



Memorial Stadium will have 3,600 more permanent seats in southwest section.

TIGERS FACE TOUGH FOES

Happily, Coach Dan Devine's football teams don't "scare" easily. They're more apt, in fact, to rise up and smack the highly publicized favorite—and this is what makes the impending 1963 season so intriguing for Ol' Mizou's followers.

Picked in most places to finish fourth in the Big Eight conference, Devine's sixth team at Missouri began twice-daily workouts on Aug. 30—spurred by this admonition:

"You will work harder to get ready for this season than any squad I've had at Missouri," promised the head coach whose career record is third-best among the nation's major coaches.

Underscoring his urgency was the stiff getaway schedule facing Mizou in September, head-on collisions with nationally-rated Northwestern and Arkansas on successive weekends. Moreover, one national magazine picked four of Missouri's foes to wind up in post-season bowls—while another magazine labeled the country's probable top three teams as (1) Northwestern (2) Arkansas and (3) Oklahoma.

The Big Ten Wildcats return every starter from last year's 7-2 squad, including Tom Myers, brilliant all-American quarterback, and Jack Cvercko, the 230-pound all-American guard. Arkansas is similarly loaded with 28 lettered returnees off a squad that finished 9-2 last season. And the Razorbacks, of course, are coached by Frank Broyles—the fast-talking Southerner who spent the 1957 season as boss of the Bengals before going south to crank out four straight bowl teams.

Within the Big Eight, Oklahoma and Nebraska are the menacing giants—with Kansas reputed to be deepest in fast, talented backs. Most forecasters, though, see the Sooners overriding all challengers to cash a return ticket to the Orange Bowl. Two new coaches, Eddie Crowder at Colorado and Phil Cutchin at Oklahoma State, figure to spice up their schools' football programs.

The dope sheet indicates Ol' Mizou *could* lose five times this fall—a big tumble for Devine, whose last three Tiger squads, incidentally, have lost a total of three games. This kind of success nurtures optimism.

Among Black and Gold fans, the thrilling 1962 Bluebonnet victory over Georgia Tech still casts its hopeful shadow ahead—despite the loss of eight regulars off that squad, including halfback Johnny Roland, a disciplinary casualty.

Reflected at the box office, this interest in the Tigers assures that attendance will top 1962's record figure. Only a trickle of end-zone seats were available in early September for the MU-Arkansas game at Little Rock—and the Tiger ticket allotment for the windup game at Kansas was already exhausted. On the home scene, three games—with Northwestern, Nebraska and Oklahoma—were possible sellouts in Memorial Stadium, its capacity increased to 49,000 by a newly-constructed segment of bleachers on the southwest corner.

With 16 lettermen back, the Tigers are led by these 1962 starters: Dave Gill at tackle, John Sevcik at left end, and Paul Underhill, a fullback shifted to right half. Important keys in reshaping the backfield are: Gary Lane, a 6-1 and 193-pound rookie quarterback who handled the No. 1 team all spring; Vince Turner, the tough, veteran left halfback used on defense last year; and Gus Otto, a jarring junior of high promise.

Mike Jones, out last spring with an operated knee, will backstop Lane—while such newcomers as Jim Valentik, Monroe Phelps, Ken Boston and Carl Reese could blend with Ken Hinkley and Gerald Stevenson, both lettermen, to beef up the running game. Still available for kicking duties are punter Daryl Krugman, also a defensive handyman, and place-kicker Bill Leistriz.

In the line, all-American Conrad Hitchler at end, and Tom Hertz, the sturdy second-team all-American guard, will be missed; yet, the presence of most 1962 linemen off the alternate team hints that the Bengals again will be respectable up front. The first unit could have: John Sevcik and Tom Lynn, ends; Bobby Brown and Gill, tackles; Ralph Kubinski and Gene Oliver, guards; and Mack Gilchrist, center. All are lettermen except Lynn, a sophomore.

Of the newcomers, Lane, big "Butch" Allison at tackle, Lynn and Valentik were listed with the top 22 players, as drills got under way.