

Cougars feel their Oates: Pete pounds for 178 yards, 4 TDs

By Mark Dukes
Gazette sports writer

"Home" hasn't been so sweet for Cedar Rapids Kennedy's football team this season, but its seniors showed no bitterness Thursday night.

The upperclassmen spent some minutes on the Kingston Stadium field celebrating a 28-8 victory over Iowa City, acting as if they had just won a championship rather than played their last home game.

"The seniors just wanted to give a proper goodbye to Kingston," Kennedy Coach Greg Reed said. "We had won nine straight games on this field before we lost three in a row."

Successive losses to C.R. Washington, Dubuque Hempstead and C.R. Jefferson — all at Kingston — had knocked the Cougars out of Mississippi Valley Conference and state playoff contention.

Then Coach Greg Reed and his staff faced the difficult job of motivating a team with no direction left, trying to prepare it for an Iowa City school with only one victory.

"In practice this week, Coach Reed told us a story about the Iowa City game two years ago," said fullback Pete Oates, who ran for 178 yards and four touchdowns.

"It was about how Iowa City was way ahead, about 40 points, and they put a big guard in at fullback to grind out some more yardage in the last minute."

This time it was Kennedy that kept grinding and grinding.

The 215-pound Oates pounded Iowa City's defense 36 times for his

178 yards, a personal high but 21 short of Tracy Crocker's school record. In the first half, Oates had 118 yards in 21 tries.

"There's just too much of him," City High School Clyde Bean said of Oates. "He's a heckuva back and we tried just about everything to stop him."

"Seriously, I don't think it was my best game," Oates said. "That's because the line opened such big holes. I've worked harder in other games this year against better defenses but got less yards. But it makes things fun when the line does that for you."

"Our game plan was to have Pete carry 35 times," Reed said. "Our offensive line was super and I was really happy our defense came alive in the second half."

Iowa City, which has the lowest total yards average in the conference, held the Cougars to a surprising 14-8 halftime lead.

In fact, the Little Hawks out-gained Kennedy 167-161 the first 24 minutes.

But then the Cougar defense detained Iowa City, allowing only 23 second-half total yards and sacking Little Hawk rushers six times behind the line of scrimmage.

Junior Jeff White, who scored all

eight Iowa City points, had 74 first-half yards but finished with only 79.

Cougar quarterback Mike Bennett completed five of six passes in the last 20 minutes for 62 yards. He ended up 8 of 16 for 100.

Toby Michael caught five and needs only four more receptions to break Don Greenwood's single-season record of 27. Michael has 22 conference catches, 24 overall.

"We just felt like we had nothing to lose," Michael said. "We decided to go all out and if we blow a play, big deal. We just wanted to have fun."

Oates' four-yard, first-quarter touchdown run came only three plays after defensive end Gary Lovik recovered White's fumble on the City High 31-yard line.

The Cougars (4-3) ticked 6½ minutes off in the second quarter on a 16-play, 68-yard march that resulted in Oates' one-yard surge. He rushed 11 times and caught one pass in the drive.

Iowa City (1-6), which hasn't won at Kingston in over five years, countered by moving 60 yards in 13 plays as White scored from six yards (4:33 left in the half).

A 28-yard Bennett-to-Michael

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Gazette photo by L.W. Ward

Pete Oates can't back into end zone. But he scored on next play

Iowa injured include Petro

By Gus Schrader
Gazette sports editor

Ohio State appears vulnerable and Iowa's offense is showing signs of imagination, so logic would indicate the Hawkeyes have a chance to end a long losing streak to the Buckeyes in their football game at Columbus Saturday.

But the truth is injuries have taken a heavy toll on Iowa's team. Coach Bob Commings is taking a squad that has been weakened by these losses in recent games:

Matt Petzelka, starting left tackle on offense, was left at home because of a neck injury. Jeff DeVilder will start.

Both starting defensive tackles are injured. Joe Hufford won't make the trip because of a knee injury that may have ended his collegiate career. John Harty hasn't practiced all week because of a sprained ankle but Commings hopes he can play, but Doug Benschoter and Mark Mahmens probably will start.

Commings says centers Jay Hilgenberg and Dave Oakes are ready for full-time duty, but both have been hindered by leg injuries. Mike Mayer moved over from guard to play most of the way at center the last two weeks, with Hilgy and

Oakes doing the long snaps.

Cornerback Cedric Shaw also missed the trip again because of a knee injury, as did defensive end Steve Wagner. Another absentee is Bob Commings Jr., formerly the starting QB but now out with a rib injury.

Ohio State is far from peak condition, as split end Rod Gerald and tailback Ron Springs are out with injuries. Chuck Hunter will replace Gerald, who played quarterback until freshman Art Schlichter arrived, and Calvin Murray will start at tailback.

