

SPORTS WEEKEND

Friday, November 4, 1994

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NU volleyball team prepares to hook horns with Texas

By Mitch Sherman
Senior Reporter

For a team with the nation's best record and the longest winning streak in school history, the Nebraska volleyball team was not a happy group Wednesday night.

After improving to 22-0 and 8-0 in the Big Eight with a three-game sweep of Kansas State, middle blocker Allison Weston was baffled at the Huskers' play.

"Kansas State came out and played very hard, and we did not," said Weston, the reigning American Volleyball Coaches' Association national

player of the week and two-time Big Eight player of the week. "We weren't mentally ready to play."

Nebraska gets a chance to make up for its lackluster performance on Saturday night when it plays host to Texas in a 7:30 match at the NU Coliseum. Doors will open at 6 p.m.

The Longhorns, ranked No. 22 in the latest AVCA poll, bring a 14-6 overall and 6-2 conference record to Lincoln.

Nebraska coach Terry Pettit said the match would be a battle based on the two teams' past matches.

"Texas is probably the program most similar to Nebraska," Pettit said.

"They have great athletes, bright athletes. They are always good, and we have a great rivalry with them."

Nebraska has hooked horns with Texas every year since 1986, losing six of the ten matches. Since 1990, however, the Huskers have won three of four times.

The Huskers will be looking for revenge Saturday night. A year ago in Austin, Tex., site of the 1994 Final Four, the Longhorns trounced the Huskers 15-5, 15-6, 15-4.

Nebraska and Texas have four common opponents this year. Against Louisiana State, New Mexico, Duke and Texas Tech, Nebraska is 4-0.

Texas is 3-2.

Although Saturday night's match has no bearing on Nebraska's immediate goal — the Big Eight title — it is important to keep moving in the right direction, Pettit said.

"Our focus is just to play as hard as we can," he said. "This team is probably playing better than its talent. Physically, it may not be one of the most overwhelming teams that we've had, but they have yet to play a bad match."

Pettit said the Huskers were looking down the road to Nov. 16, when they would meet defending Big Eight

champion Colorado.

"These next two weeks," he said, "beyond preparing for our opponents, we have to prepare to play Colorado in Boulder."

He said the Colorado match probably would determine the champion of the conference. If Nebraska beats the Buffs, Pettit said the Huskers probably would win the title outright. A loss in Boulder, he said, probably would lead to a tie for the championship.

But, at the same time, Pettit said, the Huskers aren't overlooking any opponent.

NU doesn't want repeat of '93 KU game

By Mitch Sherman
Senior Reporter

Nebraska quarterback Brook Berringer vividly remembers last year's Kansas game.

"Everybody remembers," Berringer said. "You don't walk away from a game like that and not remember."

The junior from Goodland, Kan., will make his fifth career start for the No. 1 Cornhuskers in Saturday's 1 p.m. kickoff at Memorial Stadium against the Jayhawks.

A year ago, in Lawrence, Kan., Tommie Frazier led Nebraska to a 14-7 lead over Kansas in the second quarter before giving way to Berringer because of a sore shoulder.

In the final minutes of the first half, Berringer drove the Huskers 77 yards to the Kansas 6-yard line before being picked off in the end zone.

The Jayhawks tied the game at 14 in the third quarter. Later, they had a chance to win after tailback June Henley scored to make it 21-20 with 52 seconds left in the game.

But Askeiki Preston's pass for the two-point conversion fell short in the end zone, and Nebraska's undefeated season was preserved.

Berringer said the 9-0 Huskers would not like to see another game like last year's.

In the last few years, the 5-3 Jayhawks, 2-2 in the Big Eight, have taken a page out of the Husker playbook.

The Jayhawks' powerful running game is headlined by tailbacks L.T. Levine and Henley and driven by an offensive line that averages 290 pounds per man. It is gaining 261.9 yards per game, making it eighth in the nation.

Levine, who ran for 161 yards last week in a 24-14 win over Oklahoma State, has taken over the starting spot from Henley, who burned the Huskers for 148 yards last year.



Travis Heying/DN

Nebraska's Donta Jones and Dwayne Harris try to get at Colorado quarterback Key Detmer during last Saturday's 24-7 win over the Buffs.

