

sports

Bremser recalls disbelief of 1955 Hawaiian upset

The 26 mph gusts of hot wind were blowing in the faces of 23,000 Nebraska fans at Memorial Stadium. The 93 degree weather provided by the sun was beating down on their faces. And the scoreless tie in the fourth quarter against Hawaii gave them little incentive to cheer.

It was the 1955 season opener for head coach Bill Glassford's Cornhuskers who in 1954 handed the Rainbows a 50-0 loss in Honolulu. It was one game UNL was not supposed to lose.

The Lincoln Star sports editor, Don Bryant, who is now UNL's sports information director, predicted a 50-0 outcome before the game. And Glassford's cautious pregame strategy reminds one of Tom Osborne preparing for the 1978 edition of the Hawaii Rainbows.

Upset

"We're going to make a real effort to get the job done," Glassford said. "There's no such thing as a sure thing in football. You have to win them on a Saturday afternoon."

Well, Bill's sound philosophy proved correct. The only sure thing that hot Saturday afternoon was the final score.

When Hartwell Freitas plunged into the endzone from the one yard line in the fourth quarter, not only were the fans left speechless but the voice of Cornhusker football for the past 40 years, Lyell Bremser, had nothing to say to his listening audience.

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Lyell Bremser having nothing to say. That is about as shocking as a 72-0 Hawaii victory would be tomorrow.

"Everybody who was sitting in the stands was in a stupor, they were dumbstruck," Bremser said. "I couldn't believe what I was seeing—it was just lousy football."

Disbelief

"It had to be the biggest upset in Nebraska history."

It was such an upset that Sunday's Lincoln Star front page had a full page banner headline telling how the "Huskers Must Start Over." And the sports page was

filled with disbelief.

"It's queer that a Nebraska aggregation built up by a rejuvenated scholarship program last year can't block, tackle, or manufacture a sustained offense," wrote one sports writer.

Twenty-three years later, after Bob Devaney brought a football dynasty to Lincoln, the Huskers will host Hawaii after handing them a 68-3 loss in Honolulu in 1967.

"There's always a possibility that Hawaii can win, especially today," Bremser said. "The talent has been spread around a lot more than it used to be."

Pronunciation problems

The talent that Hawaii brought to Lincoln in 1955 was considered in a lower class than the Husker team. Names like Dick Veoka, Roland Laanui, Hank Ariyoshi, Jim Shicuru, Charlie Araki, Colin Chock, and Ed Kawawaki not only caused problems for the Huskers, but caused pronunciation problems for announcers like Bremser.

The 1955 shocker may have quieted Bremser, but even when UNL beat Hawaii three times, the Hawaiian names slowed

Bremser's rapid talking pace.

"I call names like that tongue tanglers," Bremser said.

So, Bremser has been studying the names of the 1978 Hawaii team this week. He said he hopes he doesn't stumble over names tomorrow like Keith Ah Yeun, Claxton Fernandez, Blane Gainson, Bryan Hanawahine, Wilbert Haslip, Keoni Jardine, Casey Kunitomo, Beldon Kealoha, Itai Sataua, Junior Talaesea, and Semeri Ulufale.

The roster looks like the credit list of the "Hawaii Five-O" television drama.

"Anybody doing play-by-play saying he can reel off all those names is blowing a lot of smoke," Bremser said. "You can't be going 100 miles per hour and reel off a name like Hanawahine. I just hope I have a loose tongue—I hope it's limber."

The Hawaiian names will give Bremser a challenge and if history repeats itself, his tangled tongue will have nothing to say.

"Sorley scrambles and gets away from Ah Yeun, he runs upfield to the 35, the 40 and is hit by.....by.....by.....Man, women and child, how the hell do you pronounce this name!"

