



Sports Opinion

Andrew Strnad KSU fools fans with fake facts

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Let's get this out of the way right now — Kansas State is a fraud.

My belief in this was solidified last weekend when the Nebraska volleyball team defeated the Wildcats in front of an announced crowd of 5,035 at the Ahearn Fieldhouse.

For those of you who haven't had the misfortune of visiting the Fieldhouse in Manhattan, I'll describe it. Imagine Nebraska playing volleyball on the Bob Devaney Sports Center Indoor Track.

The Ahearn Fieldhouse has a capacity of 5,000.

About one-third of the seats were blocked off, much like the NU Coliseum for Husker volleyball matches, leaving about 3,000 seats remaining.

It seemed to me that everyone at the match had plenty of leg room, leading me to estimate the crowd at about 2,000.

If there were 5,035 people there, then my name is Lynn Dickey (former KSU quarterback).

The only thing equaling 5,000 that night was the temperature. It was so hot that from press row in the balcony, we could see the sweat gleaming on the forehead of NU coach Terry Pettit.

Speaking of press row, when I arrived at the Fieldhouse and walked to what I thought was a table for the two visiting members of the DN, I was greeted by a member of Kansas State's Sports Information staff.

After asking her if the last empty table on "Press Row" was for us, she told me that it was for the pizzas and soda.

Pizzas? Sodas? Where were we supposed to sit now? After all, it was a capacity crowd, right?

This fraudulent behavior doesn't stop with the volleyball program. The football team has committed its share of offenses as well.

Admittedly, KSU has had arguably the greatest turnaround in college football history, but the team has fooled quite a few people.

In the '90s, KSU has beaten only two ranked teams and played only one ranked team in non-conference play.

Their field, Wagner Field, was paid for in 1991 by lottery winners.

Maybe a Kansas State volleyball fan can win a scratch-off game and buy the team a turnstile for the Fieldhouse.

In the meantime, KSU will travel to Lincoln this weekend and lose to the Huskers for the 29th straight time and return to Manhattan continuing a tradition not as losers, but as frauds.

Strnad is a senior broadcasting and political science major and a Daily Nebraskan staff reporter.

COUNTDOWN to the CATFIGHT



NEBRASKA I-BACK DEANGELO EVANS rushed for a career-best 168 yards last season against Kansas State. This year the sophomore from Wichita, Kan., is contemplating redshirting as he hasn't yet fully recovered from a pelvic injury. RYAN SODERLIN/DN

NU's Evans likely to redshirt

By SAM MCKEWIN
Staff Reporter

Last year, Nebraska sophomore I-back DeAngelo Evans had his breakthrough game in a 168-yard, two-touchdown performance as NU defeated Kansas State 39-3 in Manhattan, Kan.

This Saturday, Evans, who is from Wichita, will not have a chance to duplicate his performance against the Wildcats as he continues to nurse a pelvic injury that has kept him out of games all season. It has also left a question mark on how much he will play the rest of the year.

"Right now, I'm about 90 percent sure that I'm going to redshirt the rest

"... I was planning on having another great game against Kansas State."

DEANGELO EVANS
Nebraska I-back

of the season," Evans said. "Basically I am, but I'm not 100 percent sure, because I'm not even practicing yet."

Evans said his injury is one that still limits his side-to-side mobility and inhibits his acceleration up the field. He said it will still be time before the scar tissue around his pelvis breaks up and he is fully ready to play.

Evans said while no deadline has been set as to when he would come

back and play this season instead of redshirting, that point may be rapidly approaching.

"We haven't set an end date," Evans said, "but it's somewhere in the near future. We're going to be playing consecutive weeks, so if nothing drastic happens, it might be better just to sit out and redshirt this season."

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne had not commented on the chances of

Evans sitting out this season, saying he would rather wait until Evans is ready to practice.

"When he feels like he can go out there and play in a football game, then we will make a decision," Osborne said at the Tuesday press conference. "I don't know what his feelings are right now."

As a freshman, Evans ran for 776 yards, third-best in NU freshman history. He also scored 14 touchdowns, which tied a freshmen record.

After sitting out the Orange Bowl game, Evans did not practice in the spring. In July Evans flew to Boston to have surgery to repair a pelvic muscle

Please see EVANS on 10

KSU coach stresses emotion, concentration

By ANTONE OSEKA
Senior Reporter

Kansas State coach Bill Snyder wants his team to be focused on beating Nebraska.

While Snyder is bringing a young team into Lincoln for Saturday's 6:07 p.m. kickoff against No. 3 Nebraska at Memorial Stadium, he wants them to focus on playing the game, not on the crowd

or the national television audience on FX that night.

"If you're focused on the crowd, you might as well not get on the bus," he said. "You have to learn how to focus and concentrate on what the task is, not what's outside the white lines distracting you."

"A lot of things can be distracting; you need to keep the focus on the field itself." That rule also goes for the coaching staff around Snyder, he said. They'll need all the concentration they can muster as No. 17 KSU tries to beat the Huskers for the

Please see SNYDER on 11

Bishop optimistic

■ The highly touted KSU quarterback says a victory against Nebraska is not impossible.

By DAVID WILSON
Senior Reporter

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Michael Bishop hasn't experienced failure since high school.

A transfer from Blinn (Texas) Junior College, Bishop emerged as Kansas State's starting quarterback this fall after leading Blinn to two consecutive national championships in 1995 and 1996 while compiling a 24-0 record.

Since arriving in Manhattan, Bishop has continued his trail of

success. The junior led the Wildcats to a 3-0 start with wins over Northern Illinois, Ohio and Bowling Green, and currently owns the best passing efficiency (170.23) in the Big 12 conference.

Conference play begins Saturday, when 17th-ranked Kansas State will travel to Lincoln to face third-ranked Nebraska (3-0) in Bishop's first true Division I test at 6:07 p.m. in Memorial Stadium. But even after hearing the horror stories of past Wildcat-Cornhusker matchups, Bishop isn't scared.

"I feel that if we come in and stay focused and everybody believes that we can win," Bishop said, "we'll come out on top."

"We have the talent to do it. We

Please see BISHOP on 11