

Cal to offer Huskers mixture of reactions

BY ADAM KLINKER
Staff writer

College football and political consciousness.

At the University of California at Berkeley, there may be more on the minds of Golden Bear football fans than football.

"We're football freaks," said Elaine Adolfo of the Center for Democratic Education at Cal. "But I don't think we're going to win. I'll be shocked if we even score one or two points."

At the Center for Democratic Education, Adolfo, a senior English major, said students who want to teach or start up a class not offered in the general curriculum are given the opportunity.

She said classes have ranged from creative writing courses to a seminar on TV's "The Simpsons" titled: "Simpson Satire on Post-modern Life and Culture."

There is not, apparently, a class that teaches that it is not possible to score one point alone in football.

As far as the game, though, most students stick to a distant role as football fans, she said.

Junior political science major Paul Hogarth, the internal vice president for the College Democrats chapter at Cal, said the games are usually a big ordeal for more social organizations like fraternities and sororities.

"It's supposed to be a big deal," Hogarth said. "But I don't think we're that big of a football fan school."

Hogarth said the College Democrats at Cal are renowned as the premier chapter among California schools. He said they pride themselves on continuing Cal's tradition of activism.

He said that, regrettably, the group would be assisting with a congressional campaign in San Diego on Saturday and would not be able to attend the Golden Bears' game with NU.

Though he hasn't been to many games lately, Hogarth said one of his more memorable moments at a Cal game was when the Golden Bears beat Arizona 56-55 in 1996 after four overtimes.

"It was the greatest thing," Hogarth said. "People rushed the field and picked up (former Cal) Coach (Steve) Mariucci. It was wild that night."

It's not just Cal students getting in on the action, either.

A group of Cal alumni known as the Legion of Tightwad Hill also display their loyalty, or indifference, perhaps, as Cal football fans.

"Typically our attention will decay at the standard rate for a non-conference game," Marc Gantz, a representative of the fans on Tightwad Hill, said.

Traditionally, fans finding seats on the hill take up discussion on pertinent

world issues and politics, rather than becoming engrossed in the game.

When cross-town rival Stanford comes to town though, the atmosphere is all football business. The "Big Game," as it is known, is not to be taken lightly, Gantz said.

At stake is the coveted Ax, a token trophy that has traveled back and forth between Stanford and Cal depending on the victor of the "Big Game."

It wouldn't be a good idea for Nebraska fans to sport their colors on Tightwad Hill.

"Never wear red on the Hill," Gantz said. "Red is associated with Stanford, our rivalry. Many strange and bizarre things have happened to people who wear red on the Hill."

The tradition of Tightwad Hill most likely goes back to the beginnings of Memorial Stadium in Berkeley, Gantz said. Back then it was known as Hiker's Peak, then Cheapskate Hill before the current name became the standard.

Gantz said he was confident in Cal facing the Huskers. The word from the Hill was speculating another Golden Bear win.

"(It will be) continued light followed by darkness," Gantz said. He predicted a 63-61 Cal win in double overtime.

"We hope everyone in the Flatlands enjoys the game as much as we will," Gantz said. "It will be a great contest."

Don't get worried just yet, Husker fans - you will be among California Husker faithful.

The large banner in the north end zone at NU's Memorial Stadium proclaiming Californians for Nebraska isn't there just for looks.

Tim Hedegaard, who operates the Californians for Nebraska Web site, said he expects a good showing from his group.

Hedegaard said hotel rooms within 10 miles of Cal's Memorial Stadium had been booked by members of Californians for Nebraska for months before the Cal-NU game.

"We've got a great group," Hedegaard said. "I'm curious to see what this game will bring about."

Hedegaard, a 1995 graduate of NU who now lives in Hollywood, Calif., also said there should be a number of people watching from 10 Internet watch sites across California.

Hedegaard said some watch sites attract as many as 200 people while others average about 30 to 40 viewers.

Of the nearly 2,000 members of Californians for Nebraska, he said about 1,500 of them are NU graduates.

As it is, Hedegaard said, the NU alumni probably have a little more faith in seeing a blowout on behalf of the Huskers.

"I bet they'll win," Hedegaard said, predicting a Husker victory. "It won't be close."

Fullback's work ethic earns respect

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kind of wanted to give the team a shot in the arm in the opening play and let them know we can get the job done."

Through the Huskers' first two games this season, Makovicka has totaled 74 yards on 18 carries - an average of 4.1 yards per carry.

He also scored a touchdown against Alabama-Birmingham last week, which ties the NU all-time fullback career touchdown record.

But his success and the Huskers' success as a team hasn't come without a lot of hard work, Makovicka said. And as a senior, he feels it's his duty to pass on the secret to the younger players.

"I've always felt that anything you want to accomplish, you have to go out and work hard," Makovicka said. "That's the way the Nebraska football team has been the last few years. They set a goal about being the best and they work at it and work hard at it."

Makovicka progress

Where senior fullback Joel Makovicka ranks among other Nebraska fullbacks.

Player	Yrs. Played	Yards	TD	Yards per carry	100-yr games
Tony Davis *	1973-75	2,153	17	4.3	7
Andre Franklin	1977-80	1,736	10	5.3	3
Dick Davis	1969-69	1,477	4	4.3	3
Tom Rathman	1961-65	1,425	12	6.4	4
Frank Solich	1983-85	1,010	6	5.2	1
Joel Makovicka	1996-present	1,063	12	6.3	12

* Also played I-back



JON FRANK/DN

"You have to show a lot of aggressiveness and intensity in practice - and maybe get on a couple of our backs that haven't been around to know what to expect."

At the end of each season, Makovicka said, it's not the personal stats that matter. And in his mind, there is no doubt of what the Huskers are aiming for this year.

"I just want to do whatever I have to do to help this football team," Makovicka said. "I just want to go out and win. We're here to win football games."

"This is our last go-around. We don't want to go out losing games, we want to go out on top again."

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