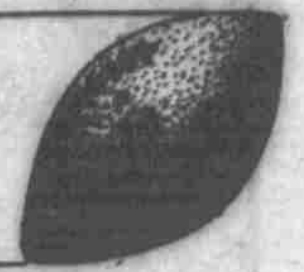


sports



## Sparks, but still no fire for TCU paassing game

By Rob Barney and Jim Hunt

Behind Texas Christian University's (TCU) 0-2 record this season is a passing game that has generated sparks, but has not yet ignited.

Another chance for the Horned Frogs, coached by Jim Shofner to light the fuse comes Saturday afternoon at Memorial Stadium when they face UNL's Cornhuskers.

"We think we can throw on any team in the nation," said Jim Garner, TCU sports information director.

Garner and UNL linebacker coach Bill Myles spoke Thursday at the Review-Preview breakfast in the Nebraska Center for Continuing Education, co-sponsored by KLIN radio and UNL's Extension Division at the center.

"If we throw the football as much as they do, the game would last to 8 p.m.," Myles said. "They throw the ball from anywhere on the field, in the end zone and coming out of the locker room."

Led by Elzner

TCU is led by junior quarterback Jimmy Dan Elzner, who has thrown for more than 450 yards this season.

Elzner is a drop-back passer, while his back-up, Steve Bayuk, is a scrambler. Cornhusker coach Tom Osborne said earlier this week he expects to see a lot of Bayuk.

### Frosh football starts today

UNL's freshman football team opens its season today at 1:30 p.m. in Memorial Stadium against Kansas State University's junior varsity. UNL's freshmen are riding an 11-game winning streak, dating to the 1973 season. The game marks former Husker Guy Ingles' coaching debut.

That may be because Indiana University, using scrambling quarterback Terry Jones for most of the game, threw for 213 yards against UNL last Saturday.

TCU's passing game ranks third in the nation, averaging 277 yards a game. Most of the yardage has been accumulated in passes to flanker Vernon Wells and split end Mike Renfro.

Wells has 11 receptions this year for 225 yards, including 10 catches for 204 yards last Saturday in a 31-0 loss to Tennessee. Both efforts are school records.

All-American candidate Renfro has caught 10 passes for 169 yards and a touchdown this season. He needs 20 receptions and 40 more yards to break the TCU career marks in both categories.

Secondary ready

UNL defensive back Ted Harvey said he thinks the Husker secondary is ready for the challenge.

"Their quarterback will be the best thrower we have faced this season. We've been concentrating on our pass rush."

A special pass defense is not planned by the Huskers for TCU. Nebraska will continue to employ zone coverage in the secondary.

"If you give too much attention to one guy usually another one gets loose," Osborne said. "TCU has other capable receivers besides Renfro."

Lowe could be tough

Defensively, TCU features an All-American candidate in sophomore safety Darryl Lowe.

Lowe saw his first varsity action ever for the Horned Frogs last year against the Huskers.

On his first series of downs, Lowe intercepted a Vince

Ferragamo pass and returned it 70 yards for a touchdown.

TCU scored 14 points against UNL last season, their second highest total of the year.

Before a final game victory over Rice University last year, TCU suffered 20 straight defeats over two years, the longest in the nation at the time.

UNL has some players who might not see action in the TCU contest. Linebacker Percy Eichelberger is definitely out with a finger injury that required surgery.

The status of Clete Pilen, linebacker, and co-captain, and monster back Kent Smith are unknown.

Pilen hurt the same ankle in practice Wednesday that kept him out of the Indiana game, while Smith injured a finger in Wednesday's drills.

