

## sports

## Tigers hope for letdown by Nebraska on Saturday

By Ed McClymont

Amidst bowl game gossip and national rankings, the Nebraska Cornhuskers must face the Missouri Tigers Saturday. And the Tigers would like nothing better than to sneak up on UNL and ruin any chance Nebraska has of capturing a national championship.

All hopes of reaching that elusive position hinge on what takes place in Memorial Stadium Saturday afternoon. With Penn State nearly committed to go to the Orange Bowl, only a Husker victory against the Tigers will enable a possible national championship showdown with the Nittany Lions.

Warren Powers will bring his Missouri Tigers to Memorial Stadium marking the second consecutive year he has brought a team to play the Huskers in Lincoln. Last year, however, it was Powers' Washington State Cougars that faced Nebraska in a game that has not been forgotten.

### Looking for a letdown

Washington State, led by the quarterback Jack Thompson, upset Nebraska in the first game of the 1977 season, 19-10. No one is making Missouri nine point favorites, but Powers couldn't have created a better situation for himself.

Nebraska is fresh off the biggest win in Lincoln in years, 17-14, over number one Oklahoma, and Missouri figures on a Nebraska letdown. With the bowl game gossip pouring out like a burst dam, Tom Osborne will have a double hard job this week: getting visions of oranges out of the Huskers' heads, and convincing his team of the quality of the Missouri Tigers.

### Murderers row

Facing their usual "murderers row" schedule, the Tigers have compiled a 6-4 record. Their biggest win was over Notre Dame in the season opener 3-0. Of their losses, two came at the hands of Oklahoma and Alabama, both ranked number one at the time.

Their latest win was a 48-0 drubbing of Kansas last weekend. Powers thinks the Tigers are in a good frame of mind for the game this weekend.

"There is a lot of excitement this week with Nebraska and a possible bowl bid with a victory," Powers said. "The players are going to be ready."

With the graduation of Pete Woods last year, Missouri was supposed to be weak at quarterback, but Phil Bradley took care of

that problem.

### Airborne

The sophomore stepped in to lead the Tigers and in his first Big Eight season was named All Big Eight along with Thomas Lott of Oklahoma. Bradley is completing passes at a .615 clip, having racked up close to 1600 yards in yardage.

The Tiger passing game is made stronger by All Big Eight tight end Kellen Winslow and flanker Leo Lewis, who have 23 and 27 catches respectively. On the ground, Earl Gant is the Tigers' leading rusher with a 74.1 average.

Assistant Husker coach Jake Cabell, who scouted the Tigers, said "Gant is as good as I.M. Hipp, Rick Berns, and Billy Sims."

The Missouri defense this year isn't quite up to the usual Tiger standard. They are giving up to close to 330 yards a game.

### Game control

Although Nebraska didn't roll up their national leading average of 499.8 yards against Oklahoma, Osborne said he felt the Huskers did control both the offensive and defensive lines. He expects the Huskers will have to do the same against Missouri.

"We'll have to control the football Saturday. Their (Missouri) offense is as good as Alabama's," Osborne said.

UNL may pass a little more this Saturday against the Tigers. They are seventh in the Big Eight in pass defense.

"They're not as quick as Oklahoma, but they do have good size. We may pass more," said Nebraska fullback Andra Franklin.

