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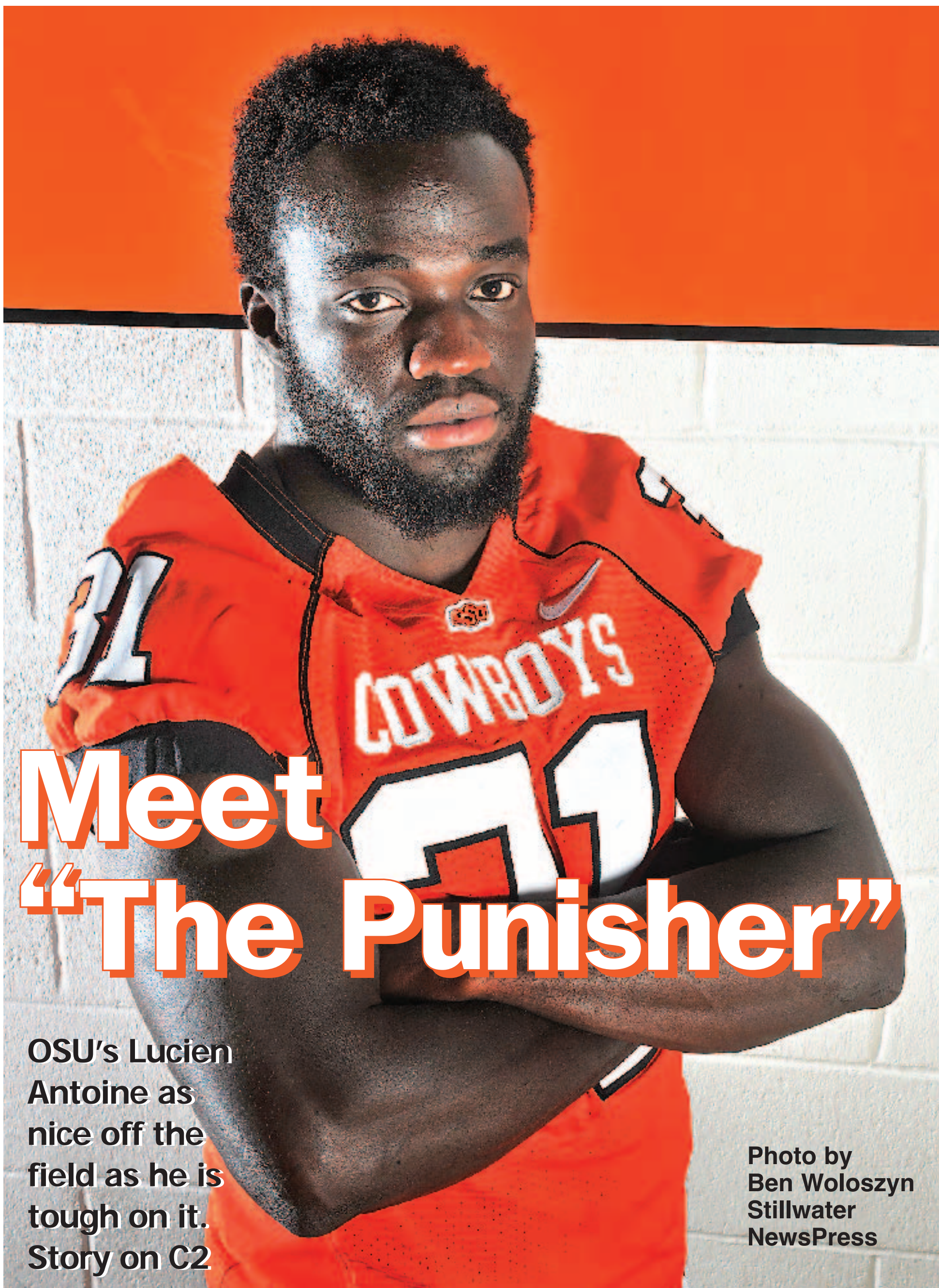
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Oklahoma State Cowboy Football

GAME DAY



Meet "The Punisher"

OSU's Lucien Antoine as nice off the field as he is tough on it. Story on C2

Photo by Ben Woloszyn
Stillwater NewsPress

If this is truly a season to remember, then all OSU fans should make sure to take the time to enjoy what should be an exciting and memorable ride.



C2

OSU linebacker Donald Booker had a solid game against Georgia. He's going to have to have a better one Saturday when Houston's Case Keenum comes calling.

C3



A look back in pictures at a memorable day at Boone Pickens Stadium Saturday

C6

Two sides of Antoine

Nicknamed 'The Punisher,' OSU safety also has a soft side

By Justin Hite
Stillwater NewsPress

His teammates know him as The Punisher.

On the field, Oklahoma State fans know him as a safety capable of making devastating hits and forcing game-changing plays, like his hit that produced the second-quarter fumble that triggered OSU's victory against Georgia last Saturday.

Off the field, Lucien Antoine considers himself a bit of a sweetheart.

It's 5 a.m. and the Reggae music in Antoine's room begins to grow louder. Antoine, a native of Haiti, will soon give his teammates an early wake-up call — a joke that is just part of the day for this relaxed, cool guy.

Antoine is so relaxed off the field he has even joked with roommate defensive end Ugo Chinasa — who suffers most from Antoine's 5 a.m. Reggae — that if he doesn't make the NFL, he'll get sent back to Haiti.

"People might see me on the field and think 'this guy might be a mean person.' But outside football, I'm a nice person, a cool guy, a loving person," Antoine said.

A poster of the movie that shares his nickname hangs from his wall and is his constant reminder of his unrelenting mentality on the football field.

Antoine didn't really like football when he moved to the United States in 2001 to be with his mom in Southern Florida. Still, friend Cody Brown convinced him to try out for Coral Gables High School. After only a few hours at his first practice, Antoine was hooked.

As Brown went off to Connecticut and eventually the NFL's Arizona Cardinals, Antoine wasn't highly recruited so he walked on at Fort Scott, Kan., Community College. He just wanted to play more football.

