

Big plays power NU past Falcons

By Kyle Schurman
Staff Reporter

Nebraska's junior varsity football team wasn't aiming for the long drive Friday, but it had enough big plays to shoot down the Air Force junior varsity 35-16 at Memorial Stadium.

Air Force ran 12 more plays than Nebraska in the first half, and held the football for 5:18 longer than the Cornhuskers. Nebraska led at halftime 21-3.

Nebraska had three big plays in the first half to account for its three touchdowns:

-- Tyrone Legette returned a kick-off 94 yards for a score;

-- Quarterback Mike Grant hit Brad Hays with a 38-yard pass to set up a one-yard touchdown run by Grant;

-- I-back Scott Baldwin's 63-yard run down the right side.

Nebraska's longest scoring drive of the afternoon lasted six plays.

Nebraska, 3-0, broke a two-game losing streak against Air Force, 2-2, before a crowd of 5,638. Husker coach Shane Thorell said the offense players can perform better, but "they got the job done" against Air Force.

Thorell said he was very pleased with the Husker defense's play against Air Force's wishbone. The Falcons gained 136 yards rushing and 241 total yards.

Air Force began the second half when quarterback Donald Gray, who led the Falcons in rushing with 68 yards, scored when he ran 64 yards through the middle of the Husker defense to pull Air Force to within 21-9. On the Falcons' next possession Gray hit Jason Crandall with a 30-yard scoring strike, and Air Force trailed 21-16 with 10:12 left in the third period.

The Husker defense steadied itself, and Air Force gained only 33 yards during the rest of the game.

"Mentally, we let down a little bit early in the third quarter," Thorell said. "It was good to see the defense rally after that, though."

Thorell said strong safety Steve Carmer did a good job of stopping the run, along with defensive linemen Jamie Liewer, Matt Hilman, and Jeremiah Clark, and linebackers

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Doug Carroll/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska quarterback Steve Taylor looks for running room during the Cornhusker's 63-10 win against Kansas Saturday in Lawrence, Kan. Taylor passed for 78 yards and rushed for 43 more to become the 5th Husker quarterback to exceed the 4,000-yard mark for total offense in a career.

Nebraska rolls over KU, look forward to OSU test

By Mike Kluck
Staff Reporter

LAWRENCE, Kan. -- After rolling to an easy 63-10 win against Kansas Saturday at Memorial Stadium, Nebraska coaches and players had next week's game against Oklahoma State in mind.

The 8th-ranked Cornhuskers, 5-1, tried to improve on last week's 48-6 victory against Nevada-Las Vegas and prepare themselves for next Saturday's showdown with the 5-0 and 13th-ranked Cowboys. Oklahoma State defeated Colorado 41-21 Saturday in Boulder, Colo. Huskers defeat Jayhawks 63-10.

"We came back strong," Nebraska quarterback Steve Taylor said. "We put some points on the board like we wanted to. We did well and we're proud of ourselves."

Taylor said Oklahoma State will provide a more-formidable challenge than Kansas.

"If we play well we feel we can beat any team in the nation," Taylor said. "We haven't reached our full potential yet. They (Oklahoma State) are playing very well. They're good, but I think we're also good."

Taylor recorded 78 yards passing, including a touchdown strike, and added 43 rushing yards, including two touchdowns, on Saturday. His 121-yard offensive performance gave him 4,034 career offensive yards, making him the 5th Husker

quarterback to exceed 4,000 yards. Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said the Huskers will find out how good they are next week against the Cowboys.

'I thought we played a little bit better today but we'll find out next week whether we're any good or not.'

-- Osborne

"Oklahoma State has a great football team and they obviously are very good," Osborne said. "I thought we played a little bit better today but we'll find out next week whether we're any good or not."

Osborne said he was happy with the way his team responded to last week's performance, an effort he criticized early last week.

"This is a hard game to play and a hard game to get ready for," Osborne said. "I thought our players did a much better job this week than they did last week, particularly offensively. We were pretty sharp

See HUSKERS on 8

Osborne pleased with improvement

By Nick Hodge
Staff Reporter

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said Sunday he was a lot happier with the Cornhuskers' 63-10 win against Kansas Saturday than he was after last week's win against Nevada-Las Vegas.

