

Spartans' loss grates on Houle

By C.J. Risak
Staff writer

It's not something Dave Houle will soon forget.

"Everybody just stood there for a second," said the Michigan State offensive tackle after a last-gasp drive ended at the Iowa 3-yard line with an interception, securing the Hawkeyes' 24-21 victory Saturday at MSU.

"That's the word for it — stunned," Houle was still filled with disbelief an hour later. MSU had more than its share of chances to beat Iowa, right up until that final pass. But the interception wasn't the cause of the Spartan defeat. Earlier mistakes that put them into a must-see situation were their downfall.

"Penalties. That's the only thing that stopped us," said Houle. "You try to put them out of your mind. You try not to think you have 20 yards to go."

"I don't think it's what they did (to stop us), it's what we did. Penalties just killed us."

FLAGS AGAINST MSU figured in 10 of the Hawkeye points. A personal foul call for 15 yards came during their first-quarter touch-down drive and a roughing-the-kicker penalty led to their winning field goal.

In addition, two critical offensive penalties ruined possible MSU drives in the third and fourth quarters. The Spartans' initial first down of the second half didn't come until the fourth quarter. That allowed the Hawkeyes to take control and eventually build a 24-14 lead.

Houle had his problems. He was caught holding once, which added to MSU's woes.

But otherwise he was fairly effective. He lined up all game across from Jeff Drost, a 6-foot-5, 285-pound giant of a defensive tackle.

"He's definitely the toughest player I've played against," said Houle. "I'd vote for him (for all-American) right now."

Considering Houle was a 220-pound tight end coming out of Plymouth Salem, such an assignment seems like a ludicrous mismatch. But Houle, at 6-foot-5, has bulked up. He's listed in MSU's program at 6-5, 247, which prompted a chuckle. "I'm up to 255

people in sports

now," he said.

SUCH SIZE is a necessity in the Big Ten, where Drost's bulk is commonplace. And the Spartans are counting on their offensive line to open holes for Heisman Trophy-hopeful Lorenzo White.

Houle never appeared against Iowa. White was limited to 41 yards rushing in 19 carries.

"They were keying on him," said Houle. "I don't think they thought Dave (Yarema, the Spartan quarterback) could throw that well. After this game, I think other teams will play us for the pass more."

Yarema did counter Iowa's defensive efforts on White by passing for 271 yards and three touchdowns. And yet, MSU is to succeed, much depends on how effective White is. Preseason publicity hyping the Spartan blockers — the "White Knights" — doesn't help at game time.

"Sometimes that stuff can backfire," said Houle. "Lorenzo deserves it, but other teams see it and get really fired up."

WHICH MAKES Houle's job that much harder. The Spartans do boast two great wide receivers in Mark Ingram and Andre Rison, who combined for 13 catches Saturday. Ingram caught all three TDs.

"I think as the season goes on, they won't be able to key on Lorenzo," said Houle. The question is, can the Spartans win by depending on the pass instead of White's running?

"They haven't been able to so far. White has been shut down twice this year, by Arizona State and Iowa. MSU lost both times by a field goal."

Houle believes his team is on the verge of winning games like that. "We've got good character on this team," he said. "We came back against Iowa, we came back against Arizona State. We're there — just a little bit more and we'll win some of these."

That "little bit more" may be all that's separating MSU from a post-season bowl bid.

Surviving nicely

Injury, inexperience can't dim Bokovoy's spirit

By C.J. Risak
Staff writer

For Lisa Bokovoy, the adjustment from high school star to college player has been wrought with tough lessons. But unlike other prep stars who make a successful transition, Bokovoy's talent has been overwhelming enough to carry her through the greatest challenges.

Bokovoy, from Livonia Stevenson, is on the brink. And she's only a sophomore.

The 6-foot-1 Bokovoy graduated from Stevenson boasting all-state credentials in both volleyball and softball. She chose to continue her athletic career in volleyball and accepted a scholarship to the University of Kentucky.

Many college prospects weigh their chances to play before making a decision. On a team gutted by graduation, Bokovoy had no such decision to make. She started as a freshman and stayed in the lineup even when she wasn't playing well.

