

Unbelievable Huskertally aided by kicking game

By Pete Wegman

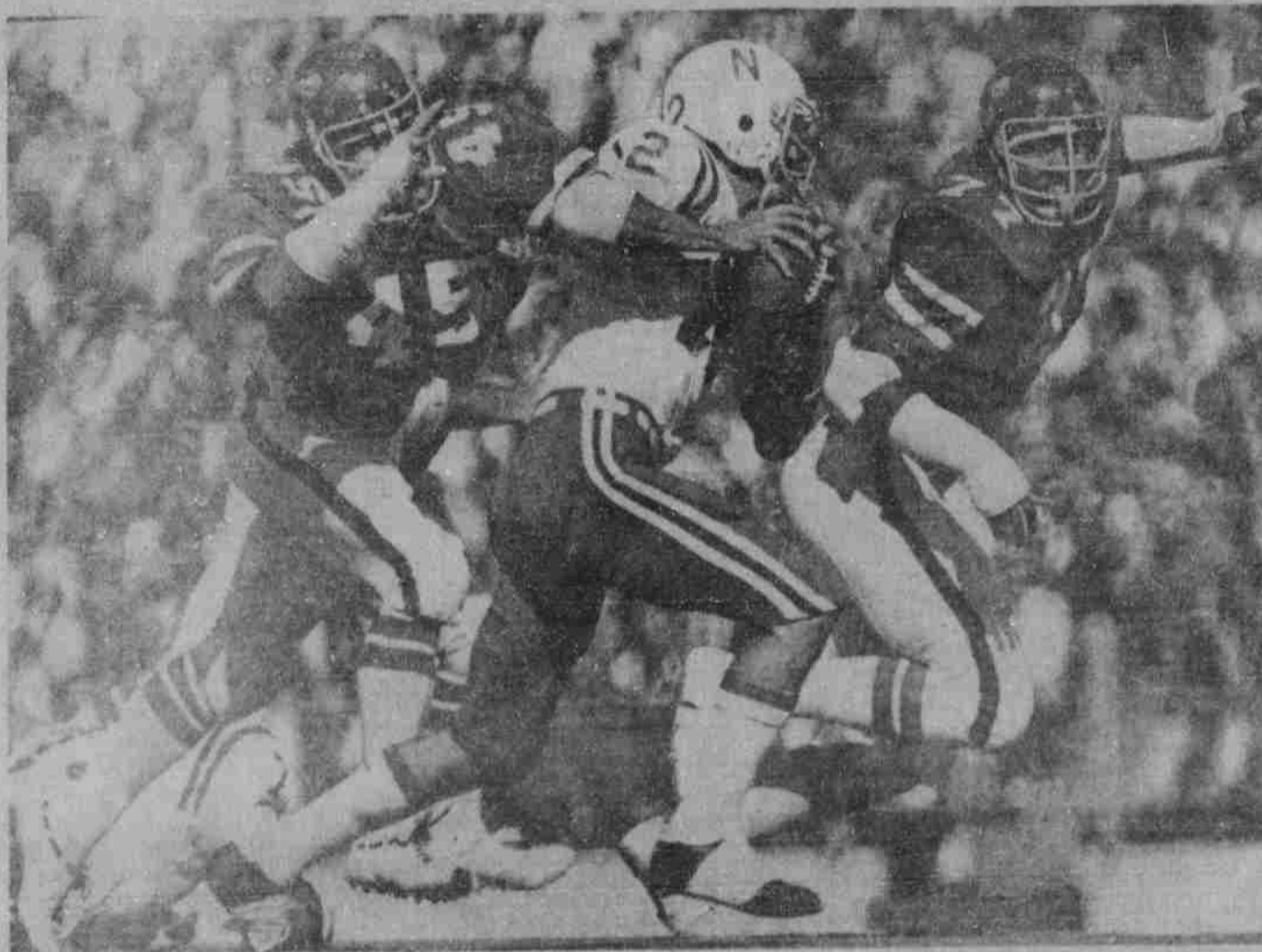
An often overlooked facet of football games was worth three touchdowns to Nebraska in its 56-0 conquest over Kansas last weekend, Nebraska's head football coach Tom Osborne said Monday.

"The difference between the two teams' kicking games was probably worth 21 points to us," Osborne said. He cited two blocked Kansas punts, a fumbled punt by Kansas, and a long punt return by Nebraska's Bobby

Thomas as key factors in the game.

Nebraska's 56-point victory equaled the Huskers' 1972 win over the Jayhawks as Kansas' worst defeat in the 81 game series between the two schools. Osborne called the point spread "unbelievable," but added, "it's been an unbelievable year."

"The win was awfully important to us. A loss would have virtually eliminated us from any chance of becoming conference champions," Osborne said.