### Win it all

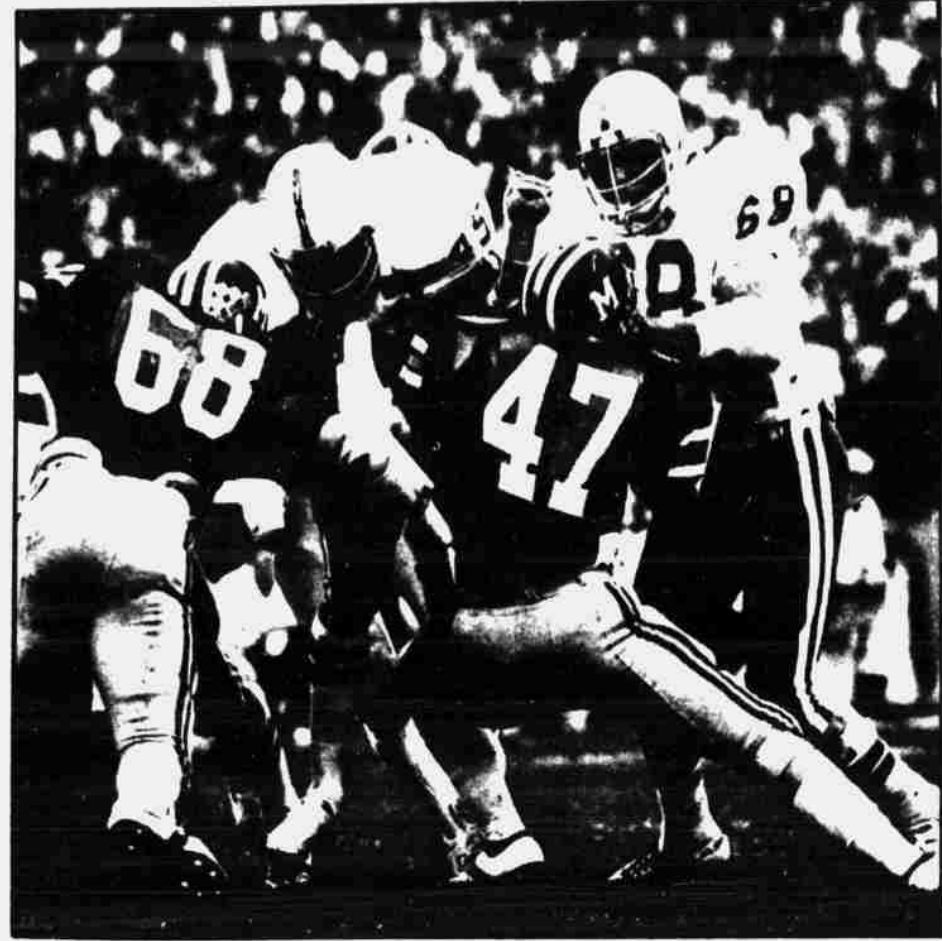
Franklin put in a full 60 minutes against Oklahoma last Saturday. He is one of the few Nebraska fullbacks to play nearly the entire game in recent years, and he relished the role.

"It sure was my best game," Franklin said. "My blocking was better and I ran pretty good. The cold weather was a big reason why I played all the game. I didn't tire out as fast."

For the fans, the hitting looked vicious against the Sooners, but Franklin said they ranked second to Oklahoma State in that category.

The hitting will be tough again tomorrow against the Tigers, and Osborne wants to make sure Nebraska is ready for it.

"They've (players) had a good attitude and confidence, and I think they want to win it all."



All Big Eight guard Steve Lindquist blocks Missouri linebacker Bill Bess (47) in last year's game. Both Bess and Chris Garlich (68) return at linebacker for the Tigers this year.

Photo by Ted Kirk

## Mizzou game to be nip and tuck

### Predictions by Rick Huls

The season-ending traditional rivalries highlight the college football scene as the 1978 season winds down.

Some of this week's bitter battles include UCLA-USC, Oklahoma-Oklahoma State, Kansas-Kansas State, Stanford-California, Virginia Military-Virginia Tech, Georgia-Auburn and Virginia-North Carolina.

A few of next week's rivalries include Notre Dame-Southern Cal, Ohio State-Michigan, Georgia-Georgia Tech, Indiana-Purdue, North Carolina-Duke, Mississippi-Mississippi State, Washington-Washington State, Oregon-Oregon State, Arizona-Arizona State, Utah-Utah State, Penn State-Pittsburgh and Clemson-South Carolina.

### Big game

Saturday's Nebraska-Missouri contest can't be left off the lists of rivalries. Going into the 72nd meeting between the two schools, Nebraska owns a 37-31-3 lead in the series.

But in the past ten years the Huskers and Tigers have split, each winning five games. Nebraska has won three times in Columbia; Missouri has won three times in Lincoln. In fact, the home team has lost each of the last four years.

There's only one distinct difference in the last ten years—Missouri has never won by more than 11 points and Nebraska has never won by less than 11 points. On that basis it should be easy to pick either a close Missouri win or a Nebraska runaway.

### Known for upsets

But Missouri is notoriously known for its stunning upsets and the Huskers are ripe for one unless they can come off of cloud nine. After last week's 17-14 upset of

Oklahoma, Nebraska needs an impressive win to remain number two ahead of Alabama.

Despite all the facts and figures, Nebraska coach Tom Osborne would like to get even with former pupil and current Missouri coach Warren Powers. Powers grabbed a 19-10 win over the Huskers last year in his coaching debut at Washington State. So, how about a "close" Nebraska victory? . . . Nebraska 24, Missouri 22.