"Last year we only had two middle-blockers," Bokovoy said. "I had to play even if I didn't have a good game. The coach (Kathy DeBoer, formerly of Ferris State) kept saying she was sorry to have to play me all the time."

DESPITE BEING thrust into a difficult position, laden with responsibility for a freshman — as she explained, the U-K offense "starts with the middle attackers hitting, then goes outside" — she prevailed. It wasn't easy.

"Last year I played against five all-Americans," she recalled. "That really fired me up. I knew I couldn't show I didn't have any confidence or they'd really go to work on me."

But a freshman filling such a vital role is target enough. Bokovoy admits it was a learning experience for her, one that has helped her immensely this season.

"I feel more confident now," she said. "My defense has come a long way. I'm playing much better now in the back row."

"This game is much quicker (than in high school) although at Stevenson we had a quick offense and we had a lot of good athletes so we could work a lot of quick plays. But most high school athletes aren't used to it."

Bokovoy has adjusted well. She remains the Wildcats' main force in the middle with a .356 kill percentage, totaling 154 kills in 12 matches. She also has 15 solo blocks and 33 assist blocks. U-K is off to a 9-3 start, including a 1-0 mark in the Southeastern Conference.

Southeastern Conference.

HOWEVER, IF it sounds like Bokovoy's athletic career is assured, that her personal goals of "making all-SEC this year and all-American next" are certainties, then wait. Because there are still obstacles to clear.

The biggest is a bad heel. Last April, Bokovoy underwent surgery to have a bone spur removed from her heel. At the time, doctors told her she would recover in four-to-six weeks.

She went to the National Sports Festival in Houston last July believing she had recovered. "I thought I was fine," she said.

She wasn't. "I had lost a lot of quickness and I hadn't gained it back. It was really frustrating for me."

And if that wasn't enough — the injury already pushed Bokovoy to the 12th, or last, position on the team — she contracted bronchitis. "I couldn't even suit up for games," she said. The illness caused her to end her trip two days early.

She's recovered from the bronchitis but her foot still bothers her. Her leaping isn't hampered much but her lateral movement and quickness are.

"I THINK it's holding me back a bit," Bokovoy said. "Doctors now think it'll be the end of the season before it's fully healed."

"I was thinking about asking the coach to redshirt me this year because I knew I could play a lot better. But I decided not to."

Bokovoy must strengthen her calf muscle (it shrunk about an inch because of the injury) for her foot to recuperate completely. And she probably won't be able to do that properly until the off-season.

Which means playing with pain the rest of the season, a burden Bokovoy has accepted because she is confident the Wildcats have a solid chance of winning the SEC title, Georgia and Louisiana State are the other top contenders.

"I think we have a very good shot at it," she said. "We've been playing out of our minds."

And if the Wildcats are to capture the championship and the NCAA tournament berth that accompanies it, they'll need Bokovoy. Because her talent, even at less than full, is not easily replaced.

As Bokovoy has discovered, there is no sure-and-easy road to success, even winning can be painful.

Engineers open Junior A season 2-0

There aren't many coaches around who would complain about a 2-0 start. But A.J. Baker, whose Honey-Sey Engineers Junior A hockey team returned home from a weekend series in Chicago with a 2-0 record, is less than satisfied.

"It was terrible," Baker said. "We won the first game 10-0. The second game we won on a forfeit. We cancelled the third game. The Chicago team is completely disorganized right now. They had two coaches leave the team, and they lost a lot of their players to a new junior league out West. Just major political garbage."

Baker expects the third game with

the Chicago Patriots to be rescheduled for later in the season, but the future of the Chicago team, the newest member of the four-team North American Junior Hockey League, is questionable.

"I had known for some time that their original coach was going to step down, but not in my wildest dreams did I expect them to be so loosely put together," Baker said. "Hugh Melvin (the league's secretary-treasurer) talked to the Chicago people at length, and he expects them to get their act together. I guess they plan on practicing four times this week, and they should be ready for the tournament."

