

forward to. I don't have a ticket, but I wait until half time when they open the gates and then I come in.

"It's nice when the team is way ahead because then people go home early and I can get a good seat for the second half."

She's got her own reasons for coming to the game, whatever they are. And like everyone else it has partly to do with being part of an experience.

The Lincoln businesses—the cafes, bars, department stores and motels—aren't sure what motivates the phenomenon of Big Red, either, but they're happy about the whole thing. It's very beneficial for them.

And it must be beneficial for the fans, too, because there's no doubt that Saturday after Saturday the stadium's going to be as packed as possible.



## And, by the way, there's a pretty good game, too.

Five weeks ago when Bob Devaney was still concerned about his team bouncing back after the opening loss to UCLA, he talked about the first half of Nebraska's schedule.

"If we can score a big win at Army that will give us a little momentum," Devaney said after a 35-7 win over Texas A & M. "We return home the next week against Minnesota and then get Missouri at home, too. Then we travel to Kansas and play Oklahoma State at home before we get into that tough stretch with Colorado and Iowa State."

That "tough stretch" may be starting a week earlier than Devaney originally planned.

The Oklahoma State team which visits

Memorial Stadium at 1:30 p.m. Saturday is not the same team that most pre-season polls picked to finish last in the Big Eight. In fact, the Nebraska-Oklahoma State game is for the leadership in the Big Eight. Both teams stand 2-0 in conference play and are the only teams with unblemished league records.

The Cowboys entered the elite category of the Big Eight by defeating nationally ranked Colorado, 31-6. And that game was no fluke.

"They were so fired up it was evident that we were going to have to play a hell of a game to win," said Colorado lineman Bud Magrum. "They've got a hell of a team. They just blew us out."

But it took an exceptional game by the Cowboys to stop Colorado. It will take that same type of performance Saturday if Oklahoma State hopes to upset Nebraska. There can't be any of those turnovers the OSU offense has experienced in some games this year.

The Cowboys have fumbled 31 times in six games and lost 18 of them. Two of those lost fumbles cost Oklahoma State

its only two losses of the year.

The Cowboys gave Arkansas the football on the 15-yard line and Virginia Tech recovered a fumble on the Oklahoma State three-yard line. Those two fumbles resulted in winning touchdowns.

But against Colorado the Cowboys were consistent. They controlled the ball 32 of 41 plays in the second quarter.

Oklahoma State's wishbone offense success is credited to junior quarterback Brent Blackman who Devaney calls "the best wishbone quarterback in the country." The Cowboys are averaging 345 yard rushing per game.

Blackman is the Cowboys' leading rusher . . . averaging 90 yards rushing per game.

Oklahoma State does not present the outside strength of most wishbone teams. Fullback George Palmer, who gains most of his yardage up the middle, is the leading back averaging 71 yards per game.

"Oklahoma State doesn't try to outrun you," Devaney said. "They get the extra yards by running over you."