In their last seven games, the Buckeyes have won two, lost four and tied one. That includes the defeat by Michigan in the 1977 regular-season finale, the loss to Alabama in the Sugar Bowl, defeats by Penn State and Purdue this season, a tie with SMU and wins over Minnesota and Baylor.

But Iowa hasn't won in Columbus since 1959, and has lost 13 straight to Ohio State since beating the Bucks at Iowa City in 1962.

Both head coaches have tried to play down the importance of their quarterbacks this week. Commings cautioned newsmen not to put too much pressure on Jeff Green, who

won the starting job with his performance at Minnesota.

"Don't get too excited about Jeff, as he's a nice kid, but heroes are made after the season," Commings said. "Jeff can do a number on you if the situation is right, as he's a good passer and has some quickness if he has to scramble."

Woody Hayes scoffed at the fact Schlichter came within six yards of the Ohio State total offense record when he gained 353 yards (289 passing and 64 rushing) against Purdue last week. Woody insisted individual records don't amount to much, especially when the team loses.

The game will attract 87,500, the 60th consecutive sellout in Ohio Stadium. It will start at 12:30 p.m. Iowa time.

Iowa's Travel Squad

Offense: E — Brad Reid, Doug Dunham, Jim Swift, Ben Wozniak. T — Jeff DeVilder, Sam Palladino, Paul Postler, Brian Ward. G — Greg Gilbaugh, Don Willey, Mike Moyer, Lemuel Grayson. C — Jay Hilgenberg, Dave Oakes. QB — Jeff Green, Bill Dolan, Pete Gales. RB — Jon Lazor, Ron Morton, Dennis Mosley, Marty Ball, Phil Bischoff, Ken Burke, Tracy Crocker, Jim Frazier, Dean McKillip, Milton Turner. K — Scott Schilling, Dave Holsclaw.

Defense: E — Darrell Hobbs, Steve Vasquez, Pat Dean, Phil Michael, Bruce Kille, Tom Woodland. T — Doug Benschoter, John Harty, Mark Mahmens, Dan Schultz. LB — Tim Gutschall, Tom Rusk, Leven Weiss, Bobby Hill, Jim Mullins, Todd Simonsen, Brian Skradis. DB — Dave Becker, Charles Dantz, Kent Ellis, Kent Ellis, Lou King, Mario Pace, George Person, Mike Stevens.

Iowa State battles No. 1

By Jack Ogden

Coach Earle Bruce hopes his Cyclones can avoid the fourth quarter blues Saturday at Ames and derail Oklahoma's No. 1 ranked unbeaten football squad in a feature Big Eight Conference battle.

Game time is 1:30 p.m. at the Iowa State Stadium and another overflow crowd in excess of 50,000 is expected, including some 4,000 standing-room-only fans.

It's a "must game" for the Cyclones, who lost a heartbreaking 26-13 decision at Missouri last week.

(Lineups on Page 3B)

and they will catch the Sooners at a bad time. Oklahoma had its own problems last Saturday, escaping Kansas, 17-16.

But the Sooners were playing without quarterback Thomas Lott, fullback Kenney King and linebacker Daryl Hunt, among others.

This week all three will be back. In fact, both squads should be at near full strength for Saturday's Big Eight showdown.

The lone exception could be Iowa State offensive guard Rocky Huges, who will miss the rest of the season with a broken leg suffered in the Missouri loss. His spot will go to senior Jim Wilson from Iowa City.

"We should enter the Oklahoma game as well as we've entered any game this fall," said Bruce. He indicated that Mike Stensrud, defensive tackle who has been slowed by a sprained ankle, should be at full strength for the game.

But, back to the fourth quarter problem.

Oklahoma has an awesome 45-4-1 record against Iowa State in a rivalry that started back in 1928, and they haven't lost to the Cyclones since 1961.

But, since the Bruce era, there have been some standout games.

"I feel that we've always played Oklahoma rather well," explains Bruce, "doing a good job until late in the fourth quarter when they've been able to do something to win the game."

"Last year it was a punt return and the year before it was a long run by Horace Ivory."

"They are as strong offensively as they've ever been, thanks to great running backs like Billy Sims, Kenny King, David Overstreet and Thomas Lott. They've lost their fine receiver Rhodes for the season, but he has been replaced by Freddie Nixon, who is a super back with a lot of speed."

"You've got to be able to run at them to be able to do anything at all, and, if you don't, you'll be in trouble because they've got quick pursuit to the football."

The Cyclones may have the man who "can run right at them" in Dexter Green, who made news at Missouri despite the disappointing loss. Green rushed for 134 yards against the Tigers, his 16th career 100-yard-plus day.