### Other Big Eight games:

Kansas at Kansas State—Kansas owns the upper hand in this series 52-19-4. Kansas State has mustered only two wins and a tie in the last two decades while being shutout seven times. Despite the firing of Bud Moore, the Jayhawks will have trouble staying with K-State this year. . . . Kansas State 24, Kansas 10.

Oklahoma State at Oklahoma—The Sooners, who lead the series 55-11-6, will be out to release their frustrations on the Cowboys this week. That's bad news for Okie-State. . . Oklahoma 48, Oklahoma State 14.

Iowa State at Colorado—Colorado has dominated the ISU series as easily as Nebraska has dominated the Buffs. Iowa State has not beaten Colorado since 1963, and the Cyclones are going for a third straight 8-3 record. But, Colorado and especially Bill Mallory need the win just as bad. . . Colorado 20, Iowa State 18.

After enjoying three weeks of 80 percent accuracy on the college games, the bottom fell out last week. The score was 27-14-1 for a percentage of .655, dropping the season's mark to 313-104-7 (ties count half right, half wrong), for a .746 percentage.

## Wild party goal disappears when post comes up short

By Kevin Schnepf

To the *Daily Nebraskan*:

I would appreciate it if you could relay this letter to Bob Devaney for me since your sportswriters have better access to him than I do. In appreciation of this favor, I have enclosed an extra copy of the letter which you may keep to publish in your newspaper if you should desire to do so.

Thanks again,

A Poor College Student  
with a valuable souvenir

Monday, November 13, 1978

Dear Bob,

Sunday night on the Tom Osborne Show, Tom mentioned that they needed one more goalpost. I thought he was just joking. But it was announced this morning on the radio that they needed another goalpost. I don't consider myself a thief, as a matter of fact, the only thing I'd ever stolen was a pack of lifesavers from the grocery store when I was five—and then I got caught. But I do have your goalpost, Bob.

Being a sentimentalist, I would find it very hard to part with this metal relic (and it also took a considerable amount of effort to carry the goalpost from the stadium). However, I am also a capitalist and would be willing to give you the goalpost in return for some reasonable compensation. So I guess you could call this a ransom note:

1—Round trip tickets and an all expense paid trip to Miami for my roommates and myself.

2—My tuition paid in full for each semester I have remaining here at UNL.

Most honestly,

A Poor College Student  
with a valuable souvenir.

P.S.—To contact me, just reply through the *Daily Nebraskan* "personals" section.

The poor college student who had the valuable souvenir still is poor. Promised by University Police that a \$100 check would be mailed to him next week for his returning the curved base of the South Stadium's goalpost, Jim Bertrand probably

now wishes his joke ransom letter was serious. They informed Bertrand Thursday that the metal piece he returned was only five to six feet in length which police called "useless."

Wednesday night, Bertrand, a 20-year-old education major from North Platte, said he was a little skeptical about getting paid. His skepticism proved right. Now without the \$100 he was hoping for, Bertrand's plans for a huge party in December, have gone down the drain.

How did Bertrand end up with the valuable piece in the first place? Well, *Daily Nebraskan* sports editor Jim Kay and myself were on the scene when the valuable scrap of metal disappeared.

We decided to examine the ruins of the field Saturday after we left the Nebraska locker room. Walking down the east sideline, we spotted two familiar faces stumbling in the empty, desolate and garbage-ridden east stadium.

They were friends of ours, Bertrand and one of his roommates, Doug Faulkner, also of North Platte. We began to communicate, although their words were severely slurred. It seemed we ended up following the two

wherever they went.

Doug spotted a piece of metal about ten feet long on the Astro-turf resting only ten yards from a cluster of almost a dozen police officers. The policemen were joking and laughing, evidently about the game and its aftermath. Meanwhile, Doug and Jim casually walked by them and moments later, were carrying the heavy piece of metal through the South Stadium's gates.

As we carried it by many fevered Nebraska rooters, praise was addressed to us for performing such a feat. Jim and Doug began jokingly shouting such offers as, "Go Big Red goalpost for sale, \$10 an inch."

The two, unaware that the goalpost was so valuable as to justify a \$100 reward, transported the metal in a car—with both ends sticking out the back windows.

"We just took all the side streets we could on the way home," Bertrand said.

The metal stayed in their living room with plans of displaying it with a sign describing the outcome of the game.

It would have been a truly pleasant gift for reacting to one's emotions after the big game.