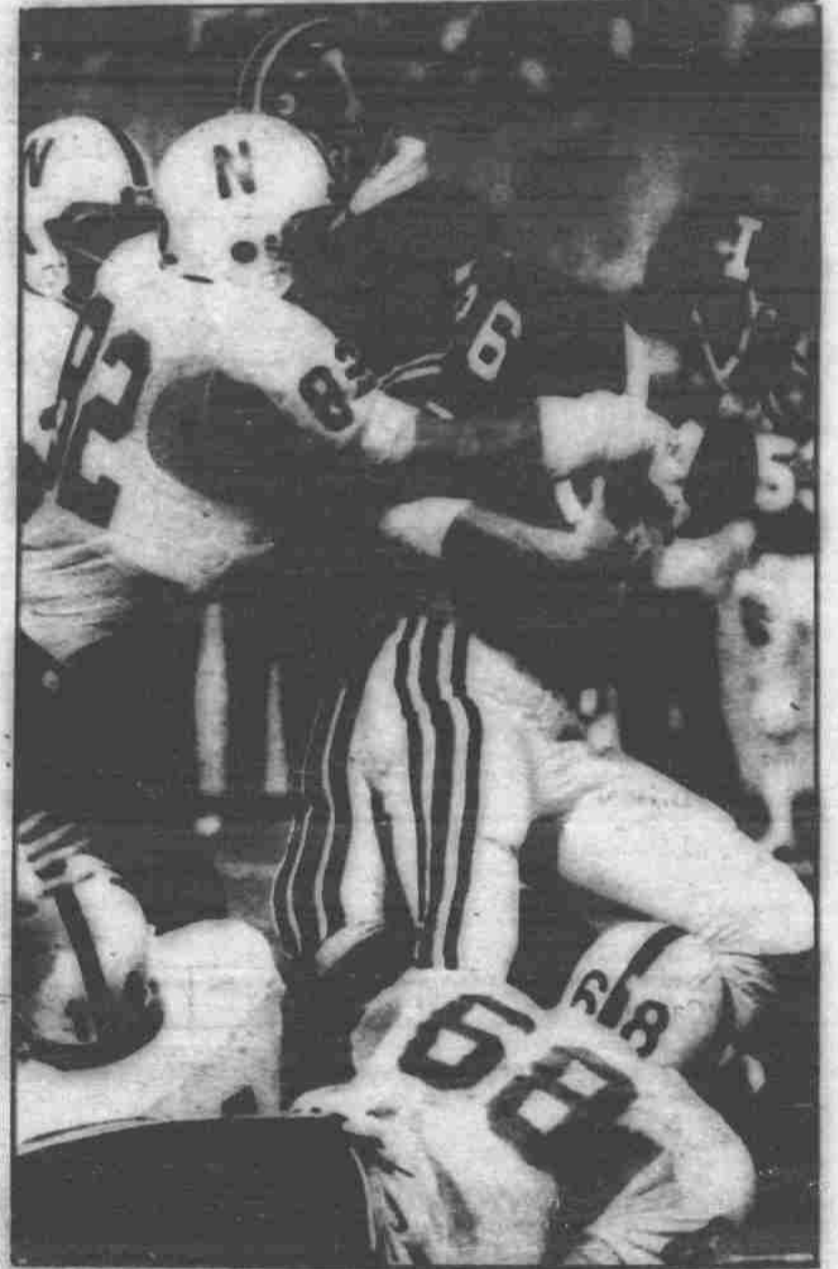


Photo by Ted Kirk  
Larry Young (14), Reg Gast (82) and Steve Lindquist (68), members of the Huskers' kickoff team, in action against Indiana last Saturday.

## UNL rodeo clubbers chomp at bit; anxious to get to weekend contests

By Mike McCarthy

UNL's rodeo club and football team have similar primary objectives.

"We're just like the football team," said junior Mike Unterscher, president of the University of Nebraska Rodeo Association (UNRA). "Putting a rodeo team down the road for competition is our main objective."

Four scheduled meets this fall should provide competition for the club.

This weekend rodeo members tackle competition at the University of Wisconsin in Great Falls. The club then travels to the University of South Dakota in Springfield to compete the following weekend.

Team members also will journey to Iowa State University in Ames Oct. 15 and 16, and to North Dakota State University at Fargo on Nov. 30 and 31.

Team scores at college rodeos are determined by adding the individual top six men's and top three women's scores.

"We practice every night at the area wildlife building on East Campus," Unterscher said. "It's worth

people's time to come and watch us since we've earned national recognition. We've got quite a few individual standouts and some excellent freshmen."

Last year, UNRA's rodeo team qualified two members for the National Rodeo Finals in Montana.

