

sports

Husker defense praised for shattering wishbone

By Susie Reitz

"One of the best defensive games in a long time" was how Nebraska head coach Tom Osborne described Saturday's 16-0 win over the Kansas University Jayhawks.

"It's hard to single out one or two individuals, but I have to credit the defensive coaches with what I think is the best scheme we've ever had for the wishbone," Osborne told the Extra Point Club Monday. "The players played aggressively and had fewer mistakes than in past weeks."

Nebraska held the Kansas wishbone offense to 121 yards rushing and 56 yards passing.

"One thing we'll have to work on is punt returns," Osborne said. "Our punt return average is going down and we're going to have to start getting returns to win the Big 8."

Double chances

Osborne said statistics indicate that chances for scoring are nearly doubled when a drive starts on the 50-yard line, rather than the 30.

"Those 20 yards might not seem like much, but it makes a tremendous difference in your point situation to get those 20-, 30-, and 40-yard returns," Osborne said.

Osborne complimented Husker punter Randy Lessman for "hanging the ball up in the air," giving the Nebraska line time to cover punts.

On offense, Osborne said Nebraska showed signs of improvement, especially in the running game.

"Of course I was disappointed in the scoring," he said, "but I think we stopped ourselves much of the time."

Nebraska failed to score on three drives and settled for field goals. The only Nebraska touchdown came in the fourth quarter on a 26-yard pass from Terry Luck to tight end Brad Jenkins.

Gambled

"Kansas had a good defense, but they gambled a lot," Osborne said. "It was the sound thing to do in their situation, but we

missed some opportunities for the big plays.

"On those Kansas gambles, a more experienced quarterback like Dave Humm, would have come out throwing," Osborne said. "But I think our quarterbacks learned a lot."

"I don't want to take anything away from Vince (Ferragamo) or Terry (Luck)," Osborne said. "They were in and out of some tough situations and they're getting more sure in their performances."

Osborne said the Huskers will face a tough offense against Oklahoma State University Saturday, even though OSU's two top quarterbacks are injured.

"Their third quarterback started some at the end of last year, and played as well as (Charlie) Weatherbie (OSU's No. 1 quarterback)," he said.

"They also have a big defense and this game will be a head knocker," Osborne said.

Stanford men visit UNL to recruit athletes for Big Brother program

A Big Brother program pioneered by the Stanford University Athletic Dept. giving athletes the chance to counsel junior high age boys will be introduced this week at UNL by two former student directors from Stanford.

Chris Avery and Duf Sundheim will hold a short introductory meeting Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Nebraska Union for interested Husker athletes.

According to school officials, the program is aimed at junior high youths who have problems at home and school. The athletes are intended to provide a positive male model for the youths, help improve the child's self-esteem and make the youth feel he is part of the real world.

Joe Ruetz, Stanford athletic director, said the program benefits the student-

Gymnast team tumbles with nicknamed players

By Scott Jones

Fans of UNL's gymnastics team will have at least one new face and two new nicknames to remember this season.

The new face belongs to freshman Terry Neustrom, a walk-on from Salina, Kan. who is the first non-Nebraskan on the team in the seven years Francis Allen has been head coach.

The two new nicknames were given to freshmen Ric "Heckle" Heineman and Kirk "Jeckle" Fridrich. They don't qualify as entirely new faces because of their performances at Millard High School and Lincoln Southeast, respectively.

Fridrich was state champion all-around performer last year and Heineman was second. They worked out together six times weekly this summer, usually from 6 to 9:30 p.m. so they were characterized jointly by Allen, Fridrich said.

Everybody named

"We didn't get that name until about the first day of practice this fall," Heineman said. "He finds a name for everybody," he said, but "don't ask me," where he gets them.

"They just remind me of Heckle and Jeckle," Allen said, adding that all three freshmen are good prospects.

"They've been doing really well but they've got a long way to go," he said.

"We've been trying to groom Heineman to take Mackie's (senior Gene) place but it'll take a heap of grooming," although he's an excellent gymnast, Allen said.

Allen said each gymnast has one or two favorites among the six events all-arounders perform, but he is not allowing specialization.

"I'm going to work all three of them in the all-around until they drop," he said. They probably can compete in one event in UNL's first meet at Iowa State Oct. 24 by focusing on it, he said.

"But I want them to become good all-arounders so I'm working them in all events."

Neustrom has had less experience as all-arounder than has Fridrich or Heineman. He was twice a Kansas state champion in the floor exercise and once in vaulting at Salina South High School, but has only worked on the all-around for one year.

Neustrom turned down a "three-quarters ride," from Kansas University. Although he said he is not wealthy, he said his parents offered to send him to any school in the nation. He chose Nebraska.

Worked up

"I could tell from the coaching and hard work how they'd worked their way up," he said.

Enrolling at Nebraska was a homecoming of sorts for Neustrom, who is the only team member not from Lincoln or Omaha. He was born in Kearney and lived for awhile in Central City.

"Things worked out really well in coming here," he said. "There's probably the greatest coaching in the United States here."

sports shorts

Water safety instructors must complete retraining by December 1976 to maintain certification. Retraining sessions will be Nov. 3 and Nov. 10 in the Women's Physical Education Bldg.

Mandatory pre-registration can be made by calling 472-3926 or 472-3837.

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January 3 - 8. Snowbird, Utah offers some of the best skiing in the world, with an average snowfall of 450 inches per year. It offers some of the best powder skiing for experts as well as gentle manicured packed snow slopes for the beginners. Ski Club members have an entire 737 Frontier Airlines jet to themselves for transportation. The package price of \$215 includes airfare, lift tickets, and lodging, plus several free parties. A \$50 deposit is required to be paid at tonight's party for this trip. For special arrangements, contact one of the officers.
January 4 - 8. Breckenridge has always been noted for its wide variety of slopes and relatively reasonable prices. Ski Club members will take the train from Lincoln to Denver, and then bus up to Breckenridge. The train ride promises to quite entertaining. The Breckenridge package price of \$125 includes four nights lodging, lift tickets, and transportation. This is a price hard to beat. As with the Snowbird trip, a \$50 deposit is required to reserve space for this trip.
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