"You don't have to play forever to love something," Antoine said. "You can fall in love with the game in a month or two. It depends on how hard you play and how you feel about it."

At the Kansas-based junior college, only a few teammates knew him as The Punisher.

Once he reached Oklahoma State, the nickname took on a whole new meaning. New defensive coordinator Bill Young told Antoine to do something to earn the nickname. After just one practice he'd earned it by making his teammates suffer the wrath of his hit-before-getting-hit mentality.

"If you aren't going to hit somebody hard, they are going to hit you," Antoine said. "Your mindset is, the guy in front of you, if you don't have my same color (jersey), you are my enemy."

Antoine was one of the first people OSU middle linebacker Donald Booker met when the pair came from junior college two years ago. They combined to lead the Oklahoma State defense to a dominating victory against the Bulldogs.

Antoine was given the "Big Stick" award, given to players for punishing hits. The pair finished first and second in tack-



Stillwater NewsPress photo by Ben Woloszyn
Oklahoma State senior safety Lucien Antoine hits Georgia fullback Shaun Chapas during last Saturday's game at Boone Pickens Stadium. Antoine is one of the Cowboys' biggest hitters, but considers himself an easy-going person off the football field.

If you aren't going to hit somebody hard, they're going to hit you. Your mindset is, the guy in front of you, if you don't have my same color (jersey), you are my enemy.

— Lucien Antoine
Oklahoma State senior safety

les. To Booker, Antoine's name is spot on.

"He's got the right name," Booker said. "He likes to come down hill and hit."

Antoine isn't the only one throwing jokes around the Oklahoma State locker room. Young calls Antoine "The Catcher" just to tease the starting strong safety. Young said Antoine leads by example, but he can also be a vocal leader. Fellow safety Victor Johnson agreed and even called Antoine his big brother.

"He speaks with his actions," Johnson said.

Those actions come both on and off the field.

"You love him as a coach because he wants to have success and he's an extremely hard worker," Young said. "He's getting better and better as time goes on."

Safety Markelle Martin started a rumor recently that Antoine sometimes crawls under his bed to continue his workout with bench press repetitions. Antoine would neither confirm nor deny it.

"A workout is a big part of my game," Antoine said. "I love being in the weight room. I love working on my own."

He worked enough to earn a starting spot on the roster at the beginning of the 2008 season — Antoine's first year at OSU. After starting against Washington State, Antoine suffered a season-ending knee injury against Houston during the second game of the season. Antoine will start this Saturday against Houston.

Chinasa said Antoine was depressed after the injury, but Chinasa offered words of encouragement after going through a similar setback.

"I told him 'just keep your head up, work hard and you'll be back,'" Chinasa said.

All the way back into the starting lineup, Antoine is now an inspiration to his teammates.

"Lucien is a good person for our players to talk to because sometimes they don't understand what they have until it's

taken away from them," OSU coach Mike Gundy said. "And he had what he loved to do, which was play football and being part of a team, taken away from him."

"Even though he was on our team, when you're injured and you can't play and you're a real competitor, you're somewhat isolated. He had a tough time with that. He learned to persevere and fight through it and come back."

Antoine is fine with his on-field persona. Being physical is always on his mind. It's a trait he learned from watching NFL stars like Brian Dawkins.

"Whenever somebody has the ball, just run as fast as you can and put your body on them," Antoine said. "It's like a car crash."

Antoine felt he had put together some big hits so far, but he still feels like he hasn't made his best hit, a scary thought for the remaining teams on OSU's schedule.

"For some people, it just comes natural," Booker said. "He's one of those guys where it just came natural."

It might be natural, but it has come with hard work, too. Combine the pair and there's one thing on Antoine's mind when he hits the gridiron.

"On the field, that's all he's thinking about is kill," Johnson said. "Whoever has the ball, kill the man with the ball."

Memo to fans: Enjoy the 2009 ride

So I spent some of my Labor Day holiday Monday afternoon watching the college football game between Cincinnati and Rutgers.

The Bearcats were taking the Scarlet Knights out behind the woodshed when ESPN started talking about one of the big moments in Rutgers football.

Yeah, I know, it was a short talk, right? Good one.

The game was in 2006, when Rutgers beat No. 3 Louisville to "arrive" on the national college football scene.

That night the Rutgers fans stormed the field and the team was carried off on the shoulders of its students.

Less than three years later, the Scarlet Knights

Commentary



SCOTT NULPH

are struggling and that win seems so far away.

The moral of this story? In college football it sure seems easier to get to the top, or least into the national conversation, than to stay there.

Look at OSU for proof.

Starting in 1984, the Pokes were in the national poll almost every week for five straight years, except for the 1986 "rebuilding season."

They were in the top 10 for 13 weeks during that span, including a high of No. 3 toward the tail end of the 1984 season.

Everything seemed to point to the Cowboys having broken through as a traditional college football power.

The 1988 season ended with a 62-14 win against Wyoming in the Holiday Bowl and there was no reason to believe the winning wouldn't continue.

Can you name the next time the Cowboys found themselves in the national poll?

The year was 1997, nine

years later.

And OSU isn't the only team to suffer this fate.

College football is littered with programs that made a splash for a year or two, some even longer, only to fall away as the perennial powers chugged right along.

The main reason I bring this all up is not to provide a cautionary tale for the OSU football program. It's not to show what could happen in the future.

It's to enjoy the present. Make sure, whether you're a student, a casual fan or a die-hard Pokes who bleeds orange every day of your life, to take time to enjoy the journey you're about to go on.

See ► Nulph, page A3

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Determining Saturday's outcome



**OSU
LINEBACKER
DONALD BOOKER**



**HOUSTON
QUARTERBACK
CASE KEENUM**

V S

Booker won't be the only Cowboy trying to stop Keenum. No, it'll take a lot more than just one linebacker.

