

Victory a relief . . .

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Seibel was called on again in the second half. After trading punts, Missouri defensive end Bobby Bell recovered a Wilkening fumble at the Nebraska 5-yard line. The Nebraska defense was able to keep the Tigers out of the end zone and Missouri had to settle for a 23-yard Brad Burditt field goal. The score put Missouri back in the lead, 10-6.

Nebraska came back with 2:33 remaining in the quarter to move within one, 10-9, when Seibel hit a 29-yard field goal. Like the half, the third period ended with the Huskers down by one.

"The third quarter, I was a little frustrated," Mathison said. "We'd come down without scoring a touchdown. We'd maybe kick a field goal or come up empty-handed."

The fourth period promised to be exciting from the outset. On the fourth play of the quarter, Nebraska cornerback Dave Burke intercepted a Perry pass and returned it 21 yards before fumbling. The loose ball was recovered by Missouri guard James Dempsey. The chain of events gave the Tigers a first down and kept alive a drive that lead to a 51-yard Burditt field goal. With 9:03 remaining in the game, Missouri was ahead 13-9.

On the next drive, Rozier proved what an asset he is to the Nebraska offense. On the 70-yard end zone march, Rozier ran for 52 yards and caught two passes.

"It's pretty obvious what he means to our football team," Osborne said.

The 70-yard drive ended when fullback Mark Schellen went over the top from the 1-yard line. The touchdown and Seibel extra point put the Huskers in the lead 16-13 with 4:45 remaining in the game.

It looked like Nebraska would safely tuck away a third Big Eight victory when Missouri's next drive was thwarted by a Brent Evans interception. Evans picked off the pass and returned it to the Missouri 19-yard line.

"It was probably the biggest moment I've ever had here," Evans said.

The interception set up another Husker touchdown. This time, Mathison himself carried the ball in from the 16 to put the Huskers ahead 23-13.

With 1:18 left in the game, the Tigers were eyeing the end zone when they mounted a 10-play, 80-yard drive that ended in Gibler's second touchdown catch of the afternoon. Missouri then tried for the two-point conversion, but the pass from quarterback Mike Hyde to James Caver was broken up by Husker end Bill Weber.

With 53 seconds left in the game and the Huskers up by four, 23-19, Missouri tried the onside kick. Nebraska wingback Shane Swanson recovered the kick at the Missouri 49-yard line. The Huskers were then able to run out the clock and hang on to the victory.

"I thought our players showed a lot of courage today," Osborne said. "We obviously made a lot of mistakes and those were enough to get a team beat. I guess the really satisfying thing to me was the way they kept hanging in there and coming back."

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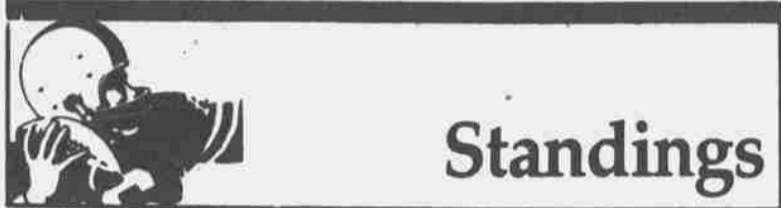
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Standings

Big Eight Football Standings

	Conf.	All Games
Nebraska	3-0-0	6-1-0
Oklahoma	3-0-0	5-2-0
Iowa State	1-1-1	4-2-1
Kansas State	1-1-1	4-2-1
Missouri	0-1-2	3-2-2
Oklahoma State	0-1-2	1-3-2
Kansas	0-2-1	1-4-2
Colorado	0-2-1	1-5-1

Saturday's Results

Iowa State 31, Colorado 14
 Kansas State 26, Kansas 7
 Nebraska 23, Missouri 19
 Oklahoma 27, Oklahoma State 9

Next Saturday's Games

Kansas State at Iowa State
 Missouri at Oklahoma State
 Nebraska at Kansas
 Oklahoma at Colorado

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Staff Photo by Dave Bentz
 Nebraska I-back Mike Rozier (30) finds an opening to run through in Saturday's 23-19 Big Eight Nebraska win against Missouri in Memorial Stadium. Rozier was Nebraska's leading rusher with 139 yards in 17 carries.

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