After the Huskers defeated UNLV 48-6 last Saturday at Memorial Stadium, Osborne said he was not pleased by the overall performance of Nebraska's offense.

He said the offense was more effective against the Jayhawks, especially

since 59 players from the 60-man travel roster played during the 1st half. The only Husker who didn't play in the 1st half was punter John Kroeker.

"Overall, the offense's execution -- considering the fact that we interchanged our offensive linemen a lot and played three quarterbacks almost equally and did a lot of things that would lead to a lack of continuity -- was pretty good," Osborne said.

Nebraska scored on its 1st six possessions against Kansas, including 28 1st-quarter points. The Huskers racked up a season-high 665 yards of total offense.

Osborne, who said after the UNLV

win that the blocking was the worst he'd seen from his team all season, was glad to see improvement in the blocking against Kansas.

"We blocked better," Osborne said. "We blocked pretty effectively, but we can do better."

Osborne said Nebraska played well against Kansas' offense. He said the only breakdown occurred when Kansas quarterback Kelly Donohoe hit wide receiver Willie Vaughn for an 89-yard touchdown pass with 3:53 remaining in the 1st half.

"Defensively, I thought we played fairly well," he said. "They weren't able to mount any consistent drives

against us, but they were able to pick up a couple first downs and, of course, that long pass to Vaughn was a shame.

"Take away the long touchdown pass and we probably had a pretty good defensive day."

Osborne said he was pleased that the kicking game was one-sided in favor of Nebraska. The Huskers had 193 return yards, including 121 from punt returns. Kansas had 141 return yards -- all coming on eight kickoff returns. Husker split end Morgan Gregory returned a punt 64 yards for a touchdown, while wingback Richard

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NU volleyball team wins despite poor game

By Jeff Apel
Senior Reporter
and
Kyle Schurman
Staff Reporter

Nebraska volleyball coach Terry Pettit was overcome with anger after the Cornhuskers defeated Colorado 15-11, 15-9, 13-15, 15-7 Saturday night at the NU Coliseum.

Pettit said he was upset with the victory because Nebraska didn't play well. He said the Huskers were disorganized and didn't block well on defense.

"I didn't think we played very good," Pettit said. "Maybe my feelings will change after I watch the film, but I just don't think we played very good."

Pettit said he was upset particularly because the Huskers, who raised their record to 13-3 overall and 2-1 in the Big Eight, "backed off" when they lost the 3rd game.

Nebraska rallied from a 7-4 deficit in the 3rd game by using a kill by senior setter Lori Endicott to tie the score 9-9, but Colorado reeled off five-straight points then used an ace serve by setter Jennifer Sherlock for the 15-13 victory.

"I think we lost our intensity," Pettit said. "The only thing we can hope is we get it back."

Nebraska middle blocker Carla Baker said the Huskers suffered a mental breakdown because of a lack

of communication. She said Nebraska must communicate if it's going to maintain a high intensity level.

Baker said the breakdown wasn't as bad as it appeared.

"Sometimes things were disorganized," Baker said, "but we stuck it through."

