



Doug Carroll/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska's Matè Borgogno throws to first after forcing Oklahoma State's Manny Cervantes out at second during a doubleheader Sunday.

## OSU uses long ball to take 3 from Huskers

By Steve Sipple  
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Oklahoma State relief pitcher Bryan Gore was the variable Sunday in a doubleheader where multiple runs were the constant.

Gore, a junior left-hander, entered the first game against Nebraska with one out in the fourth inning and the Huskers leading 6-5. But Gore allowed only four runs and three hits the rest of the way, two after the game was already settled, and Oklahoma State came back to beat Nebraska 14-10 before 2,851 at Buck Beltzer Field.

Sunday's attendance, along with the 2,757 at Saturday's doubleheader, established a record for a two-day series at Buck Beltzer Field. The old record was set against Oklahoma in 1983.

The record crowds also watched Oklahoma State pound six home runs in the second game in its 17-5 rout. The Cowboys' sweep, combined with a split with the Huskers Saturday, raised their record to 48-3 overall and 15-1 in the Big Eight. Nebraska fell to 41-16 and 8-8.

In the first game, Nebraska came back from 1-0, 3-1 and 5-3 deficits to take an 8-5 lead with a five-run fourth. After Vinny Limon's run-scoring double gave the Huskers a 6-5 lead, Gore replaced starting pitcher Tom Keffury.

Nebraska scored another run on Gore's wild pitch and one more on shortstop Monty Fariss' error, but Gore retired 15 of the next 16 Husker batters before he hit Shawn Buchanan

with a pitch with two out in the ninth. Tim Pettengill followed with a two-run home run, his fourth of the year, to complete the scoring.

Gore struck out Marcell Johnson to end the game and raise his record to 7-0. He struck out nine and walked only two.

Gore's ability to stop Nebraska from keeping pace with the Cowboys' explosive offense was the key to the game, Nebraska coach John Sanders said.

"We knew the game was going to go back and forth," he said. "When we got up 8-5, it's a situation where we're a gapper or a hit away from giving ourselves a chance to put them in a worse situation. So that was the key to the game. That was the tale of the tape."

While Gore was stifling the Huskers, Oklahoma State's offense continued to roll. The Cowboys, ranked No. 1 in the Collegiate Baseball/ESPN national Top 30, responded to Nebraska's fourth-inning burst with a four-run fifth to take a 9-8 lead that they would never relinquish.

Husker starter John Lepley, a senior left-hander, began the fifth by issuing walks to outfielder Brad Beanblossom and All-America third baseman Robin Ventura. John Kohli relieved Lepley and his wild pitch moved the runners to second and third.

Fariss' sacrifice fly scored one run, and one out later, second baseman Mitch Simon lined an RBI single. Designated hitter Adam Smith then smacked a two-run home run, an

opposite field blast over the left-field fence, to give the Cowboys a 9-8 lead.

Smith's homer was his 12th of the season.

The Cowboys struck for two more runs in the seventh before putting Nebraska away with a three-run ninth. Tony Kounas led off the final inning with a 410-foot home run over the centerfield fence. The blast was his seventh.

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—Gore

Meanwhile, Gore was holding Nebraska to one hit — Ken Ramos' sixth-inning single — before Pettengill's home run.

Sanders said Gore kept the Huskers off-balance with a mixture of curveballs and fastballs.

"He's a curve ball-type guy with good in-out fastball location," Sanders said. "He did exactly that."

Gore said the Cowboys were motivated by Nebraska's 7-6 win in Saturday's first game.

"Yeah, that's kind of a touchy subject," Gore said. "We go out and

try to win each game we play. We think we're better than each team we play. We don't think we should lose at all."

But the Cowboys did lose Saturday, thanks largely to Husker Pat Leinen's complete-game seven-hitter. Oklahoma State coach Gary Ward singled out Gore and Leinen for their performances. The two left-handers, he said, were effective while most pitchers struggled in the high-scoring series.

"I think the people that step in and stop that (the scoring) are the people you recognize first," Ward said. "Every inning was an adventure in this series. In their cases, it was hard to get anything against either of them."

In Sunday's second game, Oklahoma State ended any Husker hopes of gaining a split by jumping to 12-3 lead after the second inning.

Ventura began the onslaught with the first of his two home runs in the game. It came off Nebraska starter Phil Goguen after Beanblossom's leadoff single. Fariss followed with his 23rd homer before Smith's 400-foot shot gave the Cowboys a 4-0 lead.

Goguen left in the second after Jeromy Burritz' two-run, bases-loaded double made it 6-0. Kohli came in and walked Beanblossom before Ventura launched a three-run home run over the centerfield fence. The homer was his 21st of the year and fourth of the series. Manny Cervantes capped the eight-run uprising with his fifth homer.

The Cowboys scored two runs in the fourth and three runs in the fifth to put Nebraska away. Ray Ortiz hit his second home run in the fifth.

Ventura, who hit in a collegiate-record 59-straight games last year, finished the game with two hits in four at bats, while driving in five runs and scoring two others.

Nebraska's Bruce Wobken, who entered Sunday's doubleheader with a .209 batting average and two career home runs, pounded a two-out, three-run shot over the left-field fence in the second inning. Wobken also hit a solo homer in the first game.

Joe Federico hit 12th homer of the season in the fourth.

Federico and Wobken also homered in the first game, along with Bobby Benjamin. Benjamin's shot was his 15th.

A 25 mph wind blowing out of the ballpark was part of the reason for the Cowboys' home run barrage, but not the sole reason, Sanders said.

"You know as well as I do they had some legitimate bombs that would be out on any day," he said.

Pat Hope, 6-0, got the win for the Cowboys. Goguen, 2-1, picked up the loss.

Sanders said losing three of four to the defending Big Eight champions was frustrating, especially at home. The Huskers had entered the series with a 23-game home win streak.

"It's not exactly what we like to do, expect to do or want to do, that's for sure," he said. "If your asking me if I'm happy, I'd say no, we're not happy with going 1-3 at home."