But the reason it's Booker's job is because he's the middle linebacker. When Ori Lemon went down for the season with an injury, Oklahoma State's defensive leader and a player a lot of the Cowboys turned to in times of struggle, went with him.

Booker is new to the role and for every punch Keenum throws, it will be Booker's — and defensive coordinator Bill Young's — responsibility to have a counter punch prepared.

OSU coach Mike Gundy said that after Lemon went out, Booker came in to watch even more tape than before.

"He played better at times during the game than he had at practice," Gundy said. "He's shown significant signs of improvement."

Lemon will still be on the sideline to help — as he was against Georgia — but it'll be on Booker to stop Keenum, not only as a leader of the defense, but also a player who could consistently earn a quarterback spy role.

With Booker's speed, he may be best suited to follow Keenum's every movement — and his unusual speed.

When asked about Keenum at Monday's press conference, OSU defensive lineman Jeremiah Price's answer made it very clear.

"I haven't played too many quarterbacks that are that fast," he said.

What makes Keenum stand out as the obvious key to Houston's offense, besides playing quarterback, is his ability to use his legs.

Even when rolling out to avoid the rush, Keenum's eyes have the tendency to always stay down field.

The OSU defensive line can give a lot of aid to Booker by playing sound football with the ends containing and the tackles collapsing the pocket around Keenum. But there's a reason Keenum is one of the top mobile quarterbacks in college football — besides the offense he plays in.

At 6-foot-2 and 210 pounds, the Abilene, Texas, native has the size and stature to follow his predecessor Kevin Kolb to the NFL.

Keenum threw 44 touchdown passes last season and his four in the first week of this year have him well on his way to possibly eclipsing that number.

And don't forget the 61 pass attempts Keenum had last year against Oklahoma State.

Saturday's position matchups

OSU

OSU quarterback Zac Robinson proved how big of a threat he can be running and passing last Saturday. He threw for two TDs and ran for another and had a fourth called back due to penalty.

Kendall Hunter was kept with his foot off the gas for most of the Georgia game. It shouldn't be a sign of things to come. Robinson also seemed to be a little tentative when it came to running the ball.

Dez Bryant is on the cover of this week's Sports Illustrated for a reason. Josh Cooper and Justin Blackmon got a taste of live-game action, even though they didn't make a catch.

Tight end was a position of question against Georgia. The group made some plays, but also committed a handful of costly penalties. The group combined for three catches and 33 yards, but left room for improvement.

Much like the tight ends, the offensive line was stout in some areas, but lacking in others. The problem was too many false start and holding penalties. The offensive line allowed no sacks to Georgia.

Who would have thought senior Shane Jarka would have been as much a part of the outcome last week as Robinson or Bryant. Jarka finished the game with a forced fumble as well as 1.5 sacks.

Donald Booker isn't as stout as Ori Lemon against the run, but has more speed and could be better against the pass. Oklahoma State will find that out against Houston Saturday.

Perrish Cox may have played his best game defensively against Georgia. Cox was all over the field making plays over Georgia's A.J. Green. Lucien Antoine led the team in tackles and forced a fumble.

He's only a game into his long career at Oklahoma State, but by the end of it Quinn Sharp might outshine predecessor Matt Fodge. Sharp averaged 50 yards per kick — second in the nation.

Is it possible that some, maybe even most, of the Cowboys can already see a pair of unbeaten teams facing off on Halloween when the Longhorns come to Stillwater? Still, OSU won't overlook Houston.

HOUSTON

QUARTERBACKS

When looking at Case Keenum, his statistics are untouchable. Keenum is in the top-4 in active passing efficiency, completion percentage, passing yards per game and total yards per game.

RUNNING BACKS

Sophomore Bryce Beall is Houston's leading running back, if you can call him that. Beall rushed for 58 yards last week, but also caught two passes for 38 yards and scored twice. UH's running game isn't much to speak of.

WIDE RECEIVERS

Houston's bread-and-butter comes through the air. Fourteen different receivers caught passes last weekend against Northwestern State and 10 caught at least two passes. Charles Sims is the go-to threat.

TIGHT ENDS

This position is a bit vacant. Tyler Chambers is the only Houston tight end that saw action last week and but didn't catch a pass against Northwestern State.

OFFENSIVE LINE

Houston returned the core of its offensive line from last season. Guards Jordan Shoemaker and Chris Thompson along with center Carl Barnett are helping to break in two new tackles.

DEFENSIVE LINE

Isaiah Thompson in the middle at nose tackle is one of only five returning starters to the Houston defense. The junior is the oldest starter on a D-line that produced one sack last week.

LINEBACKERS

Despite being a pass-happy offense, the core of Houston's defense is its linebackers. The Cougars returned three starters who combined for 14 tackles last week.

SECONDARY

Houston's secondary only broke up two passes last week and didn't snag an interception. By comparison, OSU broke up eight passes and had one pick.

SPECIAL TEAMS

Houston punter Chase Turner is first among active punting leaders and is the best punter in Houston's history. Kicker Ben Bell is a three-time letter winner and a fifth-year senior at the position.

INTANGIBLES

The scariest thing about Houston for Oklahoma State is that the Cougars think they can compete. Last season, Houston led at halftime and two years ago Houston beat OSU to open the season.

