

Tenacious Tigers thwart Husker offense

By Jeff Korbelik
Staff Reporter

COLUMBIA, Mo. — Emotion can sometimes dictate the outcome of a football game.

Just ask Nebraska coach Tom Osborne, whose team escaped Faurt Field Saturday with a 28-20 win over the Missouri Tigers.

"Defensively they played with emotion," Osborne said. "We didn't sustain our blocks and we weren't throwing very well."

Missouri entered the game with an 0-5 record, while the Cornhuskers were 4-1. Osborne said earlier in the week that the Tigers were a much better team than their record indicated.

Husker safety Chris Carr agreed. "You've got to be a fool to come down here and not expect a dogfight," he said. "The older guys told us we were going into a barnburner."

Osborne said the combination of Missouri's defense, penalties, and being outplayed led to his team's lack of scoring. Nebraska's offense managed only one touchdown besides kicker Dale Klein's record-breaking performance of seven field goals.

"I don't think we were very sharp, and I'll have to take the credit," Osborne said. "I didn't think we would have another emotional let down like New Mexico, but we did today."

The Huskers rolled up 383 yards of total offense, 335 on the ground. I-back Doug DuBose rushed for a career high 199 yards on 29 carries and scored the Huskers' only touchdown on a 22-yard run in the fourth quarter. DuBose also blamed Nebraska's difficulty scoring on a stingy Missouri defense and Husker blunders.

"Mistakes will stop an offense," DuBose said. "Their defense geared down when we moved inside the 30."

On eight of the 15 Husker offensive series, Nebraska moved the ball inside the Missouri 30-yard line. On seven of those possessions, Klein kicked field goals. The other one ended with DuBose's touchdown.

Including the extra point, Klein accounted for 22 points to break the Big Eight record for most points scored by a kicking game. Klein tied an NCAA record for most field goals in a game and has extended his streak to nine consecutive field goals.

"I knew if I tried to get that first one I'd have a good day," Klein said.

Except for Klein and DuBose, the Husker offense faltered. The offense only converted three of 16 third downs and quarterbacks McCathorn Clayton and Travis Turner completed three of 15 passes for 63 yards. Clayton also threw two interceptions. Part of the problem stemmed from pass protection, said Nebraska offensive line coach

Milt Tenopir.

Tenopir said the line was without center Bill Lewis and guard Stan Parker because of injuries, and guard Brian Blankenship played with an injured shoulder.

"We were really hurting at guard," Tenopir said. "Brian shouldn't have played, but he did well enough for as long as he played."

Tenopir said he usually rotates Parker, Blankenship and John McCormick at guard, but the injury situation forced him out of the rotation.

"We had a continuity problem and we were a little shaky today," he said. The Husker defense made up for the lack of offensive scoring punch. Even though Missouri rolled up 339 yards total offense, the defense came through in crucial situations.

Monster back Brian Washington and cornerback Carr intercepted Tiger quarterback Warren Seitz's passes. Washington's interception early in the game set up Klein's first field goal, a 32-yarder.

Reserve linebacker Kevin Parsons was the Huskers' leading tackler with 14.

Defensive lineman Jim Skow, who led the Husker pass runs with four sacks for losses totalling 33 yards, praised the Tiger's tenacity.

"They always seem to play Nebraska really tough," Skow said.

Klein boots 22 points, sets record

By Mike Reilley
Senior Reporter

COLUMBIA, Mo. — He hasn't been tabbed the "Scoring Explosion," but Nebraska placekicker Dale Klein did more than his share of damage in Nebraska's 28-20 win over Missouri.

Klein, a junior from Seward, entered the Cornhuskers' game against the Tigers with only three career field goals in six attempts.

But at Faurt Field on Saturday, Klein more than doubled his previous career total. He booted seven field

goals and added an extra point to account for 22 of the Huskers' 28 points.

That total set a new Big Eight record for most points scored kicking in a game. The old mark of 21 was set by Kansas' Bruce Kallmeyer in 1983.

Klein also became the first player in NCAA history to kick seven field goals in as many attempts during one game. Four players previously kicked six-of-six.

Klein said he knew he broke the NCAA mark when the ball sailed through the uprights from 43 yards out

with 4:16 to play.

"I was thinking about it when I kicked the other ones," he said. "The P.A. announcer said that I had tied and broke the Big Eight record (earlier). The people over on the sidelines kept asking what the NCAA record was."

Setting the national mark "sure beats going 0-for-3," Klein said. After missing his first three attempts this season, Klein kicked two field goals in the Huskers' 34-24 win over Oklahoma State last week.

Please see KLEIN on 8

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