



OSU win proves 22 heads are better than one

Stillwater Okla.—The Huskers proved an old adage but added a new twist in their win over Oklahoma State University (OSU) Saturday. That is, 22 heads are better than one.

UNL rolled to a 31-14 Big 8 Conference victory over OSU before 49,100 fans at Lewis Field and a regional television audience. The winning team has "no individual stars," according to head coach Tom Osborne.

"This is probably as big a win as we've had all year," Osborne said. "Alabama was big at the time, but this was a pivotal game. We're on the threshold of becoming a very good team."

The UNL defense shut down a high-powered offensive attack for the second week in a row. Osborne labeled the OSU game "our first true road game."

OSU Heisman Trophy candidate Terry Miller had 116 yards, for his lowest rushing total of the year. Miller, who has rushed for more than 100 yards in 16 straight games, didn't break 100 yards until the final minute of the game.

"We didn't set our defense to stop Miller," Osborne said. "We did key on him at times. Our defense just did a

good job. They did real well except for the long pass and one short drive."

Confidence builder

UNL defensive coordinator Lance Van Zandt said the past two games have been "real confidence-builders" for his defense.

"We practiced hard all week. And, if we play like we practice we're okay," he said. "We played with a heck of a lot of effort all week."

Osborne said the Huskers' offense moved the ball "pretty well."

"They were set to stop our I-backs," Osborne said. "That made our pitch play, which is probably our best play, a little bit tough to run. I'm sorry Isaiah (Husker I-back I.M. Hipp) didn't get 200 yards but the main thing is we won and I think he understands that. Curtis Craig had his best day running ever."

Craig, who led Husker rushers with 82 yards on five carries, said UNL has a very balanced team this year.

"Dodie Donnell is a good runner, and so is Isaiah and Rick Berns," Craig said. "Andra Franklin's going to get

better," and "we've got good runners and receivers."

Running talents

Husker quarterback Tom Sorley showed his running talents against OSU with 55 yards on 12 carries. He said the lack of passing by UNL the past few weeks does not bother him.

