neumann said his team wrestled tough.

"In six of the matches we were there," he said. "We could have won (those matches)."

The Huskers tied the Cyclones in two matches.

A surprise came in the heavyweight match where Nebraska's Gary Albright lost to Iowa State's John Heropoulos. Heropoulos scored an escape in the third period for the win. Neumann said Heropoulos wrestled Albright smart and forced underhooks to make it look like Albright wasn't wrestling.

Heropoulos was ranked eighth in the nation at 190 pounds, Neumann said, but moved to heavyweight because he weighed 220 pounds. Albright was ranked third.

Despite the loss, Neumann said his team was on the right track. What the wrestlers need to do now, he said, is to believe in themselves. They're concentrating on practice now, he said.

Nebraska's next meet will be at the UNO Open this weekend. Neumann said it is a "real tough tournament." More than 400 wrestlers will compete, he said.

Neumann said his team has recovered from the loss to the Cyclones well. The Huskers have learned from it, he said, and he expects them to do better in the future.

The results from last week's match:

● **118 pounds** — Wallace Dawkins drew with Iowa State's Gary McCall, 9-9.

● **126 pounds** — Terry Cook lost 4-1 to Iowa State's Bill Kelly.

● **132 pounds** — Jeff Gibbons of ISU won by decision over NU's Gil Sanchez, 6-5.

● **142 pounds** — ISU's Joe Gibbons won by decision over Chris Marisette, 12-7.

● **150 pounds** — ISU's Tim Kreiger won by superior decision over Nebraska's Keenan Turner.

● **167 pounds** — Bill Tate won by technical fall over Nebraska's Dan Boardman.

● **177 pounds** — Steve Metzger defeated Nebraska's Cody Olson, 2-0.

● **190 pounds** — Nebraska's Joe Malace lost to Eric Volker 12-4.

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