

WINNINGEST ACTIVE COACHES

COACH/COLLEGE	YRS.	Won	Lost	Tied	Pct.	BOWLS		
						W	L	T
1 Tom Osborne, Nebraska	16	158	36	2	.811	8	8	0
2 Joe Paterno, Penn State	23	212	54	2	.795	12	6	1
3 Bo Schembechler, Michigan	26	224	63	8	.773	5	11	0
4 Danny Ford, Clemson	11	86	27	4	.752	5	2	0
5 Pat Jones, Oklahoma State	5	44	15	0	.746	3	1	0
6 LaVell Edwards, Brigham Young	17	155	53	1	.744	5	8	0
7 Terry Donahue, UCLA	13	108	38	7	.729	7	2	1
8 Pat Dye, Auburn	15	125	46	3	.727	5	2	1
9 Bobby Bowden, Florida State	23	185	70	3	.723	8	3	1
10 Herb Deromedi, Central Michigan	11	81	34	4	.697	0	0	0
11 Galen Hall, Florida	5	36	17	1	.678	1	1	0
12 Earle Bruce, Colorado State	17	131	66	1	.666	6	5	0
13 Don James, Washington	18	137	69	3	.663	7	4	0
14 Dick Crum, Kent State	15	111	57	4	.657	6	2	0
15 Fisher DeBerry, Air Force	5	40	21	0	.656	2	1	0
16 Lou Holtz, Notre Dame	19	141	75	5	.649	6	5	2
17 Claude Gilbert, San Jose State	13	93	51	3	.643	1	1	0
18 John Cooper, Ohio State	12	85	47	3	.641	2	1	0
19 Jim Young, Army	14	108	61	2	.637	6	0	0
20 Fred Akers, Purdue	14	103	58	3	.637	2	8	0

John Bruce/Daily Nebraskan

Osborne edges ahead of competitors

By Jeff Apel
Senior Editor

Troubled times for competitors and a sound program for the University of Nebraska-Lincoln have propelled Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne to the top of his profession.

Osborne became the winningest active Division I coach this season thanks in part to the hard times that have fallen upon the Oklahoma and Penn State football programs.

The Sooners suffered through a series of off-the-field incidents which ultimately played a part in the resignation of Coach Barry Switzer, while Penn State coach Joe Paterno suffered through a 5-6 season last year.

Osborne trailed Paterno and Switzer entering last season, but used a solid 11-2 season to raise his 16-year coaching record at Nebraska to 158-36-2. His .811 winning percentage edges Paterno and Michigan's Bo Schembechler,

who have compiled .795 and .773 marks.

Paterno, who handed Osborne a crushing defeat in 1982, has a 23-year coaching record of 212-55-2, while Schembechler's 26-year total is 225-63-8. Schembechler's Wolverines handed Nebraska a 27-23 defeat in the 1986 Fiesta Bowl in Tempe, Ariz.

Osborne said he credits his success to a strong coaching staff, good players and strong support from the administration. He said success was hard to predict for this year's team.

"We're just not as experienced as we've been in the past," Osborne said. "We lost 12 starters, and 11 of those were All-Big Eight players. So we not only have to replace a lot of people, we have to replace a lot of very talented players."

Trailing Osborne, Schembechler and Paterno on the coaching list are Clemson's Danny Ford and Oklahoma State's Pat Jones. Ford's 11-year coaching mark is

87-27-4, while Jones' 5-year total is 44-16.

The remainder of the top-10 coaches on the list are Brigham Young's LaVell Edwards, UCLA's Terry Donahue, Auburn's Pat Dye, Florida State's Bobby Bowden and Central Michigan's Herb Deromedi. Deromedi also has the prestige of being the only coach among the top 20 who has not participated in a postseason bowl game.

Osborne is the only coach on the list who has taken his team to a bowl game throughout his coaching career. His teams have responded by compiling an 8-8 record, including a 23-3 loss to Miami in the 1989 Orange Bowl.

Paterno's bowl record stands at 12-6-1, while Schembechler's is 5-11. Ford has compiled a 5-2 mark in postseason competition, while Jones has a 3-1 record. Jones' Cowboys are prohibited from participating in any postseason competition this year because of NCAA probation.

REVIEW from Page 11

Doug DuBose's sports car and an Omaha businessman making payments for performance.

The most interesting part of the book deals with something less criminal and controversial than the other topics -- Tom Osborne's personality and dealings with the press.

Keteyian portrays Osborne as a man under pressure to produce a dominating team without violating rules. He seems to suggest that Osborne, while making a sincere effort to run a clean program, is equally sincere about keeping any problems that should crop up out of the press.

Whenever reporters or columnists write anything negative about Husker football, the book says, they can expect a personal phone call or letter from Osborne.

Assistant Coach John Melton confirms this, saying that Osborne will question the intentions of any reporter writing negatively.

But the examination of Osborne remains interesting throughout the book, alternating between his handling of problems and the personal background that has motivated him to become the winningest coach in Division I college football.

Keteyian takes readers back through the 1984 Orange Bowl loss, explaining the moments that led up to Osborne's decision to try for a two-point conversion.

To set a time frame and have the information follow a logical progression, Keteyian names each chapter after a day of the week leading up to the "Game of the Century II," the showdown between No.1-ranked Nebraska and No. 2 Oklahoma in 1987. This approach is successful in that it demonstrates the significance and stress placed on coach and players, and the problems that would seem to follow.

But Keteyian goes too far in one instance, suggesting, in so many words and through context, that tight end Brian Hiemer's 1985 suicide might have been related to the pressure.

That's a pretty big claim to suggest without any substantial evidence, anonymous or otherwise.

But, in most cases, Keteyian effectively and without assumption shows the pressure behind Nebraska football.

"Big Red Confidential" is a fascinating book and, with the exception of several long passages into such irrelevant subjects as pottery-making woodlands people of Nebraska in 100 B.C., is fast-paced reading.

So much so that some, undoubtedly, will say it is a novel.

Had Keteyian kept everything in the open, he wouldn't face that problem.

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