



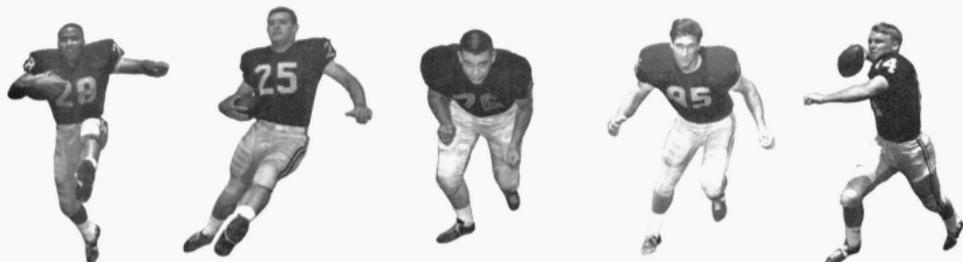
Wempe



Lischner



**It's No. 10
in a
Devine
Decade**



Stagers

Cook

Mungai

Benhardt

Kombrink

LET'S GET this question out of the way first: Will Missouri pass more this year?

"Nobody in the world would like to throw any more than I would," says Dan Devine, who on Sept. 23 unveils his 10th Tiger football team and the first in his dual role as the University's athletic director. "But I've always been an exponent of doing what we do best. Right now, though, I'm not sure what that is."

Devine was speaking after a generally good spring practice that saw Ol' Mizzou experiment with the T-punt, I-formation, and pro set besides the more familiar wing T and belly series. The pro set, of course, depends on an effective passer, and no quarterback really looked the part in April and May.

This is not to say, however, that there is despair in the Tiger camp. Gary Kombrink, the oft-battered signal caller of a year ago, had an exceptional spring, and several on the coaching staff felt that he took charge better, exhibited more confidence in running the team than he ever had before.

Behind Kombrink, the picture is not clear. Garnett Phelps, the sophomore brother of former MU star Monroe, looked erratic; and Dan Sharp, a 1966 letterman who showed flashes of promise, and strong-armed Conrad Deneault passed up spring practice to pitch for the baseball team. "Craig Weaver and Dennis Poppe both are promising sophomores," says Devine, "but I don't think we can win with them this year."

Up front optimism abounds, even though the regular guard tandem last year, counted on to return, won't be around for the opening game with Southern Methodist. Bob Parker had academic troubles, and Al Pepper is in the Coast Guard. Pepper could be back in time to help this fall, however. The special enthusiasm is at tackle, where Mike Wempe, a regular a year ago and considered by offensive line coach John Kadlec as the best blocker in the Big Eight, will team with giant Russell Washington, who, given a good year on a good team, will receive national recognition. Washington moves from

defensive end, where his effectiveness the past two seasons was limited by knee injuries. When the Tigers shift into an unbalanced line in 1967, the strong-side blocking should open holes.

But what about the ball carriers? Until the Army grabbed Kansas's Don Shanklin last month, Missouri was the only team in the Big Eight who doesn't return an established ground gainer: Cornelius Davis, Kansas State; Wilmer Cooks and Bill Harris, Colorado; Jack Reynolds, Oklahoma State; Les Webster, Iowa State; Ron Shotts, Oklahoma; and Ben Gregory, Nebraska, all finished among the top 12 rushers in the conference last season. Missouri's top 1966 halfbacks, Charley Brown and Earl Denny, now are displaying their wares for National Football League clubs.

Again, don't despair. Brown and Denny will be missed, naturally, but neither regained top form in 1966 after a debilitating visit to Illinois. Missouri's second game, the fierce contest wiped out the Tiger's entire starting backfield for a time, and fullback Barry Lischner never returned. The success of his off-season knee operation was tested during the final days of spring practice. Much of the ground punch this fall will depend on the powerful Lischner's knee, because the Tigers have no Johnny Rolands, Gary Lanes or Browns. Still, the backfield hopefuls are a pretty talented crew. Except for Jon Stagers, there isn't a speedster in the 10-second category, but most teams would be glad to settle for the likes of Greg Cook, Larry Moore, Mike Ewing, Ron McBride, and Henry Brown. Who's Henry Brown? A Crowder Junior College transfer whose high grades enabled him to enroll at MU after only one year of prepping instead of the normal two. Incidentally, he was voted the most valuable Pennsylvania player in the 1965 Texas-Pennsylvania high school all-star game.

