

Sports

Huskers' 'better half' spurs record-breaking third quarter scoring

By Scott Ahlstrand

Friday night is always movie night for the Nebraska football team.

Last Friday's film was "All The Right Moves," with "Risky Business" star Tom Cruise. On Saturday after playing risky business with the Colorado Buffaloes for a half, Nebraska showed it had the right moves themselves.

After maintaining a narrow 14-12 lead at half-time, Nebraska exploded for 48 third quarter points on its way to a commanding 69-19 victory.

The 48 points Nebraska scored in the third quarter, a Big Eight record, fell only one point short of tying the national mark. Nebraska also broke the record for most points scored in a half by a Big Eight team (55 points), most points scored by one team at Memorial Stadium and most points scored by a Nebraska team against a Big Eight team.

The Cornhuskers entered the game as heavy favorites, but were stymied by the Buffalo's "new look" offense.

"Colorado has always been primarily an I-formation, split-back football team," Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne said. "Instead, they came out with one running-back, two tight ends and two flankers. It took us completely out of the defense we had worked on. We had to try to adjust from the sidelines."

Colorado scored first on a 37-yard field goal by Tom Field. The three-pointer was set up when the Buffaloes recovered a fumble by punter Scott Livingston.

Nebraska came back on its next possession, driving 69 yards in ten plays and scoring on an 11-yard run by Mike Rozier.

Field kicked a field goal to narrow the score to 7-6, but the Huskers came back with another touchdown by Rozier to take a 14-6 lead.

The Buffaloes narrowed the score once again, driving 83 yards for a touchdown. Colorado out-gained Nebraska in the first half — 197 yards to 190 — and had Osborne concerned.

"I thought at half-time that it was anybody's ball game," Osborne said. "I was just as worried as the players."

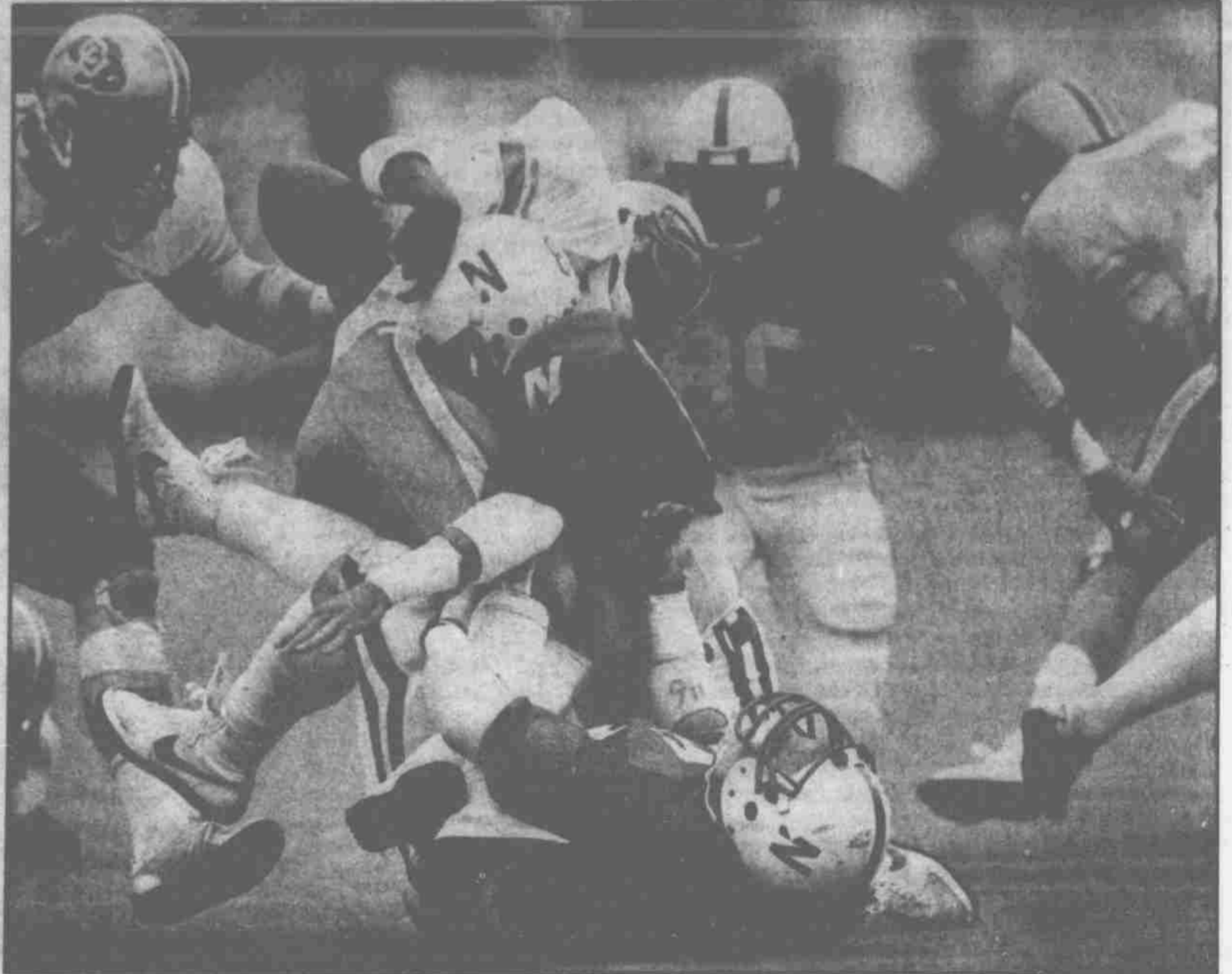
The second half was a complete reversal of the first half for the Huskers. Bugged down by a wet field and the Buffs' ball control offense, Nebraska managed only 14 first half points. But in the third quarter, the Huskers scored on all seven possessions for 48 points.

