

sports

Osborne: Bowl trip depends on remaining games

By Tad Stryker

Saturday's Oklahoma State-Nebraska football game may not rank up there with the 1971 "Game of the Century" between Nebraska and Oklahoma but in the Cornhusker State it is important enough to delay a speech by the U.S. vice president.

Because the game kicks off at 11:35 a.m. on ABC, Vice President George Bush's Pershing Auditorium speech, originally scheduled for noon, has been moved back to halftime so the game can be viewed on big-screen televisions set up in the auditorium, a Pershing spokesman said.

It would seem to indicate that Big Red fans are gearing up for the Big Eight race. Coach Tom Osborne said he hopes his team is mentally prepared to face the final three games on the conference schedule, with a trip to the Orange Bowl on the line.

"I think they'll play hard," Osborne said. "I hope they're reasonably well-prepared (mentally) every week. You never want them to leave it on the practice field."

Osborne said it will be difficult for the

Huskers to hold their Big Eight lead because their final three games are against the second-, third-, and fourth-place teams in the conference, and each of the teams has a chance to go to a bowl game.

Oklahoma State, the third-place team, has "maybe the finest defense we will have faced this year," Osborne said. The Cowboys are rated second nationally in total defense.

"It seems like every team we play from now on has a great defense and kicking game," he said.

In order to prepare themselves for an expected onslaught of blitzes from highly-regarded OSU linebackers Mike Green and Ricky Young, the Huskers backs this week in practice emphasized picking up the blitz.

Two of the Nebraska backs, fullback Phil Bates and I-back Mike Rozier, missed practice earlier in the week with lingering soreness from the Kansas game, but both have recovered, Osborne said. Mark Moravec, a reserve at both fullback and I-back, remains slightly questionable with a shoulder injury, he said.

Osborne said Scott Lindstrom, a junior middle guard from Oakland, Neb., sustained a knee injury in practice Wednesday.

"It looks like a serious knee strain right now," he said.

Osborne said Wednesday that kicker Eddie Neil will probably be included on the Huskers' 55-man traveling roster for Saturday's game.

Although Oklahoma State has not de-

feated the Huskers since Bob Devaney came to Nebraska in 1962, Osborne said his team needs only to look back one week to find incentive for this week's game.

"Our players realize we weren't sharp (against Kansas) Saturday," he said. "We won't have any problem getting up, because our players know we're going to play a real solid football team in Oklahoma State."

Cowboy's luck returns after rough junior year

By Kevin Warneke

The collegiate football career of Oklahoma State quarterback John Doerner could be compared to a roller coaster.

Doerner's football career took off on an upward track his sophomore year as he led the Cowboys to upset victories against Kansas and Missouri. Big things were planned for him in his junior year.

Then disaster struck, and Doerner's career took a sudden nose dive. He broke his leg early in his junior year. Doerner managed a late-season comeback, but he proved to be ineffective.

This year his luck is back on the upward track as he has led the Cowboys to a 5-2 record thus far this year.

Doerner said although he was very discouraged when his leg was broken, he never considered quitting football.

"I guess what kept me going was the fact that I knew I had another year left to play," Doerner said. "I always had something to look forward to."

Although most of the Oklahoma State publicity has emphasized the kicking game and defense, Doerner said he doesn't feel slighted.

"They deserve all the recognition they get; the defense is number two in the nation so they deserve to be publicized," Doerner said. "Every game is won by defense and kicking. That's how we've been winning our games."

"Our offense has been pitted against some awfully tough defenses and there is always more room for error on offense," he said. "Maybe that's why our offense hasn't been as productive as it should be."

Doerner said the OSU offense will have to score more points, and the defense must refrain from giving up easy points. Overall, Oklahoma State will have to play an error-free game in order to defeat Nebraska, he said.

But his own performance will not have to be changed, Doerner said.

"I don't have to have a great game for us to win because there are so many other guys on our team that have so much more talent than I do," he said. "I will have to come in and execute every play very calmly."

