

Osborne: satisfied with spring practice, annual game

By Jim Kay

A hard-hitting contest that ended in a 23-21 victory for the Red team over the White Saturday signaled the end of spring football drills.

The annual spring game was played at Memorial Stadium before a crowd of 13,038.

For one of the few times this spring the offensive units on the field had things their way and the scores in the game came in a variety of ways. Head coach Tom Osborne said he is "overall satisfied with the game and spring practice."

"From the press box it's sometimes hard to tell about the hitting and the intensity of the game," Osborne said. "But I think they were really hitting out there. We're still not set at some positions but it was a real good game for evaluating people."

Osborne said the Huskers may appear short on talent, but they are long on attitude and effort.

Like to win

"That effort and good attitude will make up for any lack of talent," he said. "These guys want to play and they like to win."

The quarterback situation did not clear up following Saturday's game, Osborne said.

"My offhand judgment of the quarterback is that no one clearly stood up," he said. "They did some good and bad things but nothing real bad."

"We don't have any quarterbacks with great speed other than Jeff Quinn. He moves the ball around well but he's probably the fourth or fifth best thrower on the team."

Quarterbacks Ed Burns and Tom Sorley said they think the spring game performance was a good way to end early season drills.

"It feels pretty good to end this way," Sorley said. "I was somewhat pleased with my running game but I missed a couple of passes I should have hit."

Positive and negative

Burns added there were positive and negative things about his performance.

"There were a few good things," he said. "I had a few misreads but I'm pretty confident right now. I think I'm in a better position, but all the quarterbacks will still be bunched up next fall. There was nothing resolved today."

Both Burns and Sorley agreed that the present quarterback situation was a healthy one.

"Randy (Garcia), Tom (Sorley), Tim (Hager) and I are all close," Burns said. "We help each other out. It's good, clean competition."

"I think all the quarterbacks did a good job today," Sorley added. "We get along real well because we're all in the same position. It's a big asset we have."

Waste little time

Osborne said he will waste little time, however, in choosing his quarterbacks at the start of fall drills.

"It's obvious we'll have to take two guys and work hard with them next fall," he said. "We'll maybe work with the third and fourth quarterbacks with the top units sometimes but it's hard to have that many working with the first unit."

"By fall camp, we'll be set on two full-time quarterbacks with the first team and two part-time."

Garcia was the top passer Saturday as he

hit eight passes on 12 attempts for 84 yards. Hager was good on five of nine passes for 82 yards, Burns for 63 yards and Sorley for 62 yards.

Sophomore Tim Wurth was the leading rusher with 62 yards on 10 attempts. He scored two of the White team's three touchdowns, both on runs of four yards. Last season's leading rusher Rick Berns finished with 57 yards on 13 carries and fullback Dodie Donnell had 49 yards on eight carries.

Scores for the Red team came on a one-yard run by Berns, a 39-yard pass from Burns to junior Frank Lockett, a 74-yard punt return by Lockett and a 36-yard field goal by junior Billy Todd.

The other scores for the White team, other than Wurth's runs, were a 96-yard kickoff return by senior Earl Everett and a 21-yard field goal by sophomore Dean Sukup. Everett's return broke a 14-year old spring game record for longest kickoff return for a touchdown. The old mark of 88 yards was set by Kent McCloughan in 1963.



Photo by Ted Kirk

Wingback Earl Everett runs a 96-yard kick off return in the Red-White game Saturday. However, Everett's effort was in vain as the Red Team beat the White, 23-21.

sports

Split end: ASU offered car, \$200 an hour job

By Mike McCarthy

A new car and a "high-paying" job were two lures offered to Husker split end Frank Lockett by Arizona State University in an attempt to recruit him, he said.

Lockett, a junior, said an ASU assistant coach during spring break offered him a \$200 an hour job if he would attend ASU.

"I don't know if (ASU coach Frank) Kush knew anything about it," Lockett said.

According to NCAA regulations, colleges are not allowed to offer players or recruits money, meals or cars, although schools can find players jobs.

Lockett said the ASU offer was made in a restaurant, but the coach did not buy him lunch.

"He said I could have any car—any car I wanted," Lockett said.

Despite ASU's efforts, Lockett came to UNL in January.

'Damn fool'

He said he did not consider ASU, because he considers what they said false.

"He (the ASU coach) told me I was a damn fool to be coming to Nebraska."

"I didn't come to Nebraska because it had a winning tradition," Lockett said. "I came here because they recruited me the way you're supposed to."

Lockett said he was leaning toward UNL, and ASU's offer was a last attempt to change his mind.

Lockett said all the Pacific 8 Conference schools recruited him, along with UNL, ASU, Oklahoma State University and Kansas State University. The All-American from Contra Costa Junior College in San Pablo, Calif., last year scored 15 touchdowns and caught 37 passes for 784 at split end.

