

THUR., SEPT. 24, 1970 \*\*\*\* Columbus Dispatch 25B

# Capital Primed for Opener

By JOHN SANDERS  
Dispatch Sports Writer

Gene Slaughter sends his Capital University Crusaders to battle for the first time in 1970 and a couple of teams with Mid-American Conference title aspirations collide at Oxford on Saturday's 26-game card involving all but one of Ohio's 33 football-playing colleges.

Capital's opening test at Ohio Northern is an 8 p.m. affair under the Memorial Stadium lights in Ada. It's the first time the pair has met since 1955.

Saturday's 1:30 p.m. scrap in Oxford sends Bill Doolittle's twice-victorious Western Michigan Broncos against a Miami team that opened with a 28-7 conquest of Xavier in the lidlifter of last week's collegiate doubleheader in Cincinnati's Riverfront Stadium.

Ohio University is in Minneapolis for another test against the University of Minnesota. The Bobcats, 24-14 conquerors of Kent State in their Mid-American and season opener last week, battled the Big Ten Gophers to a 35-35 tie in 1969.

DENISON SEEKS its second win when it hosts Ithaca College in a 1:30 p.m. game on Deeds Field in Granville. Ohio Wesleyan attempts to get untracked at DePauw and Kenyon is at Hobart in afternoon contests involving Central Ohio colleges.

Otterbein has an 8 p.m. non-conference date at Ashland College and Muskingum has a similar starting time under the Marietta College lights. All four of these teams were beaten in their openers a week ago.

Wittenberg, winner of its last 12 starts, hosts neighboring Central State at 1:30 p.m. in Springfield. The Tigers were 10-0 last fall and opened with a 61-0 cakewalk through California (Pa.) State last week.

Toledo puts its 13-game (school record) winning streak on the line against visiting Marshall under the Glass Bowl Stadium lights and Defiance, victorious in its last 15 outings, hosts Alma (Mich.) College in an afternoon game.

THE ONLY Ohio Conference game besides Muskingum's visit to Marietta sends Oberlin to Hiram. It's also the season opener for both clubs.

Findlay is the only Ohio

college with an open date this weekend. The Oilers opened last week with a 22-7 loss at the hands of perennially strong Waynesburg.

Capital captured a 27-7 decision over Ohio Northern in the last meeting between the two schools and hopes to regroup behind junior quarterback Chuck Hess (Pleasant View) after a 3-4-1 finish in 1969. It was only the second losing season for Slaughter in nine years at Capital.

The independent Polar Bears were 5-4 a year ago. ONU edged Otterbein 28-21 and garnered a 15-10 decision over a competent Ashland College team last fall. Cap was victorious by a 26-18 margin over arch rival Otterbein and played a 7-7 tie

with Ashland.

THE REST of the Mid-Am will sit up and take notice if Western Michigan beats Miami at Oxford for the first time since 1940. Three of the Broncos four remaining conference games — against Bowling Green, Toledo and Ohio University — will be played at their home base in Kalamazoo, Mich.

The Broncos' Oxford dry spell covers a 13-game stretch since they edged the Redskins, 20-13, at Miami Field in 1940. Miami holds a 22-5 series edge and squeezed out a 24-20 victory at Kalamazoo last fall.

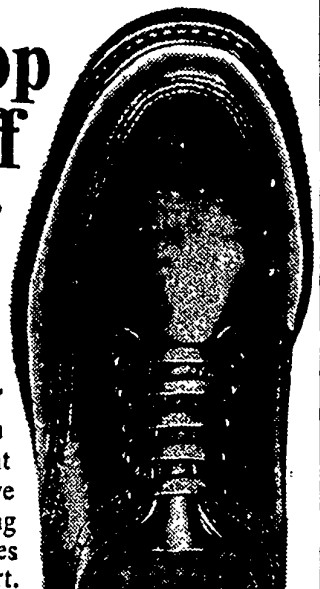
Western has won its first two starts, 41-0 over Central Michigan and 35-17 over Brigham Young.

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