

Big 12

Cyclones pin upset dreams on rushing game vs. Wildcats

By JOSHUA CAMENZIND
Staff writer

This week's Iowa State-Kansas State matchup is more than just a game for the Cyclones.

After starting the season 3-0, including a 17-10 win over in-state rival Iowa, ISU is looking for more than a close game. It is looking to win.

"We know we have to step it up this week," Head Coach Dan McCarney said. "An outstanding Kansas State football team is coming to town, and they are again one of the top teams in all of America."

And who would be better to beat than the reigning Big 12 North Champions. The Wildcats are less than a two-touchdown favorite for the game in Ames, Iowa. McCarney is quick to remind people of the past - flashing back to last season to a 52-7 loss at KSU.

"It was not a game at all last year," McCarney said. "It was a complete mismatch, and many of those players are back on Coach (Bill) Snyder's team again."

Despite his concern, McCarney

has seen his players conveying a different attitude thus far around campus after a 24-0 win at UNLV.

"Just to have some semblance of some success," McCarney said. "And have some positive things and achieve some goals that we set in the early part of the season; they do have an extra bounce in their step."

McCarney, in his fifth season as ISU's head coach, has the Cyclones off to their best start since 1981. The start not only has raised his players spirits, but his as well.

"This is the most fun I have had coaching since I left Madison (Wis.) with this team," McCarney said.

Coming off a 3-8 season last year, the undefeated start has folks in Ames thinking that this could be the turnaround McCarney has promised since arriving in 1995.

Iowa State will bring a powerful rushing attack into the Big 12 game of the week. The Cyclones rank first, nationally averaging 354 yards per game. Darren Davis, brother of former Cyclone Troy Davis, is leading the charge. Kansas State linebacker Mark Simoneau said it is important for the Wildcats to contain Davis.

"We cannot let him get started," Simoneau said. "We have to shore him up at the line and can't let him get to the secondary because he is a tough guy to tackle."

Davis has rushed for 555 yards thus far in three games. He is averaging 6.3 yards per carry and showing durability with more than 29 carries per game.

Davis and backup Ennis Haywood will be keys to the game as ISU has yet to establish any type of air attack.

"We are not going to come out and throw it 35 to 40 times," McCarney said. "You saw that last year because we had to; we had some injuries to our offensive line, and our rushing offense was inept. I just hope that we never have to get in that situation again."

KSU also enters the game undefeated, but Snyder said his team would be "foolish" to overlook the Cyclones. Snyder and McCarney both were assistants at Iowa under Hayden Fry.

McCarney guarded against overconfidence when asked if he had checked any December flights for bowl games. "No I sure haven't," McCarney said.

"I know we got a date with Kansas State this Saturday."

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Sosa? Baseball? Only football lives at NU

QUIZ from page 7

- Just trying to protect his lead.
- In Tahiti.
- In danger of giving boxing a good image.
- Cleveland Browns rookie quarterback Tim Couch went cuckoo for Cocoa Puffs after throwing his team's only touchdown in a 26-9 loss to Tennessee because:
 - It was the first touchdown pass of his NFL career.
 - It was the first touchdown in the "new" Cleveland Browns' franchise history.
 - That going at his current touchdowns-per-game rate (0.5) and his \$6.9 million-a-year contract, he earned

more than \$850,000 on that pass alone!!! (Lucky bastard! Barbara Bush could have thrown that pass!)

- The hype surrounding Sammy Sosa's second consecutive 60-plus home-run season means:
 - The media and fans make too much out of the long ball.
 - Last season wasn't a fluke.
 - What? Baseball is still going? Living in Nebraska, I kind of forgot.

That's it. Once again, you all fail. Now, go to your homes!

John Gaskins is a junior broadcasting major and Daily Nebraskan staff writer.

NU upbeat after loss

SOCCER from page 7

friends and family, she assisted Eddleman's goal against Santa Clara. Benson showed the same form that she showed in 1997 before she tore her anterior-cruciate ligament last year.

She has assisted goals the past five games and leads the team in that category with nine assists on the season.

Walker saw a fast, dangerous Benson on the outside midfield this past weekend.

"She's got that burst of explosiveness," Walker said. "She's a player who can maintain her top speed with the ball."

Even though they took the loss, the Huskers took a giant step against Santa Clara toward its top two goals for the remainder of the year.

"There are two main things we talk about," Walker said. "The first is improving as players and as a team so others don't pass us by. The second is playing as many games in Lincoln in the NCAA tournament as we can."

Women's golf team in first

From staff reports

The Nebraska women's golf team stands in first place through the first day of the Lady Razorback Invitational in Rogers, Ark.

Rain forced a cancellation of the second round Monday, after the Cornhuskers shot a 298 to finish one stroke ahead of second-place Nevada.

NU was led by junior Amy Roux, who shot a 71 and finished in third

place behind leader Angie Yoon of Nevada. Husker senior Elizabeth Bahensky fired a 73 to end the day in fifth place.

Behind Bahensky was sophomore Sarah Sasse, who shot a 75 and finished the day in ninth place; freshman Amanda Krane, who fired a 79; and sophomore Catha Fogelberg, who shot an 82.

The final round of the invite will begin today at 8:30 a.m.

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