"That recruiting, it really drove me crazy," he added.

Lockett said the Big 8 Conference Commissioner's office recorded some conversations he had with recruiting schools.

Tape recorders

"I was sitting in their office and they had plugs into the phone, tape recorders and everything when I was talking to Arizona (ASU) and Oregon State Univer-

sity). I was scared," Lockett said.

Lockett said ASU is now in Federal Court concerning their offers to him.

Lockett proved his All-American ability at Saturday's Red-White scrimmage.

He caught three passes for 71 yards, one for a touchdown. Lockett also ran a punt return 74 yards to the end zone for the Red team, which defeated the White squad, 23-21. Lockett's 71 reception yards led the Huskers.

Husker coach Tom Osborne said Lockett "has some talent but he was injured earlier in the spring. He's come a long way in the last couple of weeks."

"He has good speed and when we recruited him, we thought he could play split end, wingback and be a return threat. He's still a little raw as far as learning the system goes," Osborne said.

Plagued by two sore ankles in spring drills, Lockett has been running with the fourth team.

'An ego problem'

"I was going to check out and leave two weeks ago," Lockett said. "Coach (Jerry Moore) told me not to worry about depth charts and just work at it."

"It's just an ego problem," Lockett added. "I think I was number one because I always have been."

Lockett said Moore has had a similar experience.

"He said he's been through the same thing when he was in college (Baylor University)," Lockett said. "He knew he was good but the coach had him on the fourth team."

Lockett said he did not think he was getting a fair evaluation by coaches when he first came here.

"Some guys in the dorm said you had to be rich to play for Nebraska," he said. "I heard other stuff like that, too."

Lockett, 6-foot-1 and 190 lbs., runs 40 yards in 4.5 seconds and said he wants to be the nation's best punt returner. He also said he wants to start for the Huskers at split end.

"I know the basics, but I still have a lot to learn" he said. "I knew I could make it. I will be here next fall."

sports shorts

Scott Sorchik finished second in the javelin throw Friday to highlight the Huskers showing in the 68th running of the Drake Relays in Des Moines.

Sorchik threw the javelin 245 ft. 5 in. to finish second behind Bob Roggey of Southern Illinois University, who set a Drake Relays record with a throw of 259 ft. 2 in.

The Husker mile relay team of Tom Dovel, Scott Poehling, Pat McKenzie and Ray Mahoney captured third in the event.

Husker Keith Whitaker placed fifth in the 1,500-meters run with a time of 3:49.59.

Former Husker shot-putter and fullback Sam Francis was inducted into the Drake Relays Hall of Fame Saturday.

UNL's golf team finished fifth of 18 teams in the Drake Invitational Golf Tournament, trailing champion Wichita State University by 28 strokes.

Doug Smith led the Huskers' efforts with a three-day total of 226, tying for fourth place individually.

UNL's tennis team won one match and lost two at the Drake Invitational Tennis Tournament.

The University of Missouri downed the Huskers 6-0 in their first match. The doubles matches were scratched. UNL came back to defeat the University of Wisconsin-LaCrosse 9-0, but was eliminated by Illinois State University 5-4 in the double elimination tournament. The team now stands 18-10 for the year. They play at the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) today.

UNL's women's tennis team was tied for third place after three days of competition in the Missouri Valley Tennis Tournament Saturday.

The Huskers totaled 41 points and were

just two points behind leader, Oklahoma State University. However, UNL did not qualify any individuals for Sunday's finals.

UNL's women's softball team still was in contention after Saturday's competition in the state college softball tournament.

The Huskers downed Kearney State College 12-2 Friday in the opening round. On Saturday, UNO defeated UNL, 3-0, but the Huskers came back to down Kearney 6-5 in eight innings.

The UNL crew finished eighth of 25 teams in the Midwest Rowing Championships Saturday in Madison, Wis.

The University of Wisconsin won the team title.

The crew will compete in the small college national championships in Philadelphia June 13 and 14.

UNL's soccer club downed Nebraska Wesleyan University 6-2 in a game Saturday at Wesleyan's Magee Stadium.

Reservations still can be made for the Rebounders Club annual banquet honoring the 1976-77 Husker basketball team tonight. They can be made by calling the basketball office at the Sports Complex.

Former UNL star Stuart Lantz will speak at the banquet, which will begin at 7 p.m. in the Elks Club, 131 Centennial Mall North.

UNL's Rugby Club recorded its first winning season in the club's six year history Sunday by defeating the University of Nebraska at Omaha, 16-0.

The Huskers finish the season with a 9-7 record.

Saturday UNL lost the Nabb Cup to the Omaha Rugby Club, 15-6.

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