"The rodeo club has grown tremendously since my past three to four years here," Unterscher said. "It's grown possibly ten-fold since it began some 15 years ago."

About one-half of this year's 100-member club is female, he said.

Since the rodeo club is growing, it needs more money for expenses, Unterscher said.

"We received \$1,500 from the university's Fees Allocation Board last year, and \$600 the year before that. That's a good indication of our growth."

More than \$4,000 was raised from the club-sponsored rodeo at the Nebraska State Fairgrounds last year.

Unterscher said the club will sponsor another rodeo this year, a beef raffle, a dance and other projects that are "still on the drawing board."

## Oklahoma—dominated Big 8 standings go the way of dodos and dinosaurs

By Pete Wegman

Editor's note—This is the second in a series examining UNL's standing in Big 8 Conference sports and the future of athletics in the Big 8.

Two weeks ago a history of the Big 8 all-sports standings appeared in this column. The official standings began in 1929 and were dominated by the University of Oklahoma (OU), which won the title 28 times.

Also appearing in that column were the unofficial standings from last year compiled by this writer—unofficial since Big 8 faculty representatives voted to discontinue the official standings.

fourth and twenty



Keith Broman, UNL's Big 8 faculty representative and Chairman of the Finance Dept. represented UNL at the standings vote.

"We never could come up with any responsible way of awarding points," Broman said. "Is there a rational way of saying football should rank highest, basketball second and so on?"

Broman would not divulge how each school voted on the sports standings issue, citing a conference policy to keep the vote confidential.

A thing of the past

"It wasn't fair. Some sports, like track, were cited too much," he said. "Sports that weren't watched by many people were included, but all people are really going to

worry about are the ones they watch."

Broman and Devaney differed on the reasons for Oklahoma's domination of Big 8 sports.

Devaney said that at one time Oklahoma spent a great deal of money on its sports program. Now, with NCAA rulings limiting spending, scholarships, recruiting and number of coaches, Devaney said OU won't be able to far out-spend other conference schools on athletic programs.

Broman said a combination of geography and history benefited OU.

"I think the southern school benefited in baseball and golf," Broman said. "In the non-revenue sports, certainly history is important. You appeal to athletes on the basis of tradition and facilities."

Traditions lacking

Broman said that until recent years swimming and wrestling traditions were lacking in Nebraska schools and in the state.

Both Broman and Devaney said NCAA regulations could result in the Big 8 becoming more athletically balanced.

The NCAA regulations have been made in the name of economy, but Broman said they would reduce collegiate athletics "to a common level of mediocrity."

"I see nothing wrong with some schools having great success and some not," he said. "I believe the NCAA Council has used our common goal of economy as a means of gaining greater control to intercollegiate athletics."

"I think we run a good program, it's run very ably and honestly."

Next week, a look at the almighty dollar—how it works and where it goes in each Big 8 athletic department.

## sports shorts

UNL's women's volleyball team raised its record to 3-0 Tuesday night, beating Kearney State 15-7, 15-7 and 16-14 at Kearney.

The junior varsity's record also stands at 3-0 after the team beat Kearney State and Mid-Plains Community Colleges. Both the junior varsity and varsity will have matches in the Coliseum beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday. Wichita State, Northwest Missouri State, Kansas, Nebraska Wesleyan and Creighton Universities will compete in the matches.

The UNL women's golf team finished seventh in the first Susie Maxwell Berning All-College Golf Classic at the Lincoln Park Golf Course in Oklahoma City, Okla. Monday and Tuesday.

The UNL women's field hockey team today will play Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa. The team travels to Iowa City Saturday for two games against the University of Iowa.

The women's cross country team will run in a dual meet this afternoon against Northwest Missouri State University in Marysville, Mo.

Continuing a rivalry, UNL's soccer team will meet the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) at 7:30 p.m. Sunday. The game will be played at UNO's Caniglia Field.

UNO is 3-0 for the season after beating South Dakota State University. UNL, 1-1, held defending Big 8 Conference champion Kansas University to a 2-2 tie before losing 5-2 in overtime last Sunday.

An organizational meeting for UNL's Ice Hockey Club will be at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday in the Nebraska Union. For additional information, call Mark White at 435-5349.