Doerner lists his experience and offensive knowledge as his strong points as a quarterback, but he said he wishes he were a better runner.

Doerner said he hasn't given much thought to playing professional football yet.

"You can plan and plan on playing pro ball and then it doesn't come about and you're disappointed, so I'm not even considering the possibility," he said.

Doerner said he is confident Oklahoma State will defeat Nebraska, but declined to make a prediction on the final score.

"I never make predictions on games, it's not my style," he said.

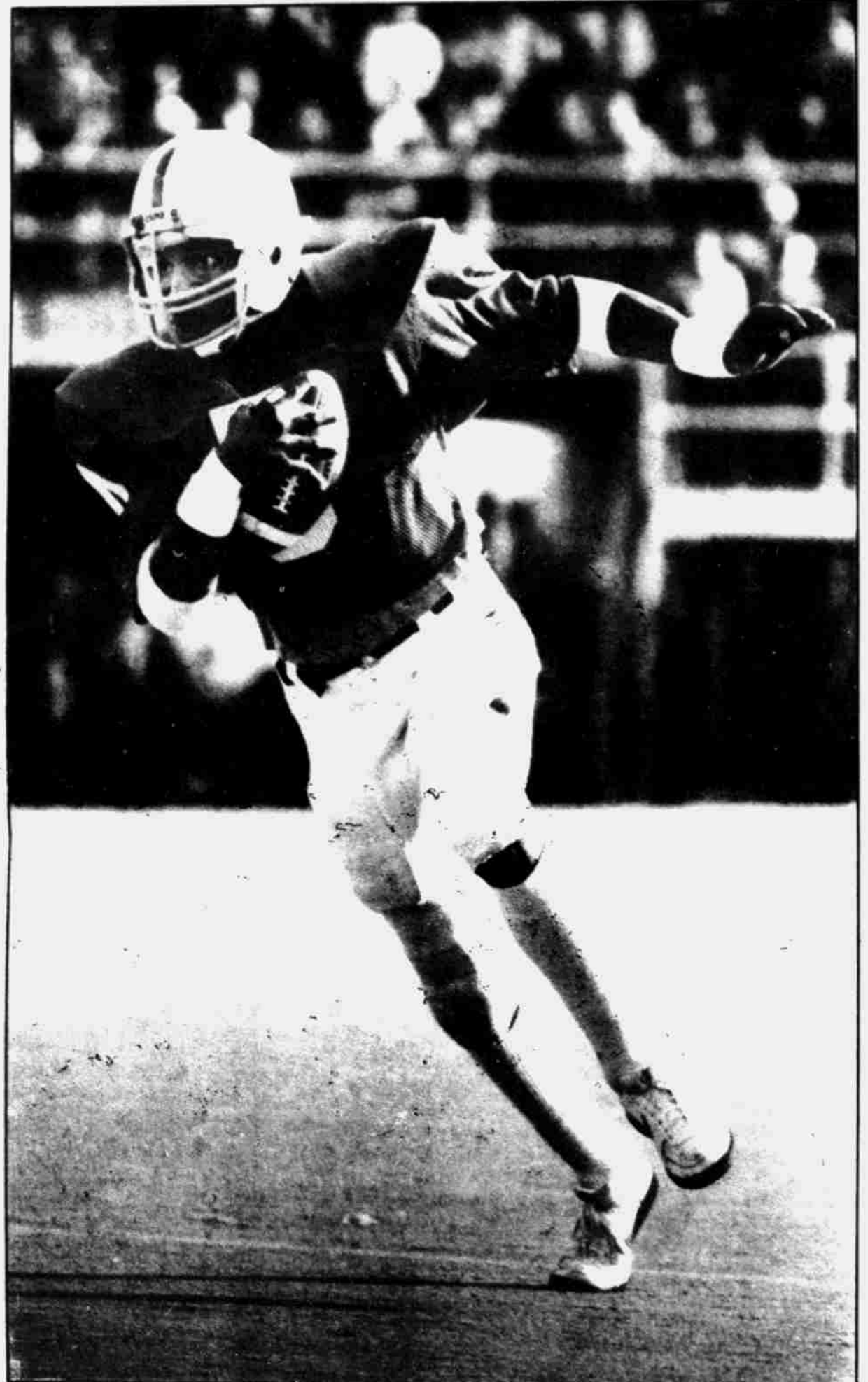


Photo by Kent Morgan Olsen

Nebraska cornerback Rodney Lewis (5) picks up yardage after intercepting a Kansas pass in last week's 31-15 win against the Jayhawks in Memorial Stadium.

