

Sports

Osborne credits victory to 4th quarter strength

By Mike George

Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne told the Extra Point Club on Monday that good ball control and being the better team in the fourth quarter helped the Huskers gain their 17-3 victory against Oklahoma State Saturday.

Osborne said the Cowboys had "as good a collection of athletes as I have seen in a while. They had a lot of depth in all of the positions."

He said he was especially impressed with the OSU defensive line and the skilled players in the Cowboy offensive backfield.

"We were pleased with the (NU's) defensive effort," Osborne said. "The defense had a tough assignment. They (OSU) try to control the ball much the same way that we do."

Osborne said the Cornhusker offense had an even tougher assignment. The Cowboys blitzed often, he said, and stopped several Nebraska drives. Osborne said the Cowboys' defensive speed and several Husker injuries kept Nebraska in a hole most of the day.

Osborne praised the play of place-kicker Dale Klein, who scored Nebraska's first points on a 36-yard field goal.

"The difference in the game may have been the better kicking coverage," he said.

Nebraska assistant Scott Downing gave the scouting report on

Missouri. Downing said Mizzou's defense played well in the team's 52-7 victory against Colorado Saturday.

"(Linebacker) Tracy Mack is very strong, he seems to get involved on every play," Downing said.

"The defensive line is solid, very quick. Their front line averages 6-4 and has an average weight of 255 pounds. They break to the ball well," Downing said.

Downing said the Tiger offense will provide Nebraska with one of its toughest tests of the season. Andy Hill, George Shorthose and Eric Drain will be threats in the backfield, he said. Drain has yet to be thrown for a loss in 70 carries this season.

"Marlon Adler had a superb game at quarterback Saturday," Downing said. Adler had 151 yards rushing and 51 yards passing in his first start of the season.

Osborne said the Huskers still are plagued by injuries. "We need to get Tom Rathman and the rest of the fullbacks going," he said.

"We're going to need to play a little better up front. That is where games are won and lost."

"We expect a tremendous game," Osborne said about Missouri. "We're going to have to have a great day in order to beat this team."

Osborne said Craig Sundberg and Travis Turner will both see action at quarterback.

Cross country teams fail to conquer champs

Nebraska's cross country teams came and saw the Big Eight's best for the first time last Saturday. Unfortunately, Iowa State and Colorado did the conquering.

Iowa State, the defending Big Eight champions in both men's and women's divisions, ran away with the invitational titles, 33 to 65 in the women's race and 37-52 over Colorado in the men's. Nebraska's men finished third with 69.

Even with the losses, Nebraska coach Jay Dirksen said the meet should help the Huskers since it will also be the site of the Big Eight Conference meet.

"Running up there helped a lot because when we go back we will know what to expect (from the altitude)," Dirksen said.

There were also good performances from Karlene Erickson who finished fourth in the women's race, and Kurt Russel who finished third. The women outlasted Colorado by nine points, but Dirksen said the top Buffalo runner did not compete in the meet.

Dirksen said his team ran well, but didn't have the depth to beat

Iowa State, which returns most of its runners that finished in the nation's top five a year ago. The Cyclone men's team won, despite leaving two of its top five runners at home.

While Bryan Clark, Laura Wight, Jill Noel, Mary Amen and Tom Hoffman all finished in the top 20, the day's best long-distance performance award had to go to Hoffman. The senior from Exeter finished 17th, towed off, jumped on a plane, got into a three-piece suit and arrived with four minutes to spare at the half time ceremonies at UNL's Homecoming game against Oklahoma State. Hoffman won first runner-up honors in the student elections for Homecoming royalty.

The Huskers will split squads for the first time this season this weekend, with the men going to Ames for the Iowa State Invitational and the women heading south for the Arkansas Invitational.



Paul Gerni began playing pool in a church recreation center when he was 6 years old. Now he's a nine-time world champion, trick shooter working on his 10th consecutive title. Gerni doesn't drink, gamble, swear, or smoke, except when he has a "stick" in his hand and a challenge to be met. Gerni also holds the world's record for shooting 21 balls in at once. The Nebraska Union RecRoom sponsored Gerni's trick shots Monday in the union main lounge.