'Much improved' Rainbows will be Huskers next foe

By Buck Mahoney

The University of Hawaii Rainbows came to Lincoln twenty-three years ago, an overwhelming underdog to the Nebraska Cornhuskers. That afternoon, they beat UNL by the score of 6-0, in a game that helped lead to the resignation of Nebraska head coach Bill Glassford. The Rainbows will be making the trip to the same spot tomorrow and will try to upset the Huskers again.

Coach Dick Tomey's Western Athletic Conference team will be looking for their second win in two games this year. The Rainbows defeated the New Mexico Lobos 22-16 last Saturday in Honolulu.

Nebraska head coach Tom Osborne said he thought Hawaii was a much improved team over the one the Huskers defeated 68-3 two years ago.

"Last time we played them they were disorganized and not a very good team," Osborne said.

The Rainbows won two games and lost nine in 1976, but last year improved to a 5-6 record. Osborne credited Tomey for the improvement.

"They're much better coached than any Hawaii team I've seen," he said.

Ten starters return

The Rainbow Warriors have 10 returning starters from last year's team. They are led by quarterback Jeff Duva and fullback Wilbert Haslip.

Duva, a senior from Canoga Park, Calif., set a new Hawaii passing record last year when he averaged 14.2 yards per completion. He passed for 1,487 yards and 10 touchdowns in eleven games.

Haslip, a 5-11, 212 pound senior from Santa Ana, Calif., is the fourth all-time rusher in Hawaii history. Last year he set a single game rushing record with 221 yards on 22 carries against Idaho. Last Saturday, he gained 127 yards against New Mexico.

Haslip is not the only runner the Rainbows will have behind an offensive line that averages 243 pounds per man. Sophomore tailback George Bell from El Centro, Calif. set many freshmen rushing records while playing on the varsity. He gained 132 yards on 22 carries against Southwestern Louisiana University last year.

When the Rainbows go to the air, Duva will be looking to wise receivers Walt Little of Winston-Salem, N.C. and Jeff Cabral of Kailua, Oahu.

Little was the third leading receiver last year. He caught 18 passes for 254 yards and one touchdown. He also returned nine

kickoffs for 142 yards last year and was the leading returner in 1976.

Cabral, a 6-foot-2 junior, is listed ahead of DeWayne Jett at split end. Cabral only caught six passes for 80 yards last year while Jett caught 16 for 223 yards and

three touchdowns.

Defense impresses Osborne

Osborne said he was impressed by the way Hawaii's defense played against New Mexico. The Lobos failed to get a first down in the fourth quarter while Hawaii

