



A closer look at Dan Devine

What sort of a guy is Daniel John Devine, the University's head football coach?

You might expect a big, confident, glib, mature type for the epic task he faces in his new job; you'll find a small, rather quiet, serious, conservative young man who looks more like a professor or perhaps a graduate student than a big time football coach. Consistent surprise has been expressed at his youth—he's 33, but he looks younger—and at his size—he's 5-10, weighs 170, but he looks smaller.

His apparently reserved manner breaks down under examination and reveals an unsuspected warmth and intensity. Here's the kind of man who will wear well. These characteristics are perhaps best revealed by an incident last winter: Sparky Stalcup's beleaguered basketball forces had looked bad in a late season loss to Colorado. Sparky, suffering almost as much from the flu as the loss, had gone home early. He got a late call from the new football coach, "I've lost games like that, Coach, and I just wanted you to know that I was thinking about you." Sparky called it one of the finest things that had ever happened to him in his coaching career; he added that "when this guy joined, he really joined the team."

A fine sense of humor is almost indispensable in the coaching profession. Devine has the kind that's difficult to get down on paper, but easy and pleasant

to recognize. His best quips come out of a straight face, and they sneak up on his audience. His off-the-cuff comments while viewing game films are wonderful examples of spontaneous, subtle humor. His speeches are written on the back of an envelope during dinner and discarded when he starts to talk. The result is a somewhat discursive but warm and appropriate talk freely interspersed with dry and sneaky humor. He usually seeks questions from his audience, and he answers them very thoughtfully and very carefully. This guy is not likely to be caught out on a limb by the press.

Devine's approach to the game he coaches so well is governed by the goals he has established for his teams. The two qualities he wants his teams to have are pride and poise, and every move on the field is carefully calculated in these directions. He does not have the personal drive or intensity of a Don Faurot nor the flair for organization of a Frank Broyles, but he does have better relations with the individuals on his squad than either. His is a personal, human approach to the game, reflected in the good-natured respect shown by the boys on the team and by the high morale of the team as a whole.

During his first spring at Missouri, Devine instituted the practice of giving eagerly-sought awards

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Where Did They Go?

Graduates and former students take off in all directions.

To keep up to date on their whereabouts, the University maintains the Alumni Lists Office. It is supervised by the Alumni Association.

Nine employees combine their efforts to find out where Missouri men and women are, and what they are doing. Each year several thousand "lost" alumni are located.

While this is a tedious process requiring endless



tracing and checking, the results are heartening. Experience has shown that many an alumnus, away from the campus for years and still not contacted by the University, develops a feeling of being neglected, and actually is glad to be "discovered" again. Most cases of "lost" alumni date back to years ago when a funds shortage reduced Lists activity.

On the lists now are the addresses of approximately 60,000 alumni. The entire list is queried annually to confirm addresses. About 25% of these change during the year.

Information on alumni contained in news clippings and correspondence received by the Alumni Office is relayed regularly to the Lists Office to augment other sources in the constant "hunt."

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for the top performances in spring ball, a pleasant break in the normal drudgery of April football. He also inaugurated a dinner for the players' parents before the final spring game and a squad picnic on the Monday after the game, highlighted by a meal served by the coaches and a squad vs. staff softball game. He has shown a willingness to fight for his kids until he has proof that they are wrong. He has done his best to stifle undue criticism or even praise. If you must criticize, he tells alumni, criticize the coaches—they're paid to take it.

As you might expect, high team morale and in-

dividual spirit have resulted from this approach. The outstanding performance award, won by senior guard Charlie Rash this spring, and the quiet refusal of a big figure baseball bonus by senior halfback Hank Kuhlmann are but two cases which have to be attributed in part to this philosophy. Seniors, and particularly seniors who have played their varsity years under three different coaches, might be expected to be a trifle cynical. But no such attitude developed, and it seems safe to expect this team to reach great heights of achievement relative to ability, inspired not by oratory at half-time, but by deep respect. It's obvious that Devine is counting on this spirit as a definite factor. "This team will lose only to a lot better team" and "I can promise you a scrapping team, one you'll be proud of" are the only positive promises a cautious Devine will make for the coming season.

It will be a tough season, but Missouri can do well if the squad—short on experience—can avoid injuries.

Let's look for a moment beyond this year. We have a man and his staff who have shown unusual skill in the vital art of recruiting. (Among the forty freshmen prospects are All Staters from Missouri, Illinois, Mississippi, Michigan, Minnesota, Arkansas and Arizona. This does not indicate a change in emphasis, says Devine; it's only self-defense against recruiting in Missouri by Kansas University, Notre Dame, Tennessee, Arkansas, Colorado, Illinois, Houston, Oklahoma, Army, Navy, and the Air Force Academy, among others.) We have a man who brought Arizona State from the doldrums to national prominence in three short years. We have a man who, by his own description, is tough to move—a man with five children and a new home in Columbia. We have a man who can bring great football teams to Missouri for years to come.

JEAN MADDEN

Six games at home

After Missouri's home season opens at 3:00 p.m. Sept. 20 against the Vanderbilt Commodores in a nationally televised game, Idaho is the visitor at a regular 1:30 game the following Saturday, Sept. 27. The first road game is a Saturday night (Oct. 4) affair at College Station Texas with Texas A&M; another Southwest Conference opponent, Southern Methodist, plays in Columbia the following weekend, Oct. 11. Then it's out to Manhattan for the conference opener with K State on Oct. 18. Iowa State comes to Columbia Oct. 25, and the Tigers go to Lincoln for the Nebraska game Nov. 1. It's Colorado at home Nov. 8; Oklahoma at Norman for the final road game Nov. 15; and Kansas for the traditional Homecoming clash November 22.

The highlights of the attractive six-game home schedule are the non-conference foes Vanderbilt and S.M.U. and conference opponents Colorado and Kansas. Colorado and Kansas have both been picked to finish between the Tigers and the perennial champion Oklahoma Sooners.