

sports

Osborne pleased after 'hard-hitting' scrimmage

By Pat Beecham

After sending the troops through a lengthy 2½-hour scrimmage Saturday afternoon, Nebraska Head Coach Tom Osborne seemed pleased with the afternoon's work.

"We had a good scrimmage," Osborne said. "The hitting was good and the intensity was great. The hitting was as hard as it has ever been in an early scrimmage."

The Huskers did have a few casualties as a result of the hard-hitting. Linebacker Brent Williams sprained his ankle and Osborne said Williams could be out anywhere from two days to two weeks.

Robert Alvin, a sophomore offensive guard, injured his knee and Osborne said that it may require surgery. Bruce Mathison came out of the scrimmage with a hip

pointer. Osborne said there probably are a few who will be sore later.

Osborne said he was pretty happy with the top units performances in the scrimmage, but added that it would be hard to evaluate how everyone did until he got a chance to look at the films.

The first unit offense started the scrimmage against the No. 2 defense. The offense took the ball from their 35 and marched 65 yards in 11 plays for their first score of the afternoon.

The drive was highlighted by a 22-yard pass from Jeff Quinn to Jarvis Redwine. Quinn scored the first touchdown himself by going in from seven yards out.

The No. 3 offense then went against the No. 1 defense, running plays of Nebraska's first four opponents. Osborne said the first team defense "played pretty well," but said it was hard to evaluate the third and fourth team offenses because they were running unfamiliar plays.

Mark Mauer led the second team offense to a pair of scores in his first effort of that afternoon. Mauer scored the first touchdown for a second unit on a keeper. The next score was a 35-yard field goal by Eddie Neal.

The first team offense then came back and took five plays to score against the third team defense. Jarvis Redwine took it in from the 40-yard line.

Nate Mason then took over for Quinn about half-way through the next series and led the first team offense to another touchdown, with Craig Johnson scoring on a one-yard plunge.

Jim Kotera scored the final touchdown from four yards out. Kotera was playing behind the No. 1 line going against the No. 2 defense.

Osborne said the first team offense looked good and the defense looked more solid than a year ago. He added that he was still looking for depth at some positions.

After the scrimmage, Osborne didn't name any particular players as real standouts, but was pleased with the general performance of the team.

Former coach's persistence keeps Williams on the field

By Paul Martin

If it wasn't for David Beral, Brent Williams wouldn't have been the second-leading tackler on Nebraska's football team last year. He probably wouldn't be playing football at all.

Upon completion of high school at Verbum Dei, an all-male parochial school in the Watts district of Los Angeles, Williams received no scholarship offers and "was ready to quit playing," he said.

But Beral, the coach of a Verbum Dei rival who had since become a coach at Los Angeles Southwest Community College, found out Williams was not playing and immediately began a concerted effort to recruit him.

"He kept trying to get me to play," Williams said. "He kept calling and coming over to my house but I always had a negative answer. He must of remembered me playing against his team and wondered why I wasn't still playing ball."

Beral said he more than wondered why Williams wasn't playing football somewhere, he "simply couldn't believe it."

"After he'd gotten out of high school, I saw him on the street one day and stopped him to ask if he was still playing football and when he said 'no,' I was shocked," Beral recalled in a telephone interview. "I asked him why and he didn't say much. He was despondent, but I wasn't giving up."

Night classes

At the time, Williams said he was attending night classes at the nearby Community College and working at a full-time construction job in hopes of obtaining

enough money to become a full-time student and "just get an education."

Beral said he occasionally saw Williams on the campus at night, and when he did, he deliberately "tried to run into him. 'I'd go out of my way to talk with him and convince him he should still be playing football,'" Beral said.

Beral said his persistency eventually paid off when Williams "finally sat down one day to really think it (playing) over."

"I decided to give football another shot," Williams said. "I wanted to see if I could play major college football."

Although LASWCC was 0-11 during the year Williams spent there, his talent got the attention of several major colleges.

"He's got super quickness and he's a real hitter," Beral said of Williams, who has 4.7 speed in the 40-yard dash. "He also has good football sense and is very coachable."

UCLA and Nebraska

Of the offers received after his first year of junior college, Williams said he narrowed his choice down to UCLA and Nebraska, eventually choosing Nebraska because he "wanted to get away from home."

Since transferring to Nebraska in 1978, the 6-0, 227-pound senior has earned two letters and was a starter at strongside linebacker for the Huskers last year.

"I feel I had a pretty good season last year," said Williams, who was twice the Husker Defensive Player of the Game in 1979. "Even though the injury (an ankle sprain suffered in the Kansas game) put a damper on it, I still don't think I played up to my ability."



Brent Williams

In the Husker scrimmage Saturday, Williams suffered a new injury (strained ligaments) to the same ankle that bothered him during last season.

His playing status in the Huskers' opener Sept. 13 against Utah is questionable, he said.

"I've got a good chance of being ready, though," he said. "I'm hoping so anyway."

According to Beral, if Williams "is at all able to go (against Utah), then he'll go."

"He's very serious and works hard at anything he does," Beral said. "Brent will have success with anything he wants to do, no matter what it might be."

Husker frosh improving—Solich

By Larry Sparks

The 1980 edition of the Nebraska freshman football team had its second major scrimmage of the season last Saturday at Memorial Stadium.

The Huskers showed their strength at quarterback as Turner Gill of Ft. Worth, Texas, completed four of eight passes for 89 yards, including the game's only touchdown on a 61 yard pass to Irving Fryar.

Craig Sundberg of Lincoln Southeast led the Huskers in rushing with 52 yards on 10 carries. Sundberg also connected on two of three passes for 28 yards. Dave Burke of Layton, Utah, was right behind Sundberg, picking up 51 yards on 10 carries.

Freshman Coach Frank Solich said he is pleased with the progress the team has made since practice started.

"It's a new experience for them, but they are all showing improvement," he said.

Several of the Husker freshmen have had a chance at practicing with the varsity, but Solich said it is still too

early to tell if any of the frosh will be playing on the varsity.

"That will mostly depend on the varsity's injury situation," he said.

According to Solich, the team has suffered only a few injuries and so far, none have been serious. Mike Zierke, a 212-pound center from Pierce, suffered a slight shoulder separation last week and Kevin McCormick, 242-pound middle guard from Omaha, reinjured his knee, Solich said.

The late start of the season this year has both its advantages and disadvantages, Solich said.

"It is difficult for the players to come out and practice day after day when the first game is so far down the road," he said, "but the extra time should allow us to have our plays down pretty well."

Solich said the team isn't working on any specific area right now, but said, it will begin preparing for the game with Oklahoma State soon.

The Cornhuskers will open their fall campaign against the Cowboys Sept. 26 in Stillwater.

UNL Women's Crew will elect new coach among own members

The UNL Women's Crew team will choose its coach at Wednesday's meeting.

The team will elect one of its members to be the coach. It will then be up to the elected person whether or not to participate in competition.

Matt Kush, coach of the men's crew team, has agreed to coordinate the women's crew events and to attend some practice sessions, but has not accepted coaching duties.

Kris Morehead, varsity crew member said coaches are hard to find for women's crew. In the past the coach has been an alumn of the team, but there hasn't been any continuity she said.

The elected coach will probably be replaced by an alumna during the spring semester.

"We need some direction," Morehead said. "The workouts are hard, but I would work twice as hard if we had a coach."