Don't be surprised if you see him on defense, though. The Tigers appear distressingly sophomore in this vital aspect of the game. Take away Roger Wehrli, whom defensive backfield



Washington



Moore



Garber



Willsey



Davis

University of Missouri 1967 Football Roster-Depth Chart

Offense

TIGHT END				
**Marty Berg	6-3	215	Sr.	Riverside, Ill.
<i>"Steady performer improved this spring."</i>				
*Jim Judd	6-2	205	Jr.	St. Louis
Tom Shroyock	6-0	195	So.	Fredericktown
Chris Flynn	6-3	205	So.	Shawnee Mission, Kan.
LEFT TACKLE				
*Mike Wempe	6-3	230	Sr.	Lawrence, Kan.
<i>"Last season's regular is potentially all-conference."</i>				
*Roger Short	6-3	220	Sr.	Ferguson
LEFT GUARD				
**Jim Willsey	6-0	210	Sr.	Gary, Ind.
<i>"Had a good spring practice."</i>				
Mike Carroll	6-3	225	So.	Ste. Genevieve
<i>"An excellent prospect for the offensive line."</i>				
CENTER				
Con Rees	6-2	208	Jr.	Sedalia
<i>"Smart and tough."</i>				
Tim Crnko	6-0	198	So.	St. Louis
<i>"Tough and smart."</i>				
RIGHT GUARD				
*Jim Anderson	6-4	214	Jr.	Webster Groves
<i>"Regular tackle last year was hurt much of spring."</i>				
Dave Cox	6-4	222	Jr.	Springfield
Joe Clark	5-11½	195	So.	St. Louis
RIGHT TACKLE				
**Russell Washington	6-6	275	Sr.	Kansas City
<i>"Team's success could depend on his effectiveness."</i>				
*Larry York	6-3	215	Jr.	Quincy, Ill.
SPLIT END				
*Charles Weber	6-0	185	Jr.	Jefferson City
<i>"Chuck has real good moves and hands."</i>				
*Jim Juras	6-0	185	Jr.	St. Louis
Steve Kemperman	6-1	190	Jr.	Grand Rapids, Mich.
QUARTERBACK				
*Gary Kombrink	5-10	180	Sr.	Belleville, Ill.
<i>"A great competitor who had an encouraging spring."</i>				
*Dan Sharp	6-1	180	Jr.	Kansas City, Kan.
Garnett Phelps	5-11	180	So.	Louisville, Ky.
Conrad Deneauat	6-1	190	Jr.	New Bedford, Mass.
LEFT HALF				
Greg Cook	6-0	190	Jr.	Seneca
<i>"Could develop into a winner."</i>				
*Mike Ewing	6-0	185	Sr.	Ladue
<i>"A good clutch player."</i>				
Ron McBride	6-0	190	So.	Fulton
Henry Brown	6-2	193	So.	Middleton, Pa.
RIGHT HALF				
*Larry Moore	5-11	190	Jr.	Timewell, Ill.
<i>"Strong, tough and a good blocker."</i>				
Jon Staggers	5-10	180	So.	Jefferson City
Steve Kenemore	6-3	190	So.	Lee's Summit
FULLBACK				
**Barry Lischner	6-1	200	Sr.	Pittsburgh, Pa.
<i>"Powerful runner has history of injuries."</i>				
**Bob Powell	5-11	195	Sr.	Collinsville, Ill.
<i>"Filled in well for us last season."</i>				
Dan Kelley	6-0	195	So.	St. Louis

Defense

RIGHT END				
Bill Schmitt	6-3	205	Jr.	Imperial
<i>"Strong, smart and willing."</i>				
Garth Elzea	6-1	205	So.	Springfield, Ill.
RIGHT TACKLE				
*Roger Boyd	6-1	215	Jr.	Butler
<i>"Needs to come through with solid performance."</i>				
Mark Kuhlman	6-3½	210	So.	St. Louis
<i>"Converted linebacker is a good prospect."</i>				
RIGHT GUARD				
*Lee Mungai	6-0	215	Sr.	Berwyn, Ill.
<i>"Former tackle should be better utilized at guard."</i>				
Rich Brewer	6-1	215	Jr.	Southfield, Mich.
<i>"Another quick performer, but needs to prove himself."</i>				
Lynn Cox	6-1	224	So.	Memphis, Tenn.
LEFT GUARD				
*Carl Garber	6-0	210	Jr.	St. Louis
<i>"Solid all-conference prospect is strong and smart."</i>				
*Jim Weber	6-0	212	Sr.	Perryville
<i>"Will snap the ball on punts."</i>				
Sam Adams	6-0	200	So.	Midland, Tex.
<i>"Too good not to play."</i>				
LEFT TACKLE				
Jay Wallace	6-0	212	So.	Fulton
<i>"Fast charging rookie could break into starting lineup."</i>				
Curtis Jones	6-2	225	Sr.	St. Louis
<i>"Potential starter could be real player with experience."</i>				
LEFT END				
*Elmer Benhardt	6-3	205	Jr.	St. Louis
<i>"Fine performance in 1966 caught coaches' fancy."</i>				
Joe Hauptman	6-1	200	So.	Granite City, Ill.
LINEBACKER				
*John Douglas	6-2	212	Sr.	Columbia
<i>"Rangy and quick; an all-conference possibility."</i>				
*Bob Ziegler	5-11	195	Sr.	St. Louis
LINEBACKER				
Jerry Boyd	6-3	195	So.	Butler
<i>"Younger brother of Roger is a hitter."</i>				
Steve Lundholm	6-0	190	So.	Des Moines, Ia.
<i>"Another rookie who hits hard."</i>				
*John Spengel	6-3	205	Jr.	Highland, Ill.
LEFT HALF				
*Roger Wehrli	6-0	185	Jr.	King City
<i>"Fine defender still needs all-around development."</i>				
Ron Stoekel	6-0	180	So.	Belleville, Ill.
Joe McCarthy	6-1	180	So.	St. Louis
RIGHT HALF				
John Davis	5-11	180	So.	Chillicothe
<i>"Butch is potentially an excellent football player."</i>				
Bob Morrissey	5-11	180	So.	Glendale
Charles Colclasure	6-2	190	So.	Wood River, Ill.
SAFETY				
John Meyer	5-11	178	Jr.	St. Louis
<i>"Pre-med student also is a student of the game."</i>				
Wayne Schindler	6-3	195	So.	Kansas City
<i>"Missed most of spring work with broken jaw."</i>				
Bob Watt	6-2	185	So.	Frontenac, Kan.
*INDICATES NUMBER OF YEARS LETTERED.				