Huskers praised

Osborne missed no one in doling out his praise. The entire defensive unit, offensive line, receivers, I-backs, and quarterback Dave Humm received his accolades.

Humm, who enjoyed the best passing day of his career, played exceptionally well, Osborne said. Osborne, who has seen his share of quarterbacks, said, "I think it was the best throwing I've ever seen."

Nebraska's large number of passes (Humm threw 27, completing 23) was expected by Osborne.

"We knew we couldn't play conservative football against Kansas and win," he said.

Despite the absence of any strong running by Humm against KU, Osborne stressed that "we will continue to run him some." He cautioned, however, against Humm taking any unnecessary risks while running.

"We can't afford to miss him," he added.

A number of fans were surprised when Osborne started Monte Anthony at I-back. Anthony is the first freshman to get a starting role for the Cornhuskers.

Anthony possible starter

Apparently satisfied with Anthony's play, Osborne indicated he probably would start Anthony again this week against Oklahoma State. Dave Gillespie, Jeff Moran, and John O'Leary, returning to action after being sidelined with a broken jaw, will also log considerable playing time.

Osborne looks for the entire team to be healthy against Oklahoma State in Nebraska's traditional homecoming game.

He said he expects the game to be a physical struggle, much like last year's game in Stillwater which ended in a 17-17 tie.

"Oklahoma State is probably the toughest hitting team we'll have met," he said.

Osborne likened the Cowboys to the Cornhuskers. He said their three wins (Wichita, Arkansas and Missouri) were impressive while their losses to Baylor and Texas Tech "could have gone either way."

Inconsistent records

Nebr., Okla. Big 8 championship hopes at stake

This week's predictions:

Nebraska 37, Oklahoma St. 17

Both teams have had track records of inconsistency this season and both will be trying to avoid derailment of Big 8 championship hopes.

Oklahoma 62, Kansas St. 7

Coach Barry Switzer will have to get those fourth stringers into there earlier or it'll be worse than 62-7.

steve taylor
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Missouri 17, Colorado 14

The Tigers and Buffaloes will be hitting hard in an effort to salvage some minor bowl bid, despite the fact bowl scouts won't be within 100 miles of Columbia after the two squads last week's performance.

Kansas 24 Iowa St. 7

The Jayhawks talented running backs will find a few more holes to run through than in last Saturday's debacle.

Ohio St. 52, Northwestern 10

The Buckeyes will find little resistance as they continue along the number one trail. Northwestern has really only one better than average player, quarterback Mitch Anderson, and he won't have time to take the center snap much less get a pass away.

Texas A&M 31, Baylor 20

Incredible as it seems, this game could decide the Southwest Conference champion.

Fans at the Nebraska-Oklahoma St. game might be shocked during the half time ceremonies Saturday if Gary Brantz has his way.

Brantz, the male homecoming queen hopeful, is in the midst of an ambitious campaign that has him shaking hands and kissing babies at a furious pace.

Apparently the junior from Omaha is serious about the whole thing and appears to be the odds-on favorite.

One person who will not be cheering for Brantz to win is Chancellor Zumbege, who will have to kiss the homecoming queen.

Others have more practical reasons for not writing in his name.

"He won't get my vote," says senior Rich Anderl. "He's too flat."

Former heavyweight contender Ron Stander is in the news again this week, though it's not Ring Magazine as the Bluffs Butcher might wish.

Stander has gone steadily downhill since being battered by Joe Frazier and now is charged on a count of assault with intent to

commit bodily harm.

That's something he was rarely accused of during his boxing days.

Who is going to stop Oklahoma? The Sooners keep piling up the points and the yardage at a pace which makes them look like one of the best teams in college football history.

According to the polls, they are not even the best team of 1974.

This is due undoubtedly to the Sooners TV ban and the rumor that Coach Barry Switzer likes to pour it on.

Contrarily, Switzer had his quarterback, who was probably his waterboy suited up, fall to the ground in the last play of the 72-3 rout of Utah St. when the Sooners were on the three yard line.

Joe Washington is the best running back in America, but might not even make All-American.

Voters are inclined not to vote for someone they've never seen in action.

Unfortunately for Washington, the Good-year tire dealers get more TV coverage carrying a football than he does.

sports shorts

The UNL Table Tennis Club, under the direction of Don Taylor, is now meeting every Monday evening in the Nebraska Union at 7 p.m. Meetings are at the North and South conference rooms and all interested persons are invited to attend.

Saturday night the Water Polo team knocked off Central Missouri St. 10-5 as Doug Johnson tallied three goals. This weekend the squad travels to Laramie, Wyo. to participate in the Wyoming Invitational. Their first contest will be Friday night against Colorado St.

The Rifle Club will hold tryouts tonight at 7 p.m. to determine who will make up the team for the Colorado match. The tryouts will be for Rifle Club members only.