

sports

Coach calls game 'determining factor'

By Bob Asmussen

Saturday's Florida State-Nebraska football game could be a determining factor in how the rest of the 1981 season will go for the Huskers, Coach Tom Osborne said at practice Wednesday night.

"We've got to come battling back this week," Osborne said. "If we don't, we're in for an awful long season."

"We've just got to do the things we're supposed to do, only a lot better. We've got to work especially on blocking and tackling."

Although Osborne has been pleased with the intensity of practices throughout the week, he said he is concerned with the Husker's injury situation.

Split end Todd Brown's status for Saturday is still questionable, but Osborne said he hopes left tackle Toby Williams will see at least some playing time.

Junior Nate Mason gets the nod as Nebraska's starting quarterback this week. Sophomore Turner Gill is also expected to see a good deal of playing time.

Other newcomers to the starting line up include Kurt Glather at right guard, Jeff Kwapick at right tackle, Jeff Merrell at middle guard and Dave Ridder at defensive end. Brent Evans will start for the injured Steve McWhirter at linebacker. Scott Woodard and Tom Vergith are listed as the top prospects to start in Todd Brown's spot if he is unable to play.

Despite Florida State's heavy graduation losses, Osborne still had praise for the Seminoles.

"Rick Stockstill, with a year of experience at quarterback, is a fine player," Osborne said. "Their fullback, (Michael) Whitting, is a great player. Rohn Stark, their all-American punter is one of their most effective weapons."

"Their whole defense has played very well," he said.

Florida State enters the game with a 2-0 record, coming off a 17-0 victory against Louisville and a 10-5 win against Memphis State. Last year's 18-14 win by the Seminoles in Lincoln is the only time the two schools have met.

FSU's proven quarterback no factor against Husker 'tradition'—Stockstill

By Tad Stryker

Quarterback has been called the single most important position on a football team, and it would seem that the team with an established signal caller would have a definite advantage over one with an unproven quarterback.

But not so, said Florida State senior quarterback Rick Stockstill, who last October led the Seminoles to a win against the Huskers in Lincoln.

Too much is being made of FSU's apparent advantage at quarterback, Stockstill said Tuesday.

"I don't think it means much at all to a team like Nebraska," Stockstill said. "It may be a very slim advantage for us, but I think Nebraska's got too much tradition to have that bother them."

"I really don't think that's going to be a factor. One position won't make that much difference."

Stockstill started every game for the Seminoles last season after sitting and watching the fabled "dual quarterbacks" — Wally Woodham and Jimmy Jordan — lead the Seminoles for three years. It was then that Florida State faced a similar position the Huskers face this year — no experience returning at quarterback.

At that point, FSU Coach Bobby Bowden announced Stockstill was his quarterback of the future and the job was Stockstill's. Even with that load on his shoulders, Stockstill said he did not feel much pressure.

"It didn't bother me too much," he said. "We had two good quarterbacks there for three years, so all the pressure I felt was to just continue the good playing that had been done at the quarterback position. I just felt I had to live up to their tradition."

Last year Stockstill continued in the tradition well enough to lead the Seminoles to the Orange Bowl, where Oklahoma nipped them, 18-17. Along the way, Stockstill threw only eight interceptions. This year, however, he already has thrown four.

"It's just that I've forced them (passes) too much this year," he said. "I've tried to drill the ball into crowds

when there wasn't much chance of our man making the catch. I've got to work on that and improve."

Stockstill couldn't pick a better time to improve. After the Seminoles face the Huskers Saturday, they travel to Ohio State, Notre Dame, Pittsburgh and Louisiana State before returning home for three of their last four games.

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Photo courtesy of Florida State Sports Information

Rick Stockstill

Wild week predicted but Huskers picked to win

It was, to put it mildly, a week of upsets. Besides Nebraska, such well-known football powers as Michigan, Alabama and Maine went down to defeat. If last week was any indication, this is going to be a wild week.

jeff goodwin

Florida State at Nebraska. Florida State could not have picked a worse week to play Nebraska. Last year's loss alone is enough to fire up the Huskers but after last week's loss to Iowa... well, Bobby Bowden is likely to feel like Daniel in the lion's den.

This game marks the beginning of a road trip for Florida State which makes the Bataan Death March look

like a vacation. The Seminoles must face the likes of Ohio State, Pittsburgh and Notre Dame — all on the road.

Nebraska has proven in the past that they have the ability to come back after a defeat and beat a tough opponent. They should do the same this week: **Nebraska 28 Florida State 14.**

Notre Dame at Michigan. Gerry Faust isn't the only new attraction in South Bend. Last week the Irish also came out in new uniforms, going back to the traditional blue. Hopefully, we've seen the last of those green monstrosities, at least until they play USC in 1989.