Chicago is one of six teams expected to take part in the second Little Caesars Junior Invitational Hockey Tournament this weekend at the Oak Park Computare Arena (see related story).

REGARDLESS OF Chicago's problems, the Engineers are 2-0 in the NAJHL. In the 19-0 rout Friday, all but one Engineer contributed at least one point to the cause.

Bryan Krygier led the goal parade with four. He also notched two assists. Darrell Sattler scored two goals and added three assists. Lief Gustafson and Steve Ramberg each had a goal and four assists.

The team's Plymouth connection also clipped in Chris Belhart scored two goals and had an assist. Eric Kapelanski tallied a goal and an assist. After this weekend's tournament, the Engineers will open their home schedule at the Plymouth Cultural Center at 8:20 p.m. Friday, Oct. 17, against the NAJHL's defending champion Detroit Falcons.

The game will be a homecoming for six Falcon players: Tom Yawkey, Tony Esser, Billy Pye, Sean Worden, Steve Esser and Brian Dawson are also natives of the Plymouth-Canton community.

— Chris McCosky

State's best Junior A teams meet in tourney

If you want to get a taste of Junior A hockey, plan on being at the Computare Arena in Oak Park Friday-Monday.

The North American Junior Hockey League will showcase its annual Little Caesars Junior Invitational Hockey Tournament beginning at 2 p.m. Friday.

The Engineers, Computare, the Falcons and Chicago are members of the North American Junior A Hockey League.

The Computare Arena is at 13950 Oak Park Blvd., off Coolidge between Nine and 10 Mile roads. Tickets are \$3 for adults and \$2 for children and senior citizens each day.

Here is the schedule of games:

Friday, Oct. 10
Engineers vs. Junior B stars, 2 p.m.
Computare vs. Chicago, 5 p.m.
Falcons vs. Oshawa, 8 p.m.
Saturday, Oct. 11
Falcons vs. Junior B stars, noon
Oshawa vs. Computare, 3 p.m.

Engineers vs. Chicago, 6 p.m.

Sunday, Oct. 12
Computare vs. Junior B stars, noon
Falcons vs. Chicago, 3 p.m.
Engineers vs. Oshawa, 6 p.m.
Monday, Oct. 13
Bronze medal game, 4 p.m.
Championship game, 7 p.m.

Spikers roll to 10th win

Tom Teeters knows the quality of his Schoolcraft College volleyball team, and he takes great delight in putting it on display — particularly against four-year schools.

The Lady Ocelots showed their stuff last Saturday at the Hillsdale College triangular. SC handled the two Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) members the same way it handled nine previous foes — with dominance.

The Lady Ocelots whipped Lake Superior State 15-7, 15-7, and followed that with a 15-8, 15-7 triumph over host Hillsdale. Combined with Tuesday's 15-2, 15-12, 15-10 win over Mott CC, SC is now undefeated in 16 straight matches and 25-consecutive games. The Lady Ocelots are 17-2 overall.

"We shut them down pretty good," said Teeters. "We blocked (LSS) eight times. They blocked us seven times, too, but we picked every one up and we got the point on five of

them."

Kim Relyea had a big day for SC. She collected nine kills in 34 attacks with four errors and did not miss on a serve, picking up four aces.

Diana Dietz also had nine kills in 31 attacks with four errors and, against HC, Jean Bass had four kills in six attacks without an error. Sue Cyrus had two aces in six errorless serves against LSS, and Patty Kozicki and Wendy Spencer both sparked with their sets.

But it was SC's defense, led by Jill Ehler, Dietz, Relyea, Bass and Kozicki, that really pleased Teeters. "Our defensive blocking was really strong," he said.

Against Mott, SC battled back from a 7-0 third-game deficit to win in a sweep. Relyea was superb, collecting 15 kills in 27 attacks (two errors), 13 digs, three solo blocks, and two service aces.

SC hosts Lansing CC at 11 a.m. Saturday.

Teeters quits

Tom Teeters made it official last week — he'll not return as Garden City High Schools volleyball coach.

