

OSU coach hopes success will follow

By Trevor Parks
Senior Reporter

Bob Simmons wants the Oklahoma State football program to grow tighter and not splinter like it has since 1989.

Since 1989 the Cowboys are 18-36-3 overall and have only won seven Big Eight games.

Oklahoma State also has withstood NCAA probation for rules violation.

Last year as an assistant at Colorado, Simmons won 11 games and six conference games. Now, he said, he is hoping to bring some of that success with him.

"We've been talking about being very positive at Oklahoma State," Simmons said. "They know we need to have a solid foundation, and they are going to have to believe in one another."

That positive talk has started with the players asking their coach about going to a bowl game, which hasn't happened in Stillwater, Okla., since Barry Sanders was named most valuable player in a 62-14 win over Wyoming in the 1988 Holiday Bowl.

"We have talked about going to a bowl," Simmons said. "We're going to have to become an excellent road football team for that to happen."

The Cowboys have seven games away from Lewis Field and must win at least three of those games to have a chance at that bowl bid. Since 1989, the Cowboys have won only five games on the road.

But Oklahoma State does have experienced returners. Twelve players return with at least one start under their belt from the 1994 season.

No starter is younger than a junior in eligibility, and five of those starters are seniors, which will be important as the Cowboys change to a 5-2 system.

The defensive line is the strength of the team. Lorenzo Green, Norman Williams, Jay Grossfield, Louis Adams and Jevon Langford played together for parts of last season and will start in 1995.

James Elliot and Alamu Bailey will play new roles as the two linebackers. Bailey and Demetrius Crowder will split time at one spot.

Trent Fisher, Johnny Jones and Jeroid Johnson return to the secondary, where they are joined by newcomer Kevin Williams.

The Cowboy special teams are also experienced, featuring All-Big Eight punter Greg Ivy, who averaged 43.3 yards per kick, and place-kicker Lawson Vaughn, who went 9-14 on field goal attempts in 1994.

A lack of depth and a new offensive system worries Simmons, but quarterback Toné Jones said the offense should be more balanced.

"There are multiple formations, and we will feature the tailback more," Jones said. "We have put in the Colorado-style option for when the defense plays man-to-man on the corners."

Jones is backed up by redshirt freshman Craig Strickland.

The Cowboys will be deep at tailback. David Thompson, Andre Richardson and Boogie Johnson all saw playing time in 1994 and accounted for 1,630 of the Cowboys' 2,251 rushing yards.

Simmons said fullback and wide receiver were the big question marks.

Geoff Griener, who started at times in 1994, is the starter, backed by freshman Brian Aikens.

The Cowboys lost wide receivers Rafeal Denson and Mark Cheatwood, who had 60 percent of the Cowboys' receiving yards and 47 percent of the

receptions last year.

The Cowboys' top pass-catcher is Richardson, a running back who had 12 catches for 97 yards. The Cowboys top three receivers—Kent Luck, Chris Thompson, Tim McNeal—didn't have a reception last year. Tight ends Roger Pfeffier and Alonzo Mayes each had one reception.

Scott Waterbury, Derek Leinen and Bryan Hope started every game on the offensive line and Calvin Menephee and Alan Orts started five games each.

Oklahoma State Cowboys

Offense			Defense		
WR 20 Kent Luck	5-8	175	LE 98 Lorenzo Green	6-2	270
LT 64 Derek Leinen	6-4	292	NT 90 Norman Williams	5-10	240
LG 67 Scott Waterbury	6-5	298	RE 96 Jay Grosfield	6-4	255
C 56 Bryan Hope	6-4	270	OLB 2 Louis Adams	6-1	225
RG 62 Josh Henson	6-2	250	ILB 32 Alamu Bailey	6-2	255
RT 70 Jeremy Offutt	6-5	260	ILB 54 Josh Green	6-0	210
TE 85 Alonzo Mayes	6-6	252	OLB 58 Jevon Langford	6-5	260
WR 24 Terrance Richardson	5-10	190	RC 4 Jeroid Johnson	5-9	185
QB 9 Tone Jones	5-11	190	SS 5 Kevin Williams	6-0	186
FB 6 Geoff Greiner	6-1	240	FS 15 Trent Fisher	5-10	190
TB 25 Andre Richardson	5-9	180	CB 3 Johnny Jones	5-9	165
PK 13 Lawson Vaughn	6-1	190	P 7 Greg Ivy	6-0	190

DN graphic

Oklahoma State Cowboys

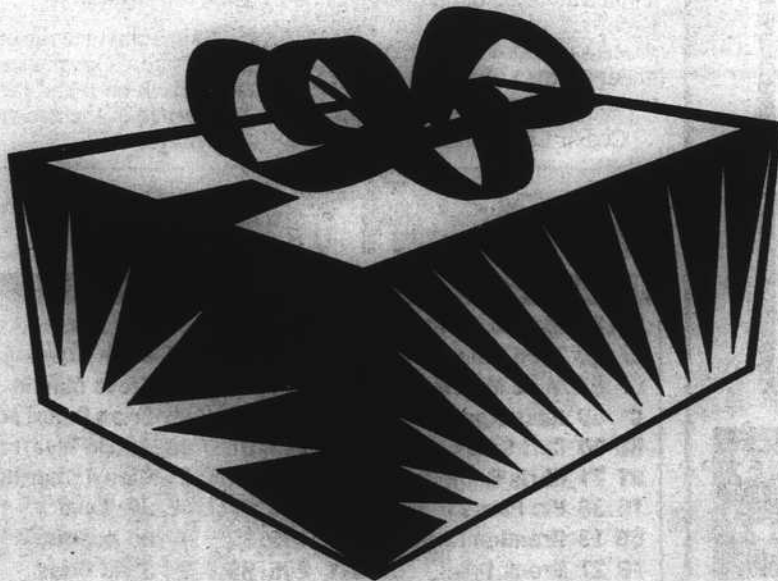
1995 Schedule

Date	Opponent
Aug. 31	Nebraska
Sept. 9	at Tulsa
Sept. 16	SW Missouri State
Sept. 23	at Wyoming
Sept. 30	at Tennessee
Oct. 14	Kansas State
Oct. 21	at Missouri
Oct. 28	at Iowa State
Nov. 4	Colorado
Nov. 11	at Oklahoma
Nov. 18	Kansas
Dec. 2	Hawaii

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