Michigan has the same coach and same uniforms as before but last week's result was certainly not the same. Things are so rough in Ann Arbor this week that the Michigan fight song has been changed to "When the Whip Comes Down." That's what happens when the Wolverines lose and when it's Wisconsin they lose to... well, people in Peru can hear Bo shouting.

This should be a close game but Michigan's home field advantage will help Bo's Boys in blue pull out a narrow win: **Michigan 20 Notre Dame 17.**

Tulsa At Oklahoma State. Tulsa is a much better team than its 0-2 record indicates. The teams that beat them, Kansas and Arkansas, both had to come from behind to do it.

This is the first game for Oklahoma State and they re-

main a mystery. They were the most disappointing team in the league last year. (Colorado doesn't count. Everyone knew they were going to be bad.) It remains to be seen if they can bounce back.

I know it's a cliché, but Tulsa really is due for a win. The Hurricanes pull a mild upset: **Tulsa 24 Oklahoma State 21.**

Other Games

East: Army 26, VMI 14; Texas A&M 28, Boston College 20; South Carolina 23, Duke 10; North Carolina State 17, East Carolina 0; Rhode Island 15, Maine 10; Maryland 34, West Virginia 14; Rutgers 21, Virginia 17; Navy 37, Western Kentucky 12; North Carolina 44, Miami of Ohio 9;

Midwest: Illinois 31, Syracuse 17; Iowa 23, Iowa State 17; USC 35, Indiana 10; Ohio State 35, Michigan State 17; Purdue 26, Minnesota 21; Missouri 42, Rice 7; UCLA 30, Wisconsin 7; Washington State 17, Colorado 13.

South: Georgia 21, Clemson 7; Alabama 24, Kentucky 3; Florida 28, Georgia Tech 14; Mississippi State 38, Vanderbilt 7; Houston 24, Miami (Fla.) 20; Texas 31, North Texas State 0; Auburn 34, Wake Forest 10; LSU 21, Oregon State 3; West Washington 31, Kansas State 10; Stanford 32, San Jose State 7;

Last week: 24-12, .670 Season: 44-16, .730

Picture unclear for Huskers on TV

By Pat Beecham

Nebraska's chances of appearing on national television this year probably could be best summed up by the saying, "Being in the wrong place at the wrong time."

This week's game against Florida State was under consideration but it came in second to the Michigan — Notre Dame game, said Donn Bernstein, ABC vice-president for public relations.

And although the Nebraska-Penn State game has not been ruled out yet, it still is not a definite choice at this time, he said.

"If we don't use Nebraska-Penn State, we could save Penn State for later at the end of the year," Bernstein said. "If we don't use Nebraska-Penn State, it is not necessarily because Nebraska lost to Iowa. Nebraska-Penn State would be a hell of a game, but we might want to save Penn State."

ABC may save Penn State because the team plays Alabama, Notre Dame, and Pittsburg near the end of the sea-

son.

Another enticing factor about a Penn State-Alabama matchup is that if Alabama remains undefeated through the rest of the season, Alabama's Head Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant will have a chance to become the all-time winningest coach in college history in that game.

Penn State, or any team for that matter, can only appear on television twice in one year according to NCAA rules unless they are picked as a wildcard team.

Bernstein said ABC decides who will be on week by week and a final decision isn't made until the Monday before the games.

The Husker game could have been televised if Nebraska could have moved a game to an "exception date," but the Huskers were unable to do so, Bernstein said.

Bernstein said the chances of Nebraska not being on television at all are not very good.

"Nebraska is a marvelous draw," he said. "They are a top team with an extremely successful program. They are one of the most attractive, magnetic teams."

sports shorts

The UNL boxing club works out from 5:15 p.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday in the basement of Schramm Hall.

For more information, call 488-4816 or 475-6144.

Mike Minnick, Beta Theta Pi, and George Musselman, Abel 11, both shot one under par 69s to tie for first place in the men's intramural golf tournament. Sigma Alpha Epsilon won the men's team title with a 296 total.

Mary Sue Hergert, Delta Gamma, won the women's tournament with a 78. Kappa Kappa Gamma won the women's team championship.

Hergert and Mike Barnhill won the co-recreational title with a 153 total.

The women's, men's and co-recreational intramural cross country meet will be Friday at Oak Lake Park. The meet begins at 4:45 p.m.

Men's intramural flag football and men's and women's horseshoe singles entries are due before 5 p.m. Tuesday at the Recreation Office, 1740 Vine St.