

Sports

NU offense streaks past gambling Gophers

By Jeff Browne

On the surface, it seemed as though it might have turned out to be a legitimate college football game. After all, Minnesota had a 1-0 record and Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne had warned all week that this team had good offense. The game was to be played indoors at the Hubert Humphrey Metrodome, a first for almost all of the Cornhusker players, and it was a sellout.

But, when all was said and done, the Huskers routed the Gophers 84-13.

"I was surprised by the way the game went," Osborne said. "I felt that if we could win 35-7, we would be doing well."

The score was 35-7 with 8:34 left in the first half, and by then seemingly all semblance of hope must have disappeared among the Gopher faithful.

Nebraska blitzed through the Minnesota defense in the first half for 428 total yards. The Huskers' longest scoring drive of the half was slightly less than two minutes long. They had scored on plays of

68, 27, 70, 41, 12 and 7 yards.

"Minnesota gambled early and blitzed a lot," Osborne said. "They either stopped us short or we broke a big gain."

Osborne also was pleased by the effort of his

second- and third-team players, something he said he was lukewarm about after the game against Wyoming last week.

"We got a consistent effort out of our team," he said. "Our second and third teams got tired, though, because they were in there so much."

Osborne also expressed regret that the outcome was as lopsided as it was.

"I'm really sorry we scored that many points," he said. "I hope the people up here don't think we were trying to run up the score. We just ran our basic plays and it seemed like every time we looked up, we scored."

Many of those basic plays benefited Mike Rozier, who went over the 3,000-yard mark in career yardage with 196 yards on 15 carries. He scored three touchdowns to run his total to nine this season.

Irving Fryar had the biggest day of his career. He caught two passes for 138 yards and two touchdowns and ran for 92 yards on three carries and one touchdown.



Turner Gill in action against Wyoming.

Staff photo by Dave Bantz

Miss Nebraska's finish is second-half thrill

By Jeff Browne

Note: This article contains the opinions of the author.

It was late in the fourth quarter of Nebraska's 84-13 humiliation of the Minnesota Golden Gophers. The Huskers had rolled up more than 700 yards of total offense and had 77 points on the board. Nobody seemed able to stop the Huskers until Kristin Lowenberg entered the game.

Yes, Miss Nebraska threw off the Nebraska scoring machine better than any Golden Gopher could. The scoreboard announcement that Lowenberg finished in the top ten in the Miss America Pageant brought one of the loudest cheers of the second half, causing Nebraska's offense to take a 6-yard motion penalty.

The Gophers, on the other hand, seemed unwilling to get in the Huskers' way.

Because of Minnesota's benevolence and the resulting lopsided outcome, Nebraska's sideline was an interesting study in human behavior.

Minnesota was truly embarrassed by Nebraska, and some of Nebraska's players were genuinely sympathetic towards the Gophers. As Nebraska registered another first down early in the fourth quarter, Nebraska reserve guard Greg Orton put on an apologetic face and shook his head.

Others, like Turner Gill and Irving Fryar, just stood Tom Landry-like on the sideline with their helmets in their hands. They broke that pose only to extend the obligatory congratulations to the most recent Nebraska scorer.

Many Nebraska players spent the second half joking around with sideline personnel and each other. There was much clowning for cameras and yelling to friends in the stands. One fan asked Ricky Simmons why he hadn't scored yet.

"I hardly get to play," Simmons said, referring to Nebraska's 23 minutes of ball possession.

One of the most comical moments came on a third down play in the fourth quarter. Coach Clive Fischer called for the punt team, but Craig Sundberg walked into the end zone for Nebraska's 11th touchdown.

"Let's go for 60," someone yelled. Nobody laughed.

That someone got his wish just a few minutes later as Todd Proffitt returned an interception to the Minnesota 18-yard line.

Proffitt was accompanied by almost the entire team as he raced down the Nebraska sideline toward the Minnesota goal. The fact that he didn't make it made for more joking around among the Huskers.

The officials remained less enthusiastic about the game. With two minutes left, Vance Carlson of the NFL came and his routine of signaling the game over was interrupted when he saw the players still on the field. Then he signaled the game over and the crowd went wild.

Husker spikers take San Diego Classic

Nebraska's volleyball team, ranked 15th in the nation, went West last weekend to gain experience. They came back with a title in what was one of the nation's top volleyball tournaments of the year.

Nebraska defeated Oregon State 15-9, 14-16, 15-7, 10-15, 15-13 in the finals of the San Diego State Collegiate Volleyball Classic to up its season record to 7-1.

"My primary concern was to play some good teams and get experience for our conference schedule later on," Coach Terry Pettit said. "The team played well... we're very glad to have won it."

In pool play Thursday, Nebraska defeated Utah State 15-5, 15-6, 15-8, then split the last two pool matches Friday, beating United States International University 15-13, 15-3, 15-3 and losing to Arizona 8-15, 7-15, 15-11, 15-11, 10-15.

"One disadvantage we had is that most of the teams in this tournament had played 10 or 12 matches, while we had played three," Pettit said.

"That's the problem we ran into when we played Arizona. We weren't used to playing against a team that physically strong."

The Wildcats, ranked No. 9 going into the tournament, lost to Oregon State Saturday, while Nebraska upended third-ranked San Diego State 15-12, 15-11, 10-15, 15-6.

Erin Dean had 17 kills and five service aces in that match, while Julie Hermann had 14 kills, Karen Dahlgren five blocks and Mary Buysee four service aces.

In the final match, Cathy Noth had 16 kills and six blocks, Hermann had 15 kills, four service aces and only one attack error. Annie Adamczak had 10 kills and six blocks, Dahlgren eight blocks and Buysee four service aces.

Noth and Dean were named to the six-person all-tournament team.

"What won it for us was serving," Pettit said. "We just outscored everybody else in the tournament. It made up for the mistakes we were making."

Nebraska's next home match will be Thursday against California, and Friday through Saturday in the Husker Invitational tournament.

Devaney: Hefty wins just happen for UNL

By Jeff Browne

Nebraska's 84-13 trouncing of Minnesota Saturday night was a good example of such a comeback. So was last week's 17-10 drubbing of Wyoming. And who could forget Nebraska's 57-0 and 49-0 routs of the University of New Mexico State at 1970 and 1987. And how about the Huskers' 35-0 win against Utah in 1987?

Nebraska's athletic director Bob Devaney, who admitted the two-semester transfer rule, said the school's rule was not scheduled as proposed.

"It just happens," he said. "Some teams are strong when you schedule them, and then don't turn out that way. But we're not allowed to play teams we can beat."

Devaney said this year's games were scheduled in the fall, and that the Huskers got new schedules through 1988.

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