Mark Davis/Daily Nebraskan

Rasmussen forgot Smith

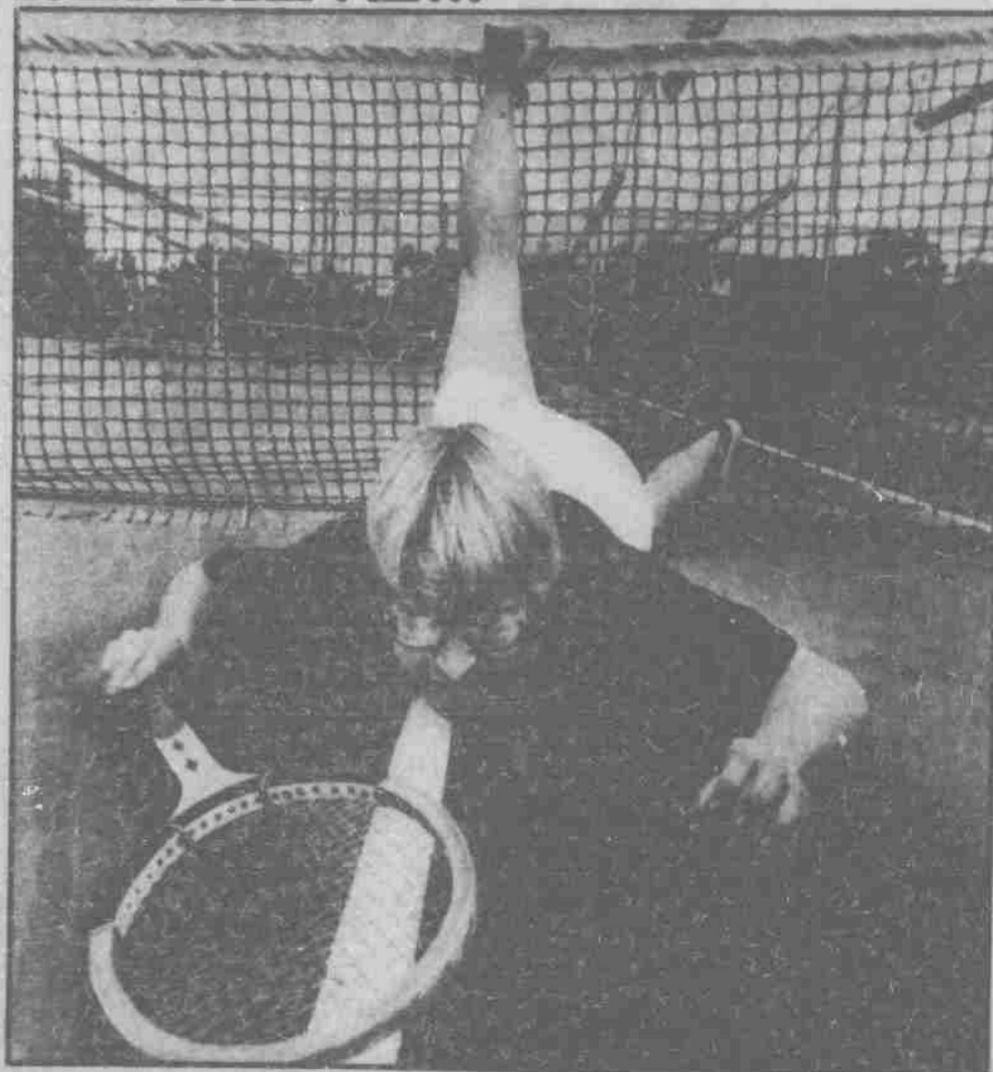
Jim Rasmussen:

You forgot one item in your article about why Nebraska lost to Syracuse (Daily Nebraskan, Oct. 5), and I think a major one.

One player with a number 28 didn't suit up. His name is Jeff Smith. He's a slashing, strong type of runner who would have given added confidence to the offense. However, that's what football is all about. I think not having him in the backfield at Syracuse hurt, and quite possibly very badly.

Richard Jenkinson
Lincoln

REPRIEVE...



Joel Sartore/Daily Nebraskan

As promised in his Monday column DN senior reported Scott "The Schwede" Ahlstrand did indeed show up at the East Campus courts for his 3 p.m. match with UNL No. 1 player Jamie Pisarcik. However, the wet weather forced the women's team inside to practice for its invitational this weekend. The battle of the sexes was thus postponed.

"Darn," Ahlstrand said. "I brought my racket and my warm-ups. I could have won a game...maybe two games."

Ahlstrand's confidence wavered again when he found out the game...maybe two games. A last minute replacement was

sought, but Martina Navratilova had something silly to do like practice like for some \$150,000 tournament next month. Undaunted, Ahlstrand took the court anyway to dust off his game (he was a member of Lincoln Northeast's state champion team way back when). Here, he practices his victorious leap over the net.

played at a later date.

