

Sports

Scoring Explosion II trounces Kansas State

By Stu Pospisil
Daily Nebraskan Senior Reporter

Saturday's 62-14 Nebraska victory over Kansas State was a crowd-pleaser for the 76,068 at Memorial Stadium.

Not only did they witness the greatest first-half scoring output ever by a Husker team in the stadium (48 points), but they also saw what they had been clamoring for:

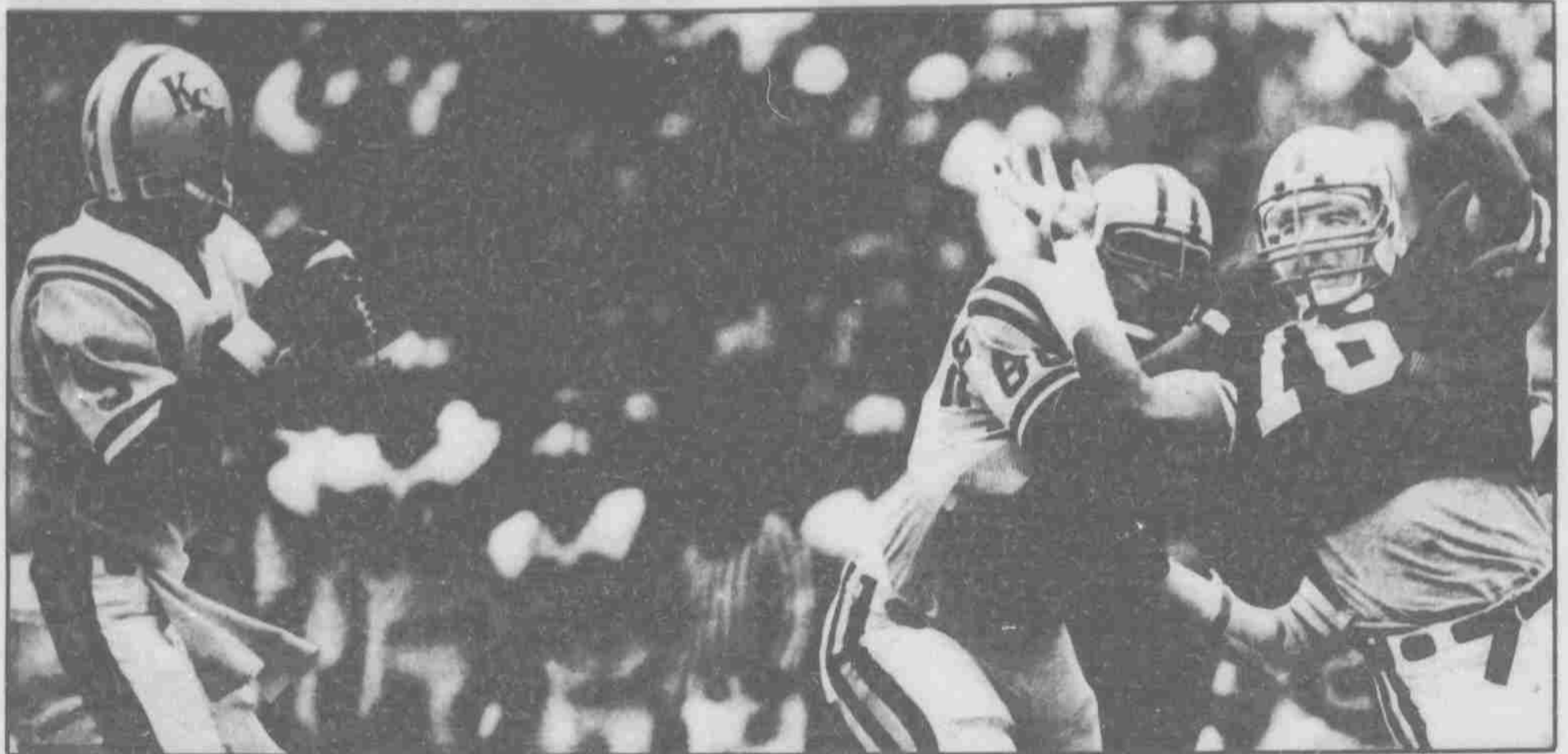
- A passing attack. Nebraska quarterback Travis Turner and Craig Sundberg only threw 11 passes, but completed 10 for 146 yards and a Turner touchdown to freshman split end Jason Gamble.

- More playing time for Keith Jones. The freshman 1-back from Omaha gained 54 yards on eight carries, and nearly scored on three plays.