Oklahoma State 2-Deep

Offense

No.	Name	Ht.	Wt.	Yr.
Left tackle				
76	Russell Okung	6-5	305	Sr.
75	Nick Martinez	6-4	317	So.
Left Guard				
77	Noah Franklin	6-5	314	Sr.
64	Casey LeBrue	6-3	290	So.
Center				
54	Andrew Lewis	6-4	291	Sr.
74	Grant Garner	6-3	290	So.
Right Guard				
65	Anthony Morgan	6-5	320	Jr.
72	Andrew Mitchell	6-5	309	Sr.
Right Tackle				
60	Brady Bond	6-6	301	Sr.
73	Levi Adcock	6-6	330	So.
Tight End				
86	Wilson Youman	6-5	250	So.
14	Justin Horton	6-3	240	Fr.
Wide Receiver				
1	Dez Bryant	6-2	220	Jr.
84	Hubert Anyiam	6-0	198	So.
Wide Receiver				
81	Justin Blackmon	6-1	207	Fr.
25	Josh Cooper	5-11	192	So.
Wide Receiver				
80	DeMarcus Conner	6-1	213	Sr.
25	Josh Cooper	5-11	192	So.
Fullback				
37	Bryant Ward	5-11	223	Jr.
30	David Paulsen	6-2	255	Jr.
Running Back				
24	Kendall Hunter	5-8	197	Jr.
5	Keith Toston	6-0	214	Sr.
Quarterback				
11	Zac Robinson	6-3	220	Sr.
3	Alex Cate	6-1	200	Jr.

Defense

Defensive End				
97	Jeremiah Price	6-1	268	Sr.
50	Jamie Blatnick	6-3	270	So.
Defensive Tackle				
90	Swanson Miller	6-4	299	Sr.
45	Shane Jarka	6-3	295	Jr.
Defensive Tackle				
98	Derek Burton	6-3	281	Sr.
89	Nigel Nicholas	6-3	265	Fr.
Defensive End				
91	Ugo Chinasa	6-5	252	Jr.
98	Richetti Jones	6-3	264	So.
Strong Side Linebacker				
20	Andre Sexton	6-0	224	Sr.
22	James Thomas	5-11	209	So.
Middle Linebacker				
44	Donald Booker	5-11	236	Sr.
42	Justin Gent	6-1	236	Jr.
Weak Side Linebacker				
4	Patrick Lavine	6-2	226	Sr.
59	Tolu Moala	6-0	230	Jr.
Cornerback				
16	Perrish Cox	6-0	198	Sr.
6	Andrew McGee	6-0	191	Jr.
Strong Safety				
10	Markelle Martin	6-1	190	So.
3	Victor Johnson	6-1	191	So.
Free Safety				
31	Lucien Antoine	6-1	215	Sr.
12	Johnny Thomas	5-11	195	So.
Cornerback				
23	Terrance Anderson	5-11	180	Sr.
7	Maurice Gray	5-8	183	Sr.

Specialists

Place Kicker				
95	Dan Bailey	6-0	200	Jr.
13	Quinn Sharp	6-1	191	Fr.
Punter				
13	Quinn Sharp	6-1	191	Fr.
39	Zach Robinson	6-1	155	Fr.
Long Snapper				
69	Marc Yerry	6-2	241	So.
67	Randall Arbuckle	6-1	227	Fr.
Holder				
27	Taylor Sokolosky	5-9	180	So.
99	Wes Harlan	6-0	190	Fr.
Punt Returner				
1	Dez Bryant	6-2	220	Jr.
16	Perrish Cox	6-0	198	Sr.
Kick Returner				
16	Perrish Cox	6-0	198	Sr.
3	Victor Johnson	6-0	187	So.

Nulph

Continued from page A2

This is a special team. Don't spend all your time doing the "what ifs" of the season. Don't obsess over bowl predictions and national championship hopes in September.

There will be plenty of time for that in the coming months.

And, if you can help it, don't over analyze every play of every game.

Take Saturday's win over Georgia for example.

OSU had just beaten one of the perennial powers of college football to the tune of 24-10.

It was a great day for the much-maligned OSU defense. It was a great day for OSU, period.

Yet the post-game talk shows seemed to be filled with "what's wrong with the offense" comments.

Believe me, if the season goes like most think it will,

there will be plenty of time to get yourself all worked up about things that you can't control anyway.

So here's a tip for Saturday. Just enjoy the game with Houston.

The Cougars may well score as many points as they did last year against OSU — 37 — but the Cowboys will probably score more than the 56 they scored, too.

Instead of leaving the stadium wringing your hands over the defense, just have fun on Saturday.

After all, seasons like what you're about to experience might not come around again for a while.

Enjoy the ride.

Scott Nulph is the sports editor of the NewsPress. He can be reached at 372-5000, ext. 220, or at snulph@stnnewspress.com

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Big 12 Standings and Schedules

Conf. ...	Over.	Home	Away	PF.....	PA
South Division					
Baylor	0-0	1-0	0-0	1-0	24 21
Oklahoma State	0-0	1-0	1-0	0-0	24 10
Texas	0-0	1-0	1-0	0-0	59 20
Texas A&M	0-0	1-0	1-0	0-0	41 6
Texas Tech	0-0	1-0	1-0	0-0	37 13
Oklahoma	0-0	0-1	0-0	0-0	13 14

Conf. ...	Over.	Home	Away	PF.....	PA
North Division					
Iowa State	0-0	1-0	1-0	0-0	34 17
Kansas	0-0	1-0	1-0	0-0	49 3
Kansas State	0-0	1-0	1-0	0-0	21 17
Missouri	0-0	1-0	0-0	0-0	37 9
Nebraska	0-0	1-0	1-0	0-0	49 3
Colorado	0-0	0-1	0-0	0-0	17 23

This Week's Schedule

Friday
Colorado at Toledo, 8 p.m. (ESPN)

Saturday
Iowa at Iowa State, 11 a.m. (FSN)
Arkansas State at Nebraska, 1 p.m.
Houston at Oklahoma State, 2:30 p.m. (FSN)
Texas at Wyoming, 2:30 p.m. (Versus)
Idaho State at Oklahoma, 6 p.m.
Bowling Green at Missouri, 6 p.m.
Kansas State at Louisiana-Lafayette, 6 p.m.
Rice at Texas Tech, 6 p.m.
Kansas at UTEP, 6:30 p.m. (CBS College)
OFF: Baylor, Texas A&M