Nebraska took the second-half kickoff and drove 67 yards in two plays for a touchdown. The touchdown came on 54-yard wingback reverse by Irving Fryar off a pitch play to Rozier. The Husker drive took only 30 seconds.

Nebraska stopped Colorado on its next series and with fourth down and seven yards to go on their own 23-yard line, the Buffs lined up in punt formation. Colorado Coach Bill McCartney called for a fake punt, but cornerback Clyde Riggins bobbled the short snap and gained only a yard. The Huskers took over and scored the second touchdown of the quarter three plays later, when Rozier rambled in from 13 yards out.

Although Colorado failed on its fake punt attempt, Osborne said he understood why McCartney made the call.

"I don't blame Bill (McCartney) for trying the fake punt," Osborne said. "They came to win; they didn't come to play close. I think Bill saw it slipping away and decided to gamble. He realized the



Staff photo by John Zoz

Colorado reserve tailback Shelby Nash coughs up the second Buffalo kickoff fumble during Nebraska's record-setting 48-point third quarter. Making the hit on Nash are Wade Praelner (85) and Chad Daffer (46).

momentum had switched. I'm sure he felt he needed to score on that possession to get back in the game. Sometimes when you gamble it backfires."

The backfire continued for the Buffaloes as the Huskers recovered two Colorado fumbles and picked off a pass enroute to scoring five more third quarter touchdowns. Nebraska scored on: a 17-yard run by Turner Gill; a 34-yard pass from Gill to Fryar; a 18-yard run by Rozier; a 12-yard run by Jeff Smith; and, a pass from Nate Mason to Shane Swanson.

Gill said the scoring barrage took everyone by surprise.

"It all happened so fast. The defense got in there and got the turnovers, and I guess the reverse got everybody excited," he said. "Everything just went our way and we took it in every time."

Osborne said that one negative aspect of the Huskers offensive display would be running up the score, which the Huskers have been criticized for this year.