Garden City athletic director Bill Pinnell said he is seeking a new varsity coach. Interested candidates can call Pinnell at 421-0220 (school) or 421-0148 (home).

Teeters, who led GC to Northwest Suburban League and Class A district titles last year, left because of a disagreement with junior high administrators.

Teeters wanted more control over the junior high program, specifically the hiring of coaches.

"Tom told me in the spring that he wasn't coming back," Pinnell said. "Then I was led to believe he was coming back because he ran our summer program. But he came in last week and told me he couldn't continue under the current situation."

Teeters' successor at GC will apparently be in good hands.

WATERBED WORLD INC.

Shop Early ... Only 78 Days Till Christmas

COMFORTER PACK

Includes: Top sheet, bottom sheet, 2 pillowcases, reversible comforter

SAVE \$70.00 \$99.95

2 FREE pillows with purchase any size.

FREE layaway till Christmas

FREE

layaway till Christmas

WHEN QUALITY, SELECTION & GOOD SERVICE MAKE A DIFFERENCE...SEE US...BECAUSE...WHAT YOU DO IN YOUR BEDROOM IS OUR BUSINESS...

4242 E. 8 Mile Rd. Detroit 891-1666

3240 Orchard Lake Rd. Orchard Lake 681-6700

19711 Middlebelt Livonia 474-2644

*Credit Available Open Mon-Sat. 10-9 Sun. 12-5

BERGSTROM'S

PLUMBING • HEATING • COOLING
TWO SALES & SERVICE CENTERS
WE INSTALL AND SERVICE
EVERYTHING WE SELL!!

REDFORD

25420 W. 5 MILE RD.
532-2160
HOURS: MON.-WED. 9-7
THURS. 9-6
SAT. 9-5 SUN. 12-4

FARMINGTON HILLS

26445 GICHMAN AVE. RD.
553-2225
HOURS: MON.-WED. 9-7
THURS. 9-6
SAT. 9-5 SUN. CLOSED

DECORATOR FAUCET SALE

BORMA LUX KITCHEN \$99.95	BORMA LUX BATH \$119.95	LE FAUCET \$148.00	SEPCO BATH FAUCET \$59.95	DEPCO BATH FAUCET \$99.95
Reg. \$149.95	Reg. \$169.95	Reg. \$225.00	Reg. \$95.95	Reg. \$120.00

DO-IT-YOURSELF CARRIER FURNACE

Reg. \$638 \$379.95

15000 BTU
60000 BTU
Electronic Ignition
Other Models Available at Comparable Savings

BERGSTROM'S

We Sell Only The Best
AMERICAN STANDARD • MOEN
CARRIER • KOHLER • ELIER
For Your Selection
OVER 100 FAUCETS ON DISPLAY
OVER 24 VANITIES ON DISPLAY
OVER 50 SINKS ON DISPLAY
OVER 15 TOILETS ON DISPLAY
Plus a Multiple Choice of Colors

Berlich Cabinets

Oak or Cherry from \$99.95

Reg. \$184.95

Handmade tongue and groove construction. Marble top extra.

WATER HEATER

40 Gallon \$149.95

Reg. \$195.95
10 YEAR LIMITED WARRANTY
ENERGY SAVER

KOHLER LAKEVIEW KITCHEN SINK

\$164.95

5224 Reg. \$125.00
WHITE CAST IRON

AMERICAN STANDARD PLEBE

\$59.95

Reg. \$75.00
Can not be included

INDEPENDENT

\$99.95

Reg. \$125.00
2 1/2" x 12" x 12" x 12"

SHOWER DOOR

\$89.95

Reg. \$167.20

LAUNDRY TUB

\$199.95

Reg. \$249.95

PEDESTAL LAVATORY

\$99.95

Reg. \$125.00

STEEL LAV

\$23.95

Reg. \$49.95

KOHLER NEWBORN LAV

\$89.95

Reg. \$117.00

MOEN "The Good Stuff"

\$39.95

Reg. \$64.25

MOEN "V" FAUCET

\$39.95

Reg. \$64.25