Next Week's Schedule

Saturday, Sept. 19
Duke at Kansas, 11 a.m. (Versus)
Furman at Missouri, 1 p.m.
Nebraska at Virginia Tech, 2:30 p.m. (ABC)
Tulsa at Oklahoma, 2:30 p.m. (FSN)
Wyoming at Colorado, 2:30 p.m.
Connecticut at Baylor, 4 p.m.
Rice at Oklahoma State, 6 p.m.
Iowa State at Kent State, 6 p.m.
Utah State at Texas A&M, 6 p.m.
Texas Tech at Texas, 7 p.m. (ABC)
Kansas State at UCLA, 9:15 p.m. (FSN)

OSU Leaders

Rushing	G	Att	Yds	TD	Avg
Kendall Hunter	1	23	75	0	75.0
Keith Toston	1	11	55	0	55.0
Zac Robinson	1	9	39	1	39.0

Passing	G	Att	Cmp	Int	TD	Yds
Zac Robinson	1	11	22	0	3	135

Receiving	G	Rec	Yds	TD	Avg
Kendall Hunter	1	4	23	0	23.0
Dez Bryant	1	3	77	2	77.0
Wilson Youman	1	2	25	0	25.0

Tackles	G	S	Ast	Tot	Avg
Lucien Antoine	1	6	1	7	7.0
Donald Booker	1	5	0	5	5.0
Terrance Anderson	1	3	2	5	5.0
Perrish Cox	1	4	0	4	4.0
Andrew McGee	1	3	1	4	4.0

Houston Leaders

Rushing	G	Att	Yds	TD	Avg
Bryce Beal	1	9	58	1	58.0
Chris Wilson	1	8	35	0	35.0
Cotton Turner	1	2	9	0	9.0

Passing	G	Att	Cmp	Int	TD	Yds
Case Keenum	1	23	30	0	4	359

Receiving	G	Rec	Yds	TD	Avg
Charles Sims	1	6	128	1	128.0
Patrick Edwards	1	4	52	0	52.0
Demetrius Woods	1	3	30	0	30.0
Tyron Carrier	1	3	24	0	24.0

Tackles	G	S	Ast	Tot	Avg
Philip Steward	1	2	11	13	13.0
Kris Johnston	1	4	3	7	7.0
Marcus McGraw	1	0	6	6	6.0
Roisean Graham	1	1	5	6	6.0