Meyer



Douglas



Schmitt



Weber



Berg

It's No. 10 in a Devine Decade

coach Clay Cooper describes as one of the best he's had, and squadman John Meyer, and the next seven are first-year men — although pretty good first-year men.

Of course, it's difficult to get a Missouri fan to worry about defense. The past nine Devine teams have allowed an average of less than 130 yards a game on the ground and only 90 in the air. Of the 1966 graduation losses, however, most were from the defensive platoon; Bill Powell, Don Nelson, Dan Schuppan, Rich Bernsen, Jim Whitaker and Gary Grossnickle. And all were starters. Line coach Al Onofrio, who's been with Devine since the Arizona State days, has shifted regular tackle Lee Mungai to guard, his more natural position, and if the replacement tackles live up to their potential, it will be a typically tough Missouri eleven. And good defensive teams seldom get whipped badly.

In a season when punting appears especially important because of the new rule requiring interior linemen to hold their positions until the ball is kicked, Missouri appears either adequate or spectacular, depending on the consistency of sophomore Steve Kenemore. The same might be true of field goal kicking. Rookie Chris Flynn is slated for this job, but he actually looked better as a freshman last fall than in the spring.

A more complete rundown of Tiger personnel appears in the depth chart on the opposite page. The capsule comments contained under some of the 60 names are by Devine. The weights listed are not the spring figures, nor the official poundage of a year ago. They're the weights trainer Freddie Wappel prescribed for each player after spring practice. Some candidates are expected to shed quite a few pounds. The coaching staff thinks it will take a quick team to compete in the Big Eight.

And just what is the conference outlook? Missouri coaches figure it's either Colorado and Nebraska in the title role — or Nebraska and Colorado.

It is trite to say that anybody else might beat anybody else, but in the balanced Big Eight, triteness doesn't take away the truth of the statement.

As previously mentioned, the Tigers open on Sept. 23 at Columbia against S.M.U., who represented the Southwest conference last New Year's Day in the Cotton Bowl. Southern Methodist began practice Aug. 23, more than a week before Missouri on Sept. 1, and plays a game with Texas A. & M. on Sept. 16. Tiger fans can scout that contest on national television. You can expect a wide-open attack by the Mustangs. Missouri then plays at Northwestern (and the Chicago alumni are planning quite a gathering). Expect a wide-open attack by the Wildcats. The Wildcats of Arizona also are offensive minded, and they visit Columbia on Oct. 7. Then comes the conference race featuring home contests with Oklahoma, which wasn't especially happy about Missouri's 10-7 victory last season at Norman; Kansas State, which has new spirit and a new coach; and the Nebraska Cornhuskers, whom the Tigers haven't defeated at Columbia since 1961. It's a good schedule, so it isn't any wonder that business manager John Moore predicts another attendance record. Attendance at Missouri's home games has increased each of Devine's nine years, and the 1967 figure will throw the 10-year home game total well over the 2 million mark. More than 255,000 persons journeyed to Columbia for the five games in 1966.

How good a team will greet the 1967 fans? "I'm an optimist," says Dan Devine. "We have excellent team attitude, maybe even better than a typical Missouri squad — and that's saying something. We have no super-stars, perhaps, but good team balance, and you can still have a winning college team without All-American players."

Remember, too, that under the tutelage of Devine the Tigers have a record in the sixties of 53-14-6. And of all the football coaches in this great land, the Black Irishman is the only one with 12 or more years' experience who's never had a losing season. □