He now has 3,250 lifetime rushing yards, ranking him No. 4 on the all-time Big Eight just behind Oklahoma State's Terry Miller and two former Sooners stars, Steve Owens and Joe Washington.

Defense could wind up as the key, and the Cyclones should be ready for a big effort with Stensrud back in top form.

Tom Boskey, for example, currently leads all Big Eight linebackers with 79 tackles as he bids for all-conference honors. The two-time ISU

captain was second all-Big Eight a year ago. In addition he has two quarterback "sacks," has broken up four enemy passes, and caused one fumble.

He'll be combined with his brother, Chris, who has been another mainstay in the Cyclone defense with 308 tackles in an outstanding career.

Bruce is concerned about the Oklahoma mental attitude.

"I think they will be arriving in bad humor," he explained, apparently figuring the Sooners would want to run up as many points as possible to make up for last week's meager production and enhance their chances of holding onto the No. 1 ranking in the nation.

Barry Switzer's squad has shown that ability, too, outscoring six opponents 246 to 95 and demoralizing foes with an early onslaught. The Sooners have scored 86 points in the first quarter of those six games and 80 in the second period.

In Switzer, the Cyclones will be facing the winningest active coach in America.

The Sooner boss, since taking over in 1973, has a career record of 57 wins against only five defeats and two ties.

There will be two bonafide Heisman Trophy candidates in Saturday's battle — Green for the Cyclones and Sims for the Sooners. Green has the credentials, but the Cyclones will have to get back on the winning track to help his bid.

Sims also has the credentials, with 742 yards in 104 carries for an outstanding 7.1 yard average.



Red Peppers

By Gus Schrader

Jordan sponsors Nielsen

• Cliff Jordan, long-time C.R. golf enthusiast, is going to sponsor Belle Plaine's Lon Nielsen on the pro-golf tour next season.

The agreement Lon had with a group of Belle Plaine people has expired, so Cliff has agreed to back the former Iowa Hawkeye. Lon won \$8,131 in 1978 before pulling a back muscle, but he retained his PGA Tournament Players' card for next season. He still will have to qualify for each 1979 tourney, of course.

Cliff sponsored Jack Rule, Steve Spray and several other golfers on the PGA tour.

In a few years he may have the chance to sponsor a relative on the tour — a grandson, perhaps. Gregg Rice, 15, son of Cliff's daughter, Linda Jordan Rice, already has achieved some interesting golf milestones.

This fall Gregg — as a sophomore — played on the state-championship golf team of Glendale High, a suburb of Milwaukee. The other three team members are juniors. He also has won his conference golf title.

Cliff says Gregg usually shoots in the mid-70s at the C.R. Country Club. If you know the 11th hole (420 yards) there, you can appreciate the fact Gregg reaches the green with a driver and a six-iron (over Indian Creek).

Red Peppers' pix

• Maybe we ought to get into forecasting the weather instead. It should be more fun being a meteorologist than a meat-headologist. Our season average slumped below the .700 mark with 10-6-1 last week for 106-45-3 for .698.

Here are this week gambols:

Big Ten

Ohio State 28, Iowa 7 (not the Green grass of home). Purdue 35, Illinois 14 (Bollers never for Pasadena?)
Michigan State 20, Indiana 19 (Sportsman survive a scare).
Minnesota 14, Northwestern 6 (Wildcats still have bowl hopes).
Michigan 24, Wisconsin 14 (that's first loss for Badgers).

Big Eight

Oklahoma 34, Iowa State 28 (templed, but gotta think of pct.).
Nebraska 23, Colorado 7 (Husker hopes don't vanish in thin air).
Missouri 27, Kansas State 3 (Tigers still have bowl hopes).
Kansas 17, Oklahoma State 10 (Cowboys have won their game).

Other Iowa Schools

Northern Iowa over Western Illinois ... Drake over Open Delta ...
Northern Iowa, Iowa over Morrisville ... Luther over Central ...
Buena Vista over Dubuque in The Big One ... Wartburg over Upper Iowa ...
Simpson over William Penn ... Monmouth over Coe ... Lawrence over Cornell ... Carlton over Grinnell ... Graceland over Ottumwa ...
Iowa Wesleyan over Olivet Nazarene ... Northwestern, Minn., over Loras ... Illinois College over St. Ambrose ... Westmar over Yankton ...
Onelew over Cuckoo's nest.

Pass the hash

• A lot of us sneer about the New York Yankees being "the best team that money can buy" and point to all the high-salaried free agents owner George Steinbrenner added.