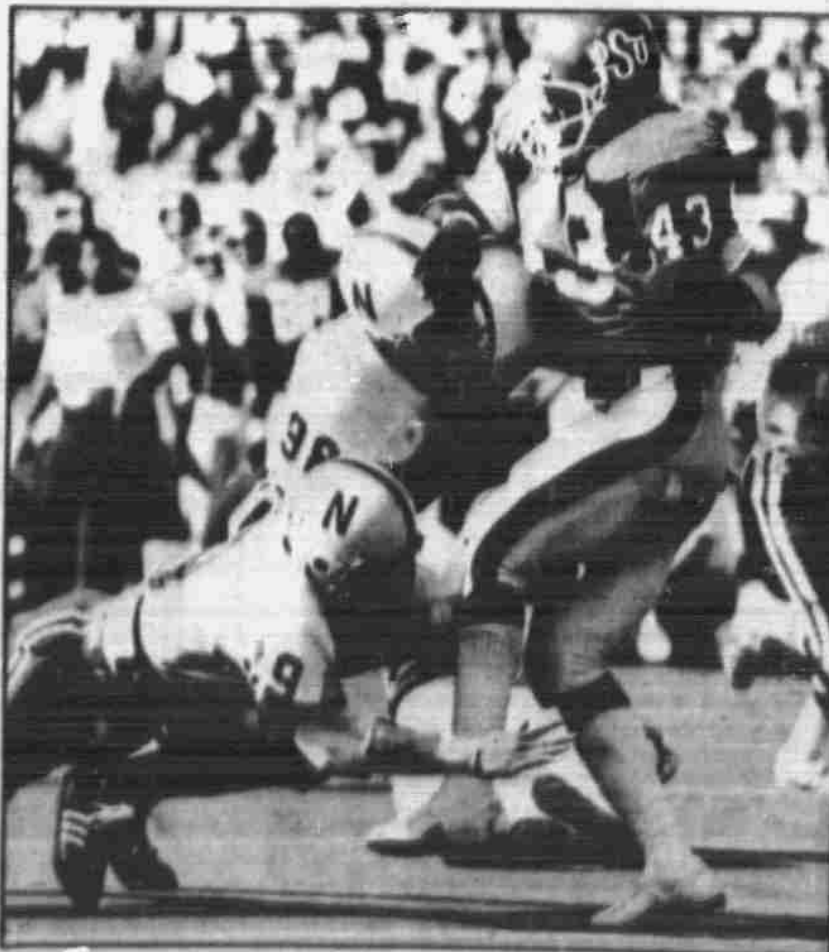
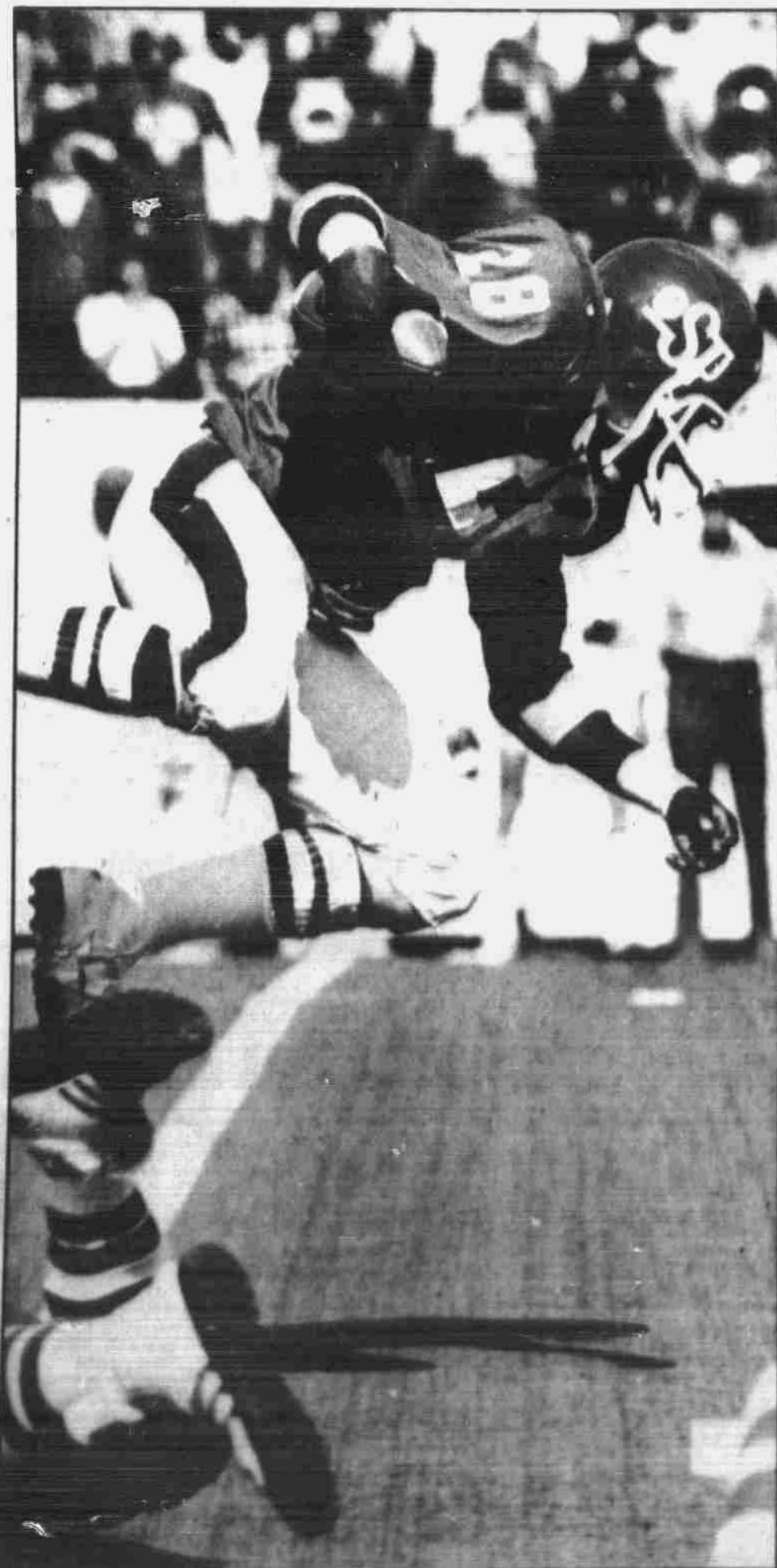
"It's okay with me if we never pass as long as we still go to the Orange Bowl," Sorley said. "I don't care if we get two yards total offense as long as we win and can go to the Orange Bowl."

Sorley and Husker linebacker Lee Kunz were named ABC-TV's Offensive and Defensive Players of the Game, respectively. Kunz was in on 14 tackles.

Sorley said he was surprised he got the award and added "there are probably ten guys who deserve it more than I do."

Osborne said the Huskers Big 8 title hopes have improved with the win.

"This was the most convincing win over OSU in a long time and our best all-around football game this year," Osborne said. "If we'd lost today, we would have been in tough shape. We're in the Big 8 race yet and the players are gaining confidence."



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