University of Miami tastes the good and bad

NCAA system called unfair, but no alternatives

Charles Dickens has to be the favorite writer of the University of Miami football team this week.

Truly, this is the best and worst of times for the Hurricanes. They upset Penn State on Saturday and three days later they got put on probation for recruiting violations.

This will spark cries of how unfair the NCAA's system of probation is. For the most part these statements are true. The players are punished for something they did not, in the main part, do.

jeff goodwin

But there is a basic flaw in Dickens' argument. What better solution is there? So far no one has come up with one. Sure it's unfair, but so is life. Anyone who's ever sat through a Nebraska-Oklahoma game knows that.

Nebraska at Oklahoma State. For the second time in three weeks, the Huskers have hit the jackpot and made the boob tube. Actually, one suspects that somebody at ABC has fouled up and mistaken this game for the Oklahoma-Nebraska game. But why look a gift game in the

mouth?

The Cowboys have a surprising 5-2 record and one of those was a seven point loss of San Diego State, a team that creamed Iowa State.

Of course, the other loss was to Colorado. It's difficult to take a team seriously when they've lost to Colorado but, Tom Osborne won't allow the Huskers to have a let-down: **Nebraska 31, Oklahoma State 10.**

Kansas at Iowa State. There are certain mysteries that no one can explain — The Pyramids, Stonehenge, how Iowa State lost to Kansas State.

About the only incentive the Cyclones will need for this game is the knowledge that they're playing a team from Kansas. Look out Dorothy: **Iowa State 28, Kansas 14.**

Oklahoma at Kansas State. A friend of mine actually thinks Kansas State is going to beat Oklahoma. I think my friend is crazy. The only thing that keeps me from calling the Regional Center is the fact that he picked the Wildcats to upset Iowa State last week. But there has to be a limit to his psychic powers.

The Sooners appear to have hit their typical midseason form, having scored 92 points in their last two games while giving up only three. They might not score that many this week but it won't matter: **Oklahoma 35,**

Kansas State 9.

Missouri at Colorado. I said last week that Missouri would be mad after losing to Nebraska. Imagine how mad they'll be after losing to Oklahoma State. Actually they could be quite passive and still wham the Buffs: **Missouri 34, Colorado 10.**

East: Navy 27, Syracuse 24; Penn State 31, North Carolina State 20; Army 21, Holy Cross 17; Pittsburgh 34, Rutgers 7; West Virginia 21, Temple 10.

South: Maryland 17, Tulane 10; North Carolina 17, Clemson 16; Duke 28, Wake Forest 21; Notre Dame 30, Georgia Tech 7; Vanderbilt 17, Kentucky 14; Florida 24, Georgia 21; Texas Tech 21, TCU 16; SMU 33, Rice 14; Texas 24, Houston 14; Arkansas 21, Baylor 14; Mississippi State 14, Southern Mississippi 7; Tennessee 42, Wichita State 7.

Midwest: Iowa 28, Purdue 27; Michigan 31, Illinois 27; Wisconsin 24, Indiana 14; Ohio State 33, Minnesota 21; Northwestern 18, Michigan State 17.

West: California 31, USC 21; Stanford 21, Oregon State 7; UCLA 17, Washington 7; Washington State 38, Oregon 28; BYU 84, Colorado State 7; Wyoming 31, San Diego State 28; Hawaii 45, UTEP 14.

Last week: 19-7, 73.1 percent; Season: 174-67, 72.2 percent.