Then a couple of guys named Joe — shortstop Bucky Dent and second baseman Brian Doyle — rise to the occasion and lead the Yanks to their second straight World Series triumph. Indeed, the Yanks wouldn't even have won the American League-East playoff if it hadn't been for Dent's three-run homer against Boston.

The Yanks did cough up quite a bit to get Dent April 5, 1977. They sent outfielder Oscar Gamble, pitchers Bob Polinsky and Dewey Hoyt and an estimated \$200,000 to the White Sox for him.

Dent played parts of two seasons — 1970 and '71 — for Appleton in the Midwest League. He was with the Iowa Oaks for 95 games in 1973 before going up to the White Sox. He was with the Sox three-plus seasons before going to New York. Much as we admire Bill Veeck, we'd have to admit he isn't always right on trades. Who is?

• Quoting Brian Doyle, Yankee second baseman who got into the World Series only because regular Willie Randolph was injured:

"I know why I was in the minors for so long. I don't have outstanding speed. I don't have an outstanding arm. And I don't have outstanding power. What else do the scouts look for?"

• You've seen enough (or have you?) of the scantily clad and shapely cheerleader groups hired by pro football teams. Now are you ready for the latest in distractions?

A group of St. Louis fans paid \$200 to Sue Ellen Welman, who looks awfully good in a tight red sweater, to stand near the Dallas Cowboys' bench in last Sunday's game against the Cardinals. She may have been a factor in distracting the Cowboys, but apparently they shook it off to win 24-21 in overtime.

Royals rehire Herzog, drop teacher Lau

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Whitey Herzog, the man who brought the Kansas City Royals their first American League West title and then twice repeated the feat, will be back at the Royals' helm in 1979.

But Charley Lau, the man credited with making star hitters out of George Brett and Hal McRae, won't be returning as batting instructor.

"Whitey will be one of the highest-paid managers in baseball. And he should be," Joe Burke, Royals executive vice president and general manager, said Thursday.

Herzog had sought a multi-year contract, but agreed to his fourth one-year pact after a 45-minute meeting with Burke, then left for a weekend of fishing in the Ozark Mountains. He was unavailable for comment.

Burke did not disclose details of the contract, but reports placed it at near \$100,000.

The 46-year-old Herzog's decision to manage in 1979 was not unexpected, but the announcement that Lau, at Herzog's recommendation, would not be rehired came as a surprise.

And if most of the Royals were relieved that the affable Herzog would be back, some also were disappointed that Lau, 45, an advocate of making contact and hitting to all fields, would not.

"I didn't want to see Charley go because he helped me too much," said Brett, the 1976 AL batting champ with a .333 mark. "He helped me with my hitting, but he was also a personal friend."

Lau, considered by many to be one of the game's top batting instructors, joined the Royals in 1971, but was fired by then-manager Jack McKeon in 1974. Herzog's first act when he became manager on July 24, 1975, was to rehire the popular Lau.

But, said Burke, Herzog gradually felt the Royals needed a hitting approach that keyed more on each hitter's individual ability than did Lau's philosophy.

"He feels Charley did a great job with some hitters and not so great with others," said Burke. "He just feels one man can't teach 50 players to hit like each other."

Brett said he respected Herzog and would not criticize him for the move, but McRae, who had three straight plus-.300 seasons before dipping to .298 in 1977 and .273 this year, was far less charitable.

"It's a manager's decision, but I think the players should have something to say about a thing like this," McRae said.

"Next season we'll have a team of pull hitters, 240 hitters. I think if there's a conflict between a manager and one of his coaches, a good hitting instructor like Charley Lau, they should be able to work things out."

Herzog said he would handle hitting instruction with help from the rest of the coaching staff.

Lau, who had been in the Royals' organization since 1971, will be replaced by John Sullivan, who managed the Omaha Royals to the American Association title in 1978 and will be the bullpen coach.

Herzog, who has been critical of the Royals' reluctance to be more aggressive in the free agent market and their policy of not discussing contracts until after the season, had raised doubts about his managerial future after Kansas City's third straight AL playoff loss to the New York Yankees.

Speculation rose when Herzog said last week he was not happy with the team's contract offer, then took several days longer than expected to mull it over.

Burke said Thursday that all meetings between the two were cordial, praising Herzog for a "tremendous job" and adding that everything has been resolved "to the satisfaction of the Royals and Whitey."

Herzog, who has been manager longer than anyone in the Royals' 10-year history, has compiled a 325-227 won-loss record in 3½ seasons.

A first baseman-outfielder for eight seasons with the old Washington Senators, Kansas City Athletics, Baltimore Orioles and Detroit Tigers, he spent seven years in the New York Mets' organization before managing Texas in 1973.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAYS: Former baseball star Mickey Mantle is 47 years old. Columnist Art Buchwald is 53.

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