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Game Day '94



Memorial Stadium
Lincoln, Neb.
Saturday, 1:00 p.m.
Kansas



OFFENSE

QB	18	Brook Berringer	6-4	210	QB	9	Asheiki Preston	5-11	185
FB	40	Cory Schlessinger	6-0	230	TB	22	L.T. Levine	5-10	210
IB	1	Lawrence Phillips	6-0	200	FB	32	Chris Powell	5-9	220
SE	7	Reggie Baul	5-8	170	WR	13	Hosea Friday	6-1	200
WB	27	Abdul Muhammad	5-9	160	WR	6	Ashaundai Smith	5-6	155
RT	72	Zach Wiegert	6-5	300	TE	91	Brent Willeford	6-3	255
LT	56	Rob Zatechka	6-5	315	RT	79	Scott Whitaker	6-6	295
RG	55	Brenden Stai	6-4	300	LT	54	Rod Jones	6-4	300
LG	76	Joel Wilks	6-3	280	RG	69	John Jones	6-1	300
C	54	Aaron Graham	6-3	280	LG	66	Hessley Hempstead	6-1	295
TE	85	Matt Shaw	6-3	235	C	65	Jared Smith	6-1	280
PK	31	Darin Erstad	6-2	195	PK	36	Jeff McCord	5-9	220

DEFENSE

LOLB	86	Dwayne Harris	6-2	225	DE	29	Harold Harris	5-11	205
DT	55	Christian Peter	6-2	285	DT	97	Sylvester Wright	6-2	260
NT	99	Terry Connealy	6-5	275	DT	94	Darnell Britt	6-1	260
ROLB	84	Donta Jones	6-2	220	DE	52	Steve Harvey	6-3	230
SAM	4	Troy Dumas	6-4	220	OLB	39	Don Davis	6-1	227
MIKE	41	Phil Ellis	6-2	225	MLB	46	Ronnie Ward	6-0	220
WILL	32	Ed Stewart	6-1	215	OLB	16	Keith Rodgers	5-11	200
LCB	14	Barron Miles	5-8	165	CB	23	Jason Harris	6-1	160
RCB	8	Tyrone Williams	6-0	185	CB	17	Dorian Brew	5-10	175
ROV	29	Kareem Moss	5-10	190	SS	3	Gerald McBurrows	5-11	188
FS	9	Tony Veland	6-2	200	FS	8	Kwamie Lassiter	5-11	175
P	6	Darin Erstad	6-2	195	P	19	Darrin Simmons	6-1	205

DN graphic

KU's Mason looks forward to testing Huskers' strength

By Trevor Parks
Staff Reporter

Last year's 21-20 last-minute loss to Nebraska is just a distant memory for Kansas coach Glen Mason.

"That was last year, and this is this year," Mason said. "We're facing a different Nebraska team, and how we played last year is no indication of how we'll play this year."

This Saturday the 5-3 Jayhawks play 9-0 Nebraska at Memorial Stadium at 1 p.m.

In last year's game the Jayhawks had a chance to tie the Cornhuskers, but instead Mason opted to go for the win with a two-point conversion.

However, with 52 seconds remaining, quarterback Asheiki Preston's pass attempt fell incomplete and the Huskers remained unbeaten.

This season Nebraska enters the Kansas game undefeated again, except this time with a few changes.

One change is at quarterback. This season Brook Berringer will start at quarterback for Nebraska instead of Tommie Frazier.

Berringer played against Kansas last year, completing three of five passes for 40 yards

and one interception.

Mason said he got a firsthand look at Berringer when Mason tried to recruit him coming out of Goodland Prep High School.

"I thought he would be a fine quarterback," Mason said. "Just because he's sitting No. 2 at Nebraska doesn't mean he isn't any good."

Although the supporting cast around Berringer has changed, Mason said the 6-foot-4-inch junior was fitting in well.

"He's running the show pretty good," Mason said. "I'm not surprised at the way he has performed."

A helping hand in Berringer's performance has been Nebraska's offensive line.

Mason said the Nebraska offensive line reminded him of some of the great offensive lines that Nebraska had in the past.

"They are big and strong and physical," Mason said. "They're helping Nebraska lead the nation in rushing, and that presents some problems."

The situation with the Kansas offense is virtually the same as Nebraska's.

However, unlike at Nebraska, the quarterback situation at Kansas is the same as last

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