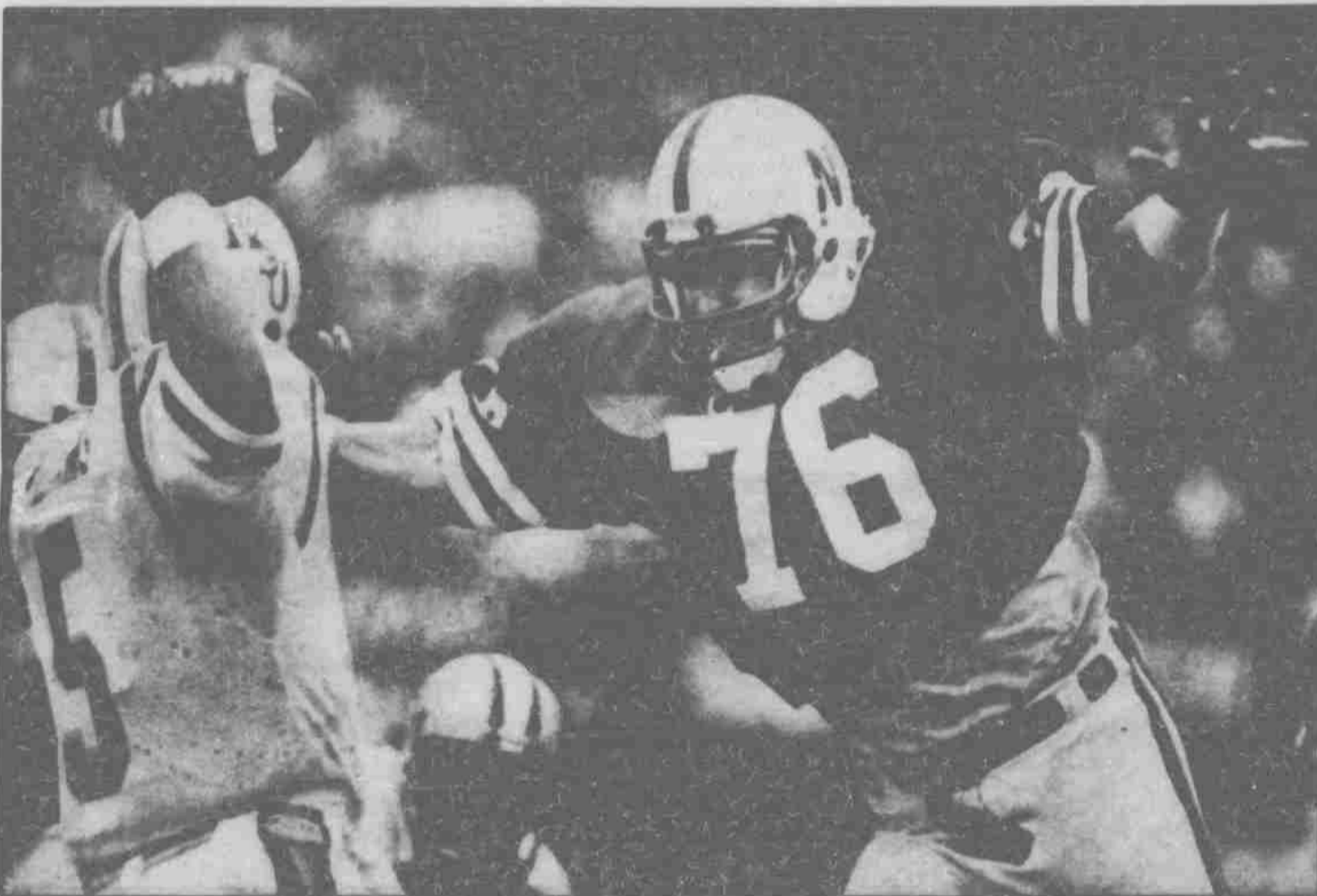
"I was joking with a couple of players, telling them I intentionally stepped out of bounds," Jones said. "I'm happy if I just run well, and if I score, that's fine too."

- An improved Wave. In the second quarter, a three-section, or triple Wave, swept around the stadium and later, a top-to-bottom wave started in the east stands.

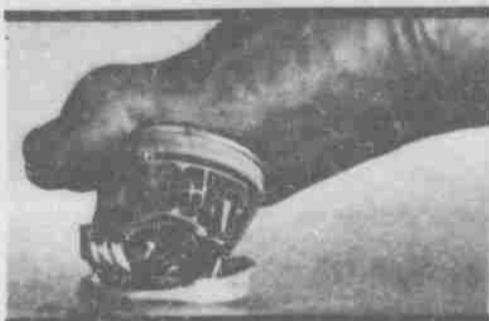
- And an Oklahoma loss to Kansas. With each progress report by the Nebraska announcer, the crowd shouted louder and



David Creamer / Daily Nebraskan



Joel Sartore / Daily Nebraskan



louder as the Huskers appeared to be a step closer to a fourth consecutive Orange Bowl.