Big 12 Leaders

Team Statistics				Individual Statistics							
Scoring Offense				Rushing							
1. Texas	1	59	59.0	1. Helu (NU)	1	16	152	3	152.0		
2. (tie) Kansas	1	49	49.0	2. Sharp (KU)	1	21	123	1	123.0		
3. (tie) Nebraska	1	49	49.0	3. Thomas (KSU)	1	23	104	0	104.0		
4. Texas A&M	1	41	41.0	4. Michael (A&M)	1	11	93	1	93.0		
5. Texas Tech	1	38	38.0	5. Finley (BU)	1	14	91	0	91.0		
6. Missouri	1	37	37.0	6. Valentine (KSU)	1	11	89	0	89.0		
7. Iowa State	1	34	34.0	7. Robinson (ISU)	1	16	83	1	83.0		
8. (tie) Oklahoma State	1	24	24.0	8. (tie) Reesing (KU)	1	13	79	2	79.0		
8. (tie) Baylor	1	24	24.0	8. (tie) Powell (KU)	1	8	79	2	79.0		
10. Kansas State	1	21	21.0	10. Arnaud (ISU)	1	17	78	1	78.0		
11. Colorado	1	17	17.0	Passing							
12. Oklahoma	1	13	13.0	1. Potts (TTU)	1	34	48	3	2	405	405.0
Scoring Defense				2. Johnson (A&M)	1	31	41	0	2	349	349.0
1. (tie) Kansas	1	3	3.0	3. Gabbert (MU)	1	25	33	0	3	319	319.0
1. (tie) Nebraska	1	3	3.0	4. McCoy (TU)	1	21	29	1	2	317	317.0
3. Texas A&M	1	6	6.0	5. Arnaud (ISU)	1	16	28	0	1	227	227.0
4. Missouri	1	9	9.0	6. Hawkins (CU)	1	24	40	1	1	222	222.0
5. Oklahoma State	1	10	10.0	7. Lee (NU)	1	15	22	1	2	213	213.0
6. Texas Tech	1	13	13.0	8. Reesing (KU)	1	13	20	0	2	208	208.0
7. Oklahoma	1	14	14.0	9. Coffman (KSU)	1	14	27	1	2	182	182.0
8. (tie) Kansas State	1	17	17.0	10. Griffin (BU)	1	11	22	0	2	136	136.0
8. (tie) Iowa State	1	17	17.0	Receiving							
10. Texas	1	20	20.0	1. (tie) Alexander (ISU)	1	10	132	0	10.0		
11. Baylor	1	21	21.0	1. (tie) Fuller (A&M)	1	10	111	1	10.0		
12. Colorado	1	23	23.0	3. (tie) Shipley (TU)	1	8	180	1	8.0		
Total Offense				3. (tie) Lewis (TTU)	1	8	146	1	8.0		
1. Texas A&M	1	606	606.0	5. Banks (KSU)	1	7	67	0	7.0		
2. Texas	1	562	562.0	6. (tie) Greer (CU)	1	6	65	0	6.0		
3. Kansas	1	547	547.0	6. (tie) Reynolds (ISU)	1	6	53	0	6.0		
4. Nebraska	1	490	490.0	5 tied with 5 receptions							
5. Texas Tech	1	445	445.0	Total Offense							
6. (tie) Iowa State	1	442	442.0	1. Johnson (A&M)	1	57	349	406	406.0		
6. (tie) Missouri	1	442	442.0	2. Potts (TTU)	1	-7	405	398	398.0		
8. Kansas State	1	407	407.0	3. Gabbert (MU)	1	39	319	358	358.0		
9. Baylor	1	366	266.0	4. McCoy (TU)	1	-3	317	314	314.0		
10. Oklahoma State	1	307	307.0	5. Arnaud (ISU)	1	78	227	305	305.0		
11. Oklahoma	1	265	265.0	Scoring (TDS)							
12. Colorado	1	251	251.1	1. (tie) Helu (NU)	1	3	0	18	18.0		
Total Defense				1. (tie) Johnson (UT)	1	3	0	18	18.0		
1. Texas Tech	1	207	207.0	3. (tie) Bryant (OSU)	1	2	0	12	12.0		
2. Kansas State	1	212	212.0	3. (tie) Snipes (KSU)	1	2	0	12	12.0		
3. Texas A&M	1	231	231.0	3. (tie) Hamilton (ISU)	1	2	0	12	12.0		
4. Kansas	1	246	246.0	3. (tie) Sharp (KU)	1	2	0	12	12.0		
5. Oklahoma State	1	257	257.0	3. (tie) Powell (KU)	1	2	0	12	12.0		
6. Baylor	1	269	269.0	3. (tie) Potts (TTU)	1	2	0	12	12.0		
7. Texas	1	298	298.0	3. (tie) Reesing (KU)	1	2	0	12	12.0		
8. Missouri	1	325	325.0	Scoring (Kick)							
9. Oklahoma	1	357	357.0	1. Ressel (NU)	1	3-3	4-4	13	13.0		
10. Nebraska	1	358	358.0	2. Bullock (A&M)	1	2-2	5-5	11	11.0		
11. Colorado	1	376	376.0	3. Mahoney (ISU)	1	2-3	4-4	10	10.0		
12. Iowa State	1	388	388.0	4. Lawrence (UT)	1	1-1	6-6	9	9.0		
Time of Possession				5. Williams (TTU)	1	1-1	5-5	8	8.0		
1. Kansas State	1	37:10	37:10	Tackles							
2. Texas A&M	1	35:59	35:59	1. Smith (ISU)	1	8	7	15	15.0		
3. Oklahoma State	1	33:43	33:43	2. Lewis (OU)	1	9	4	13	13.0		
4. Kansas	1	31:26	31:26	3. (tie) Williams (TTU)	1	7	3	10	10.0		
5. Texas	1	30:56	30:56	3. (tie) Carter (OU)	1	6	4	10	10.0		
6. Baylor	1	30:09	30:09	3. (tie) Hunter (A&M)	1	3	7	10	10.0		
7. Missouri	1	29:54	29:54	3. (tie) Smith (CU)	1	6	4	10	10.0		
8. Texas Tech	1	27:43	27:43	3. (tie) Reynolds (OU)	1	5	5	10	10.0		
9. Nebraska	1	27:42	27:42	Sacks							
10. Colorado	1	27:06	27:06	1. Miller (A&M)	1	1	3	0	3.0		
11. Iowa State	1	26:42	26:42	2. (tie) Laptad (KU)	1	1	2	0	2.0		
12. Oklahoma	1	22:58	22:58	2. (tie) Parker (ISU)	1	2	0	2.0			
Turnover Margin				4. Jarka (OSU)	1	1	1	1	1.5		
1. (tie) Oklahoma State	1	3	0	+3.0	Kickoff Returns						
1. (tie) Baylor	1	3	0	+3.0	1. Monroe (TU)	1	2	111	55.5		
3. (tie) Nebraska	1	3	1	+2.0	2. Cox (OSU)	1	2	81	40.5		
3. (tie) Texas A&M	1	3	1	+2.0	3. Sims (ISU)	1	3	111	37.0		
3. (tie) Kansas	1	2	0	+2.0	4. Britton (TTU)	1	4	115	28.8		
3. (tie) Missouri	1	2	0	+2.0	Punt Returns						
3. (tie) Oklahoma	1	4	2	+2.0	1. Bryant (OSU)	1	2	29	14.5		
8. (tie) Iowa State	1	2	2	0.0	2. Hartman (KSU)	1	2	24	12.0		
8. (tie) Texas	1	3	3	0.0	3. Zouzalik (TTU)	1	3	33	11.0		
8. (tie) Colorado	1	2	2	0.0	4. Banks (KSU)	1	3	29	9.7		
11. Kansas State	1	2	3	-1.0							
12. Texas Tech	1	1	3	-1.0							



Photo by the Associated Press
Missouri wide receiver Danario Alexander had 10 receptions for 132 yards in Saturday's 37-9 win against Illinois.

Tigers back to proving mode

By Associated Press

Big 12 Notebook

Missouri coach Gary Pinkel already senses a prove-something attitude from his team. "I think so, but I also think that's OK," Pinkel said. "There are some other national powers that they lose a lot of players, get a lot of players drafted and people assume they're just going to reload. But you have to earn that. ... (Our players) certainly did have a chip."

Even though they played in the last two Big 12 championship games and were briefly the nation's No. 1 team in 2007, there are some underwhelming expectations for the Tigers this season after quarterback Chase Daniel finished his senior season and receiver-kick returner Jeremy Maclin left early for the NFL.

No preseason Top 25 ranking, and nobody picking Missouri to win the Big 12 North again.

Missouri was even the underdog for its season opener against Illinois, which had lost four in a row in the rivalry.

The Tigers responded with a surprisingly easy 37-9 victory, which pushed them into the AP poll at No. 25 this week. Daniel's successor, Blaine Gabbert, threw for 319 yards and three touchdowns and ran for another score.

BALANCED RED RAIDERS: Texas Tech coach Mike Leach has a slightly different definition of balanced offense.

"I'm proud to say we're probably the most balanced team in the nation," said Leach, whose Red Raiders opened the season with 405 of their 445 total yards through the air.

"Balance has virtually nothing to do with rushing as opposed to passing. It has to do with your ability to get ball in all your players' hands," Leach said. "We had 10 receivers touch the ball and three running backs. So if you run across anybody any more balanced than that, I'd like to meet them."

HORNS HEADED WEST: Instead of heading to Arkansas this weekend,

the second-ranked Texas Longhorns will make their farthest trip to the north-west in 34 years to play Wyoming.