"I was amazed the way the game broke open. As a result, I suppose we'll have to deal with the 'running up the score' charge again," he said. "Bill is one of my best friends in coaching. I was actually hoping they'd stop us on that fourth quarter drive. But I don't believe in telling the kids not to try."

"We just go out and try to get better each week. If we do that, we'll win our games."

Nebraska's football poster for this season features Fryar, Gill and Rozier exploding out of the Nebraska scoreboard. The poster is titled "The Scoring Explosion" and according to Fryar, is aptly named.

"They didn't make those posters for nothing," Fryar said.

Ruggers win in Kansas

The UNL Rugby Club, ranked No. 1 in the Great Plains Rugby Union, defeated the University of Kansas Jayhawks, ranked No. 1 in the Heart of America Rugby Union Saturday, 11 to 8, in Lawrence, Kan.

The Jayhawks shut UNL out in the first half. Break-away William Henry said knock-ons and "mental lapses" held UNL back as the Jayhawks scored two tries. KU missed the extra points, leaving the score 8-0 at half time.

UNL's eight-man Bob Hansman jumped on a ball in the Jayhawk try zone five minutes into the second half, but Henry missed the point after. Later Henry caught a pitch and broke free, sprinting into the try zone for four more points. Throughout the half, UNL's defense held, even when KU was within yards of the try zone.

Charlie Rothwell scored a field goal half-way through the half, making the score 11-8. UNL never got close enough to score again, but the defense held, and UNL won.

UNL plays the Greater Omaha Area Touring Side Saturday at 1:30 p.m. and UNL's last game is against the Omaha Rugby Club Sunday at 1:30. Both games are on East Campus.

Sports Shorts

TENNIS — Trailing 2-1 after the doubles competition, the UNL women's tennis team rallied behind the victories of its top three singles players to defeat Texas Tech 5-4 in the last match of the fall season.

"We didn't play up to par in doubles," Coach Kathy Hawkins said. "I thought they (Tech) would be strong there. It was nice to see our top three players win after the team was down."

Cari Groce and Liz Mooney won the No. 1 doubles, defeating Pam Booras and Laura Scott 6-3, 3-6, 6-3. But Jamie and Jill Pisarcik lost the No. 2 match 7-6, 6-2, and Lisa Brooks and Jean Halahan dropped the No. 3 match 2-6, 6-2, 6-1.

Jamie Pisarcik then edged Booras 7-5, 7-5 in the No. 1 singles, Mooney crushed Lisa Lebold 6-1, 6-0 and Jill Pisarcik defeated Julie Hrebec 6-4, 6-2 in the No. 2 and 3 singles respectively.

But, Halahan lost to Lisa Roberts 7-5, 6-2 and Brooks lost to Robin Poston 6-2, 6-2, setting up the

deciding match of the meet in the No. 6 singles.

Groce, playing instead of senior Mimi Magiera, topped Leigh Mires 6-1, 6-4 for the Husker victory.

"I just wanted to give her (Groce) some playing time this week," Hawkins said. "There was a lot of pressure going into a match when you know its 4-4, but she came through."

Nebraska finished the fall with a 3-4 dual record. **VOLEYBALL** — Nebraska continued its domination over Big Eight competition by beating Oklahoma 15-11, 15-7, 15-4 in Norman.

Annie Adamczak led Nebraska with 11 kills, Cathy Noth added eight and Sharon Kramer and Karen Dahlgren added seven apiece.

The ninth-ranked Huskers will take a 17-3 record into a home match against Missouri Saturday. Nebraska is the only undefeated team in the Big Eight conference, with one victory over each conference team.



Staff photo by John Zoz

CRYSTAL COLEMAN

Junior Last St. Louis, Ill. Set Husker single game scoring record with 30 points against Oklahoma State last season. Led Nebraska in scoring against southern conference opponents as reserve in 1982.