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said he too was pleased by the Huskers' performance on a Saturday when the Sooners and two other Top 10 teams were upset.

"Obviously, the top units did a good job," Osborne said. "I think our effort was good, although I was a little concerned that we might be flat today."

Ninety-eight of the 111 Huskers in uniform played. Osborne said it was beneficial to get some work in for the lower units.

"We didn't have to extend ourselves so that our front line players would get hurt," Osborne said.

Nebraska began its first possession with a 20-yard pass from Turner to wingback Shane Swanson.

"It's a bad situation if you get in a situation where you need to pass and you haven't practiced it in games," Swanson said.

Turner finished off the Huskers' initial drive with a 2-yard run. That began a 48-point splurge that included two touchdowns each by Turner and Jeff Smith and short scoring runs by Doug Dugan and Tom Rathman, plus Gamble's 8-yard reception.

The 2-6 Wildcats cut Nebraska's lead to 19-7 when Kent Dean caught a 28-yard pass from halfback Todd Moody with 34 seconds left in the first quarter. The play was set up by a Turner fumble when he was blindsided by Mark Newton.

Nebraska's 48-7 half time lead caused flashbacks to last season, when a 38-5 Husker lead shrank to 38-25 in the fourth quarter.

"We weren't going to let that happen again," middle guard Ken Graeber said. "We kind of got pushed around last year, and we had that in our minds in the second half."

Wildcat coach calls Huskers 'best in league'

By Mike Reilley
Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

The Bruce Springsteen support line wasn't the only one growing Saturday on the Nebraska campus.

While hundreds of ticket-seeking Springsteen fans anxiously camped outside of the Nebraska Union, another opposing coach stepped into the long line of Nebraska football admirers.

"Nebraska is an outstanding football team. We knew that before we came up here," Kansas State coach Jim Dickey said after his team was trounced 62-14 by the Huskers. "Today proves Nebraska is the best team in the league until someone proves different."

Nebraska's win, coupled with Oklahoma's 28-11 loss to Kansas, leaves the Huskers as the only Big Eight team with a spotless conference mark.

The Husker defense had several standing-ovation performances. The Blackshirts sacked Wildcat quarterback Randy Williams five times for losses totaling 40 yards.

"I wish we could have protected Randy better," Dickey said, "but

Freshman to play final season game

Nebraska's freshman football team will take a 3-1 record into its final game of the season today against the junior varsity of William Jewell College. The game will begin at noon at Memorial Stadium.

The freshman team added the William Jewell contest after last Friday's game with the Kansas State junior varsity was cancelled. Last year, the freshman defeated William Jewell, 71-7.

Nebraska was so quick on defense, he had to rush some of his passes."

Williams passed 18 times and completed eight. He had one aerial intercepted by Mark Daum in the first quarter.

After a frustrating performance, the freshman signal-caller admitted the Blackshirts were the best he had seen.

"I think they're the best defense we've played against so far. They pursued the ball real well," Williams said. "They're a little more aggressive than Oklahoma."

Dickey said Nebraska's defense has improved since last year, when the Wildcats scored 25 points against the Huskers in Manhattan, Kan.

"As good as their defense is, Oklahoma is going to have a tough

time moving the ball against them," Dickey said.

However, the Blackshirts didn't steal the spotlight against the Wildcats. They shared it with the offense, which ran wild in the KSU secondary for 346 yards.

"We had a tough time defending the option play," Dickey said. "They run the option as well as anybody in the league. We really don't handle that play very well at all."

Dickey said he expects to see the option next week when the Wildcats host Oklahoma State.

"Oklahoma State's not an option team," Dickey said. "If they see this, they'll put it in."

"Last year's offense was much better, but these guys were still real good," left end Grady Newton

Kansas State freshman quarterback Randy Williams got a little holding help from Damian Johnson to survive on the play above, but Chris Spachman zeroes in for the kill on the next play.

said. "They read their assignments well and that's what counts."

The 48-point winning margin was Nebraska's largest this year. Dickey said the thought of Nebraska running up the score never crossed his mind.

"Tom Osborne has been very humane today," Dickey said. "He was very compassionate."

In all, 98 of the 111 Huskers suited up say action, most late in the game.

One bright spot for the Wildcats came in the first quarter when tailback Todd Moody took a pitch from Williams and threw a perfect strike to flanker Kent Dean for a 28-yard touchdown.

"It was a halfback option pass from the wishbone," Dickey said. "We've worked on that in practice."

Moody's first touchdown pass since high school pulled the Cats to within 12, 19-7.

"I thought he (Dean) would be open before I got the ball," Moody said. "I just worried about over-throwing him."

Despite the touchdown, Moody said the loss was hard to swallow.

"It (the touchdown) makes it feel a little better, but it's still a loss," he said.