Originally, this would have been the spot for Texas to resume its series with former Southwest Conference rival Arkansas. But the Razorbacks requested that the game be pushed back to another season to open up the opportunity for them to instead play Texas A&M this season in the new Cowboys Stadium. The Longhorns filled the opening with another group of Cowboys, and their longest trip in that direction since playing at Washington in 1975.

EARLY BYES: Baylor and Texas A&M took distinctly different approaches to their opening stretches. Both have their open dates this week after much-needed season-opening victories.

Baylor won 24-21 at Wake, its first road victory in two years. The Bears now have three nonconference games at home.

"Looking at it ahead of time, this is kind of going to be a continuation of preseason to a certain extent," said Aggies coach Mike Sherman, whose team beat New Mexico 41-6 at home.

EXTRA POINTS: Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops describes redshirt freshman quarterback Landry Jones, who will

Big 12 Game of the Week
Iowa at Iowa State • 11 a.m. Saturday

Rhoads all set to renew rivalry

ISU coach knows importance of game with Iowa

AMES, Iowa (AP) — Shortly after his first career win, Iowa State coach Paul Rhoads was asked about the upcoming matchup against the rival Hawkeyes — the sporting event of the year in Iowa.

Rhoads said it was simply “the second game” on the schedule.

Yeah, right. Though Rhoads was clearly trying to keep things in perspective, he knows firsthand how important the annual Iowa-Iowa State game is to players, coaches and fans.



Photo by the Associated Press
Iowa State coach Paul Rhoads will lead the Cyclones against rival Iowa on Saturday.

Rhoads, who grew up in nearby Ankeny, Iowa, left the rivalry when he took a job as Pittsburgh’s defensive coordinator in 2000. He’ll coach in his sixth Iowa-Iowa State game on Saturday, but his first as a head coach.

Though he acknowledged this week that it’s a special rivalry because Iowa is his home state, he also did his best not to say anything that might end up on a bulletin board in Iowa City.

“It’s a different kind of rivalry. It’s competitively friendly,” Rhoads said when asked to compare the series to previous rivalries he’s been involved in, including Pittsburgh-West Virginia and Auburn-Alabama. “People enjoy this game. They know there’s going to be a winner and a loser, but they move on after that.”

As any Cyclones fan will tell you, Iowa State has won seven of the last 11 meetings and four of the last five played between the schools in Ames. But while Rhoads was gone, a series that had swung wildly in each direction — Iowa State won five straight after losing 15 in a row — has become a much more competitive affair.

“If you look at the last 10 years, I think all but two games have been pretty close,” Iowa coach Kirk Ferentz said. “That’s typical when you get two teams that are in a good rivalry.”

It didn’t used to be that way, especially when Rhoads first came to Iowa State

as an assistant under Dan McCarney in 1995.

The Cyclones didn’t win a game against Iowa from the early ’80s until the late ’90s. Iowa State got as close as three points once during that stretch, and blowouts were common.

The Cyclones’ resurgence began under McCarney, who made it a point to make Iowa State relevant again in the rivalry. McCarney took his lumps early including a 63-20 home loss in 1997.

That’s why expectations were so low for Iowa State heading into 1998’s game at Kinnick Stadium.

What happened that day changed the course of the series. Iowa State stunned the heavily favored Hawkeyes 27-9, the first of five straight victories for the Cyclones over Iowa.

“It was a fabulous day. We had a group of kids that decided they were going to win that football game. It ended a lot of years of frustration for Iowa State fans everywhere,” Rhoads said.

NewsPress prognostications



SCOTT NULPH
SPORTS EDITOR

The more I think about this game, the less nervous I tend to get.

This should be a victory for the Cowboys. Art Briles started something pretty good at Houston before leaving for Baylor and Kevin Sumlin has continued what Briles started, at least on offense.

Just about everybody predicted some sort of shootout last week against Georgia, with the common belief being the Cowboys would need to outscore the Bulldogs to win.

And the game was won by the defense.

Saturday, the OSU defense could play just as well as it did against Georgia and give up more points.

UH’s spread offense won’t be easy to stop. On the other side, however, Houston doesn’t have enough on defense to keep the Cowboys off the scoreboard, either.

I don’t know if this game will make OSU fans feel any better than last week overall, but they’ll be happy to see the offense make a big splash for the first time this season.

There won’t be any let-down this week for the Cowboys.

Final score: Oklahoma State 43, Houston 27

Last Week: 1-0
Total: 1-0



JUSTIN HITE
OSU BEAT WRITER

This won’t be a comfortable mop-up game for Oklahoma State. Don’t get me wrong, they’ll win, but it won’t be as bad as the Grambling State result two weeks from now.

Both offenses will put on a show and this will be another test for the OSU defense. But more along the lines of what the Cowboys will see in the Big 12, just at a smaller scale. It’ll come down to how well Oklahoma State can defend Houston quarterback Case Keenum.

Oklahoma State’s offense won’t let the defense lead this game. Expect a lot of points and Dez Bryant and Zac Robinson.

Robinson may even be OSU’s career passing touchdowns leader on Saturday. He only needs two to tie Josh Fields and three to break the six-year-old record.

Bryant needs three touchdown catches to tie Hart Lee Dykes in receiving early touchdowns and three scores make him 11th all-time in scoring. He’s also 8 yards from passing Adarius Bowman for fourth all-time in receiving yards. The pair hits all four marks on Saturday.

Final score: Oklahoma State 52, Houston 35

Last Week: 0-1
Total: 0-1



CHRIS SHELTON
SPORTS WRITER

With the other two predictions heavily in Oklahoma State’s favor, I’d love to be the one to throw up a shocker. But that would just be silly.

The OSU defense shined last week because Georgia was expected to come out firing on all pistons offensively. The Bulldogs weren’t necessarily lacking, but the O-State defense surprised people.

