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# XPERIENCE



Eric Stephens stifles his opponents with his zig-zag running abilities. This natural ability allowed him to rack up 24 points for the season.



## The Key to Success

Although the record did not show it, the '88 Bulldogs were a hard-working and determined team. Winning two of the first three games, the Dogs fell into a rut out of which they could not pull themselves. Inexperience was the major setback. Coach Hall commented, "We have more tenth graders on our team than we have ever had." When young players were put into "skill positions," they had to perform consistently to their full potential throughout each game. This resulted in heartbreaking losses by just a few points.

Injuries plagued the team. Center Mike Hiott and linebacker-offensive tackle Miguel Koger suffered knee problems, while tailback Ernest

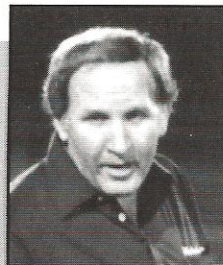
Smith suffered ankle problems. Nevertheless, all of these players were healthy enough to contribute heavily to the team's wins. Lack of leadership added to the team's weaknesses, mainly because there were so few seniors compared to the number of underclassmen. Coach Hall expected this year to be a "building year," but was disappointed in the team's slow progression. This slow progression was evident in the on-going performance of the athletes in the games of the season. Joey Robertson added, "It was a long, frustrating, never-ending season, but we all stuck together. In the end, it all taught us to be *somewhat* coachable."

by Seth Huckabee

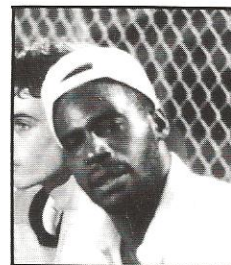


While Kent Holm had an injured knee, he helped Perry Smalls as a water boy. Both were dedicated members of the team and contributed in their own ways.

Tremendous blocks allow Johnny Evans to weave his way through the line of scrimmage. Because of blocks like these in other games, the tailbacks and runningbacks had very high yardage averages.



"I considered this year to be a building year. We had to play more tenth graders in the games this season than in the past years." —Coach Gyles Hall



"I had expected us to do better than we did. Nevertheless, we gave it our best, but our best wasn't good enough." —Coach Raymond Burke