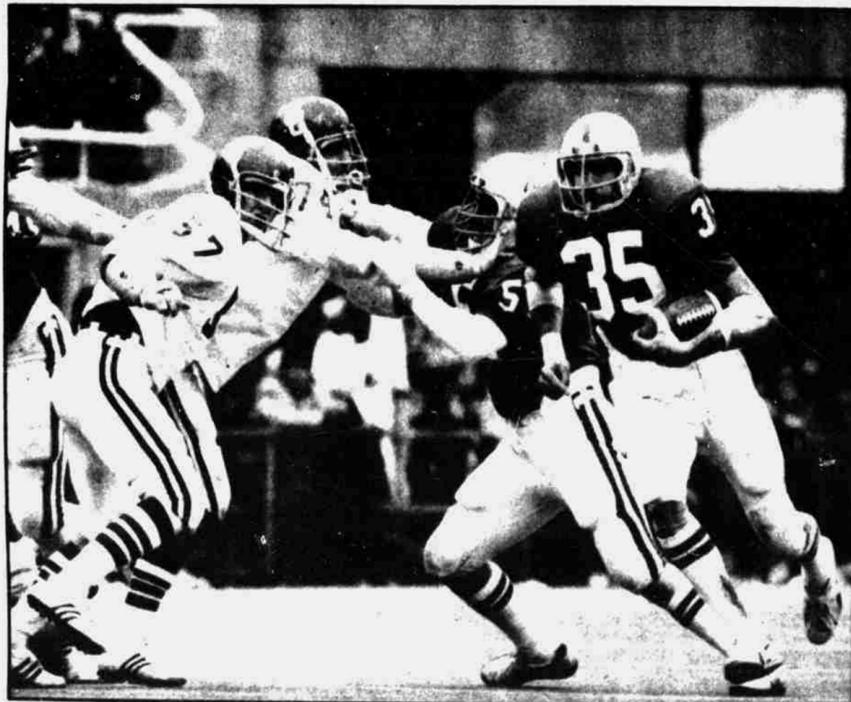


Photo by Ted Kirk

Two years ago, Rick Berns ran for 211 yards and four touchdowns against Hawaii's Rainbow Warriors. Nebraska plays Hawaii Saturday at Memorial Stadium.

Students buy more tickets, fill sections

By Denice Smee

More students will cheer the Huskers to victory this year than last year.

Well, at least more students bought football tickets this year than last, according to Helen Wagner, manager of the ticket office.

This year there were 16,336 student tickets sold, she said. This compares to slightly over 16,000 sold last year.

Wagner said certain sections are set aside for student tickets each year.

These include all of section 1 which is the north end of east stadium, all of section 11 which is the south end of east stadium and the bottom two-thirds of seats in-between, she said.

Also the east sections in the north and south stadiums are set aside for student tickets.

"You have to kind of go by enrollment in guessing how many tickets students will

buy, and this year we heard it was going to be high," she said.

The sections set aside for students in the north end are double-printed, that is both student and general admission tickets are printed for the same seats, she explained.

Then, if there are seats left over out of these sections after student sales, they are sold as general admission seats, she said.

Faculty and staff tickets were handled differently this year, Wagner explained. All faculty and staff members were entitled to one ticket at a reduced price and one ticket at regular price.

This means faculty and staff could buy one ticket for \$36 and \$55.50 for another.

Previously, only married faculty and staff members could buy two tickets, she said.

This was changed in order to prevent discrimination against unmarried members, Wagner said. Faculty members, excluding

scored 15 points to come from behind to win.

Two years ago, the Rainbow defense yielded 428 rushing yards to the Huskers. Rick Berns gained 211 yards and four touchdowns on the ground that night to set a single game rushing record that has since been broken by I. M. Hipp. Berns said the defense the Huskers will face tomorrow is better and more aggressive than the defense he ran through two years ago.

"They made a lot of mistakes," Berns said. "They just didn't play good defense. This year they are coming to the ball more."

The Rainbow defense is led by end Mike Arvanetis, tackle Tom Tuinei, and linebacker Junior Talaesea.

Arvanetis, a 6-foot-4, 230 pound senior from Buena Park, Calif., was second on the team last year with 103 tackles, nine of them behind the line of scrimmage.

Tuinei, a 6-foot-4, 250 pound junior, was third on the team in tackles with 100 and he broke up three passes.

The 6-foot-1, 245 pound Talaesea was ninth on the team with 48 tackles in a reserve role. The Santa Ana, Calif. junior also recovered a fumble and intercepted a pass.

Husker assistant coach Gene Huey said he believes Hawaii would give the Huskers a contest.

"Hawaii is a much improved team over the last two years," he said. "Don't be surprised when they come in here with a good football team."

those at the medical center, bought 6,000 tickets, Wagner said.

Faculty and staff members at UNO do not get reduced rates although they do receive some priority over the general public in getting tickets, Wagner said.

The stadium's seating capacity is 72,771 she said. The weekly attendance figures for games also include all concession workers, boy scouts and ticket takers.

Visiting teams, season ticket holders, booster club members, and general admissions use the rest of the seats.

Visiting teams are allotted a certain number of seats according to contracts between the schools, she said. Usually, this is a reciprocal agreement, so UNL would get the same number when they visited that school.

The stadium also has about 760 bleacher seats located at its corners which are sold to groups such as midget football teams and high school groups, Wagner said.