Not that the defense will be any less spectacular this Saturday. And not to slight Houston’s offense and certainly talented Case Keenum, but the unranked Cougars aren’t expected to go toe to toe with the No. 5 Cowboys on the scoreboard.

This show should be a spotlight for the OSU offense, which so many fans were missing last week, despite the win.

Look for the Big Three — Zac Robinson, Dez Bryant and Kendall Hunter — to post their expected impressive numbers as OSU coasts to a comfortable victory. Not that the Pokes won’t have to work hard, but that’s what they prepare for and expect to do every Saturday.

Final score: Oklahoma State 49, Houston 23

Last Week: 1-0
Total: 1-0

Team’s reaction more subdued after win

By Christopher Shelton
Stillwater NewsPress

For fans who remember Oklahoma State’s upset against Missouri last season, you might have noticed that the Cowboys — while certainly pleased — weren’t as ecstatic Saturday as when they toppled the Tigers in 2008.

Georgia and Missouri certainly aren’t comparable on a national level. Saturday was supposed to be one of the biggest games in OSU football history.

So what gives with the Cowboys’ focused — but brief — celebration last Saturday, when they overcame a famously tough Southeastern Conference defense? In a nutshell, that was then and this is now.

“Last year, we were kind of on the radar,” redshirt freshman punter Quinn Sharp said. “It was that verge game where that one (Missouri) put us over the hump of people starting to realize what we were doing. And we came in as big underdogs in that game. It was great to see just the way the whole game went, and it was a big celebration in the locker room.”

On Oct. 11 last season, the Pokes were No. 17 in the nation, having spent the previous five weeks working their way into the polls. They had faced no ranked opponents before Miz-zou, and the third-ranked Tigers looked to be the brick wall ending OSU’s climb.

But the Cowboys emerged with a 28-23 result.

Last Saturday, heading into OSU’s season opener at home against then-No. 13 Georgia, the tables had turned for Oklahoma State, ranked ninth.

“But this year, we came out with a top-10 ranking,” Sharp said. “We weren’t underdogs in this game. We were favored. It was a good game to see, and it was a rivalry game just because we played them two years ago and didn’t play as well as we wanted to. It was still fun and we celebrated.”

With the victory, Oklahoma



Stillwater NewsPress photo by Ben Woloszyn
Oklahoma State coach Mike Gundy and wide receiver Dez Bryant talk during Saturday’s game with Georgia. Gundy saw his first playing time as a Cowboy quarterback in 1986 against the Houston Cougars, Saturday’s opponent.

OSU Notebook

State has reason to celebrate. The Cowboys climbed to No. 5 in the Associated Press rankings, which ties for the third highest OSU has ever been ranked.

“After the game Saturday, we celebrated and stuff, but now it’s time to look past it and start focusing on our next opponent,” sophomore tight end Wilson Youman said.

BALANCING THE SCALES: The OSU defense shined Saturday against UGA, which is all well and good. But

that alone won’t take the Cowboys where they want to go this year.

An uncharacteristically mediocre offense was supported by its defensive line last weekend, so you can bet the offense spent the week working out the kinks.

OSU racked up 106 penalty yards with 15 offenses on Saturday.

“One is penalties — or lack thereof,” offensive coordinator Gunter Brewer said. “I think penalties put us in a situation where we had some young kids that did some things that we’re not proud of. And they’re not proud of that. We usually don’t

do that, jumping off-sides and things of that nature. Other than that I thought they played well and stayed cool and calm.”

Another offensive irregularity for OSU on Saturday was the passing game. Last year, Zac Robinson averaged 235.7 passing yards per game with a 65.0 percent completion rate. Against Georgia, Robinson connected on 11 of 22 passes for only 135 yards.

“We have to catch the ball,” Brewer said. “We had two or three drops, which was uncharacteristic of what we do. And usually we do a little bit better job of finishing our blocks and just finishing plays where those

big runs and catches usually come. We’re usually just on you until the last part of that whistle blows, and we just want to do a little bit of a better job at that.”

BEHIND THE SCENES: Saturday, Robinson might not have put up the numbers he’s capable of, but he was an effective quarterback just the same.

“I thought Zac Robinson was a great leader for us,” OSU coach Mike Gundy said. “That’s the most important thing he can do is be a great leader for our team. I thought he showed toughness, I thought he showed durability. He ran the ball effectively, he threw the ball OK.”

“Zac went through a period of time in two-a-days when he wasn’t practicing very much. I’ve said this to the team that I’ve only been around two people in 30 years as a player and a coach who could not practice and still play well and Zac’s not one of them. For the amount of time Zac practiced, he played pretty well.”

Former Cowboy greats running back Thurman Thomas and wide receiver Hart Lee Dykes are the two former Cowboys who are on Gundy’s practice free pass list.

HISTORY WITH HOUSTON: Gundy and his Cowboys will face Houston on Saturday, and for the OSU coach, it will be a time to remember the beginning.

In 1986, after going 18-6 in his first two years as OSU coach, Pat Jones was looking to keep Gundy in a redshirt year. But at halftime of the Houston game on Sept. 30, 1986, Jones inserted Gundy into the game and the rest was history.

The quarterback responded with a 12-for-22 passing effort for 163 yards and a touchdown. He went on to be named a Freshman All-American and ended his career as the Big Eight Conference’s all-time passing leader.

Oklahoma State 24, Georgia 10 ... A look back

Photos by NewsPress photographer Ben Woloszyn



Oklahoma State fans cheer on their team, including the "Paddle People," during Saturday's game at Boone Pickens Stadium.



Oklahoma State tight end Justin Horton juggles the football before making a catch against Georgia.



Members of the Oklahoma State cheer squad try to get the crowd fired up during Saturday's game.



An Oklahoma State fan listens to the ceremonies for the re-dedication of the West End Zone.



Pistol Pete helps get the Oklahoma State crowd going with a cheer before the game.



Oklahoma State's Dez Bryant (1) and teammates come out of the smoke before their game with Georgia.

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