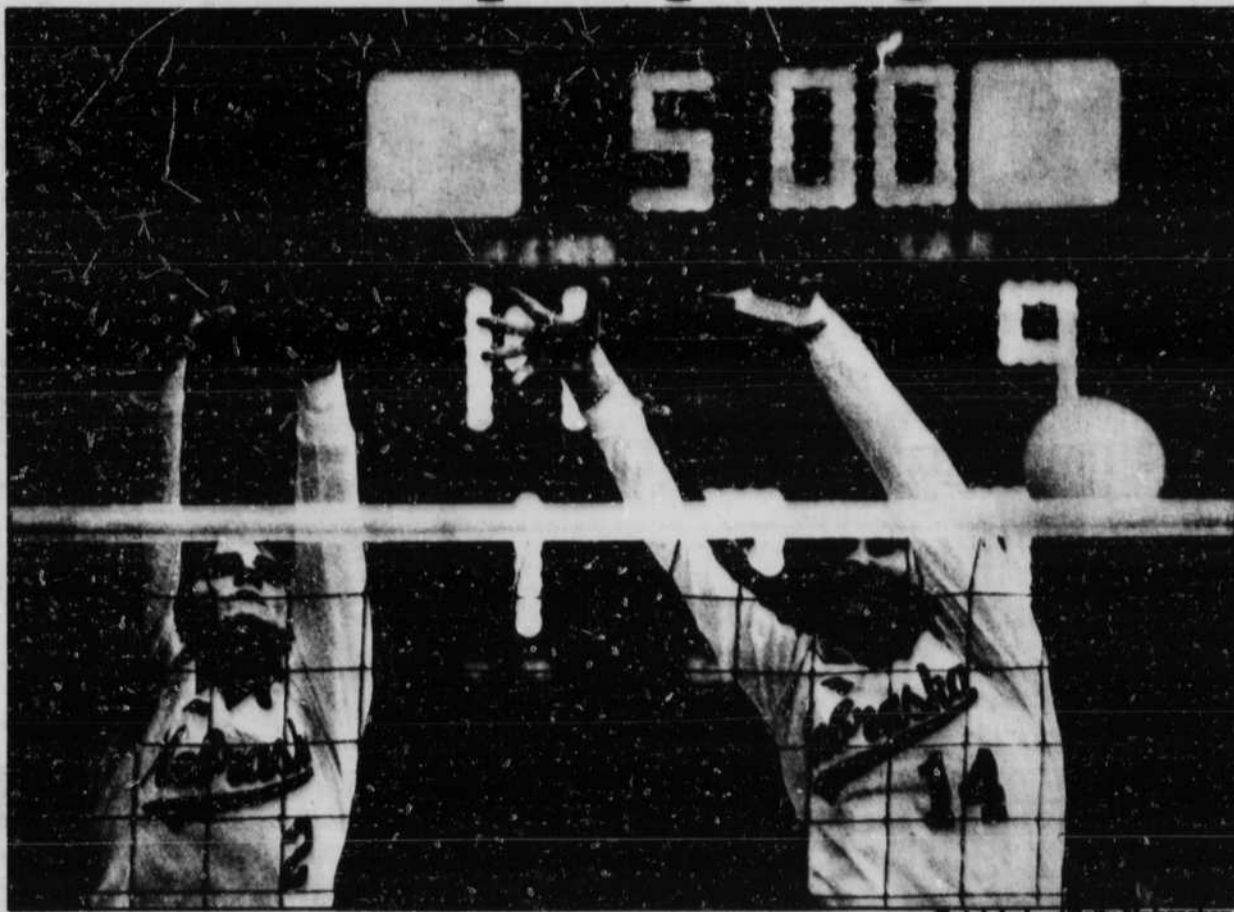
Colorado volleyball coach Brad Saindon said fatigue and a lack of preparation bothered the Buffaloes. He said Colorado was tired because it was playing its 4th-straight road match and was hindered because he spent the entire week preparing for Kansas State. Colorado, which dropped to 10-8 overall and 2-2 in the Big Eight, defeated the Wildcats Thursday night in Manhattan, Kan.

"I hadn't seen Nebraska so we didn't know how to prepare for them," Saindon said. "I put more emphasis on Kansas State than Nebraska."

Nebraska took a 9-4 lead in the 1st game on a kill by middle blocker Virginia Stahr, then held off a Colorado rally by using two Buffalo errors, an ace serve by specialist Jarilyn Obermiller, two kills by middle blocker Linda Barsness and a kill by outside hitter Val Novak to post the 15-10 victory.

The Huskers jumped to a 7-0 lead in the 2nd game, then scored the final three points of the match to register

See VOLLEYBALL on 8



Butch Ireland/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska's Lori Endicott (left) and Virginia Stahr attempt to block a Colorado spike during the Cornhusker's 15-11, 15-9, 13-15, 15-7 win against the Buffaloes Saturday night at the NU Coliseum.