

NU expresses mixed emotions about rout

By Mike Kluck
Staff Reporter

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Nebraska's Steve Taylor would have preferred to stay in Lincoln Saturday instead of traveling here to face Kansas State.

Taylor, the Cornhuskers' All-Big Eight quarterback and Heisman Trophy candidate, helped the 7-1 Huskers to a 48-3 victory against Kansas State at KSU Stadium.

"I'd rather be home scrimmaging, to be honest about it, or have a bye," Taylor said. "It's really hard to get up for a game like this, but you have to come out and play it. We respect them, but it's really hard emotionally to get up for a game like that, especially when you're on the road."

Taylor, who had five touchdowns — two passing and three rushing — in Nebraska's 63-42 victory against Oklahoma State a week ago, had one score against the Wildcats. Taylor passed to senior wingback Dana Brinson for a 52-yard touchdown with 9:19 left in the second quarter. That touchdown capped a two-play, 63-yard drive that lasted 34 seconds and gave

the Huskers a 24-3 lead.

But not everyone on Nebraska's roster expressed Taylor's sentiments. Husker kicker Gregg Barrios said he treats each game like an Oklahoma game because he's battling Chris Drennan for a starting job. On Saturday, Barrios was perfect on six extra points and kicked two second-quarter field goals — one from 36 yards the other from 37. Barrios' second field goal came with 4:28 left and gave the Huskers a 27-3 lead.

"I'm preparing for every game because me and Chris Drennan are at battle," Barrios said. "Every game's an Oklahoma game."

Husker senior I-Back Tyrese Knox said it was hard to prepare for Kansas State. Knox rushed for four touchdowns, including the Huskers' final three scores, on runs of two, six, two and 26 yards. Knox finished the day with 108 rushing yards on 19 carries.

"I really felt it was an OK performance today," Knox said. "I really wanted to have longer runs than what I had today but overall we got the win and had a pretty good day, I thought."

Husker junior I-back Ken Clark also had a productive day. Clark rushed for 225 yards on 20 attempts and scored a touchdown — a 32-yard run on the Husker's opening drive. That jaunt capped an 11-play, 80-yard drive that lasted 3:57.

Clark rushed for 256 yards last week. The last Husker running back to rush for more than 200 yards in back-to-back games was Heisman Trophy winner Mike Rozier in 1983. But it wasn't the Huskers' offense that Nebraska coach Tom Osborne praised Saturday. Instead, he had special words for Nebraska's defense, which was criticized last Saturday for allowing the Cowboys' 42 points.

"I was particularly proud of the defense," Osborne said. "I think Kansas State has a good offensive team and we were able to hold them to three points. We gave up some yards and I thought their quarterback threw well and their receivers did a good job and we managed to keep them out of the end zone. It was probably one of our better defensive days."

Kansas State scored on its first possession. On the Wildcats' first play, sophomore quarter-

back Carl Straw completed a 38-yard pass to junior wide receiver Greg Washington.

After Kansas State moved to the Huskers' 33-yard line, a holding penalty pushed them back to the 43. The Wildcats' then settled for a school-record, 61-yard field goal by senior Mark Porter. The kick was one yard short of tying a Big Eight record.

On the Wildcats' second possession, they moved from their 25-yard line to Nebraska's 27 before sophomore strong safety Reggie Cooper intercepted Straw's pass on the Huskers' 1-yard line.

Kansas State moved from its 20-yard line to the Nebraska 30 on its third possession, but Husker senior linebacker LeRoy Etienne sacked Straw on fourth and 10 for a five-yard loss.

The Wildcats recorded 140 yards of offense in the first half but were held to 59 yards in the second while moving into Husker territory once. For the game Kansas State managed 145 yards passing and 44 rushing.

Nebraska, meanwhile, rolled up 622 total yards, including 479 rushing and 143 passing.

UNO's lack of practice helps Huskers win game

By Kyle Schurman
Staff Reporter

Four-and-one-half hours of practice time was not enough for the University of Nebraska at Omaha junior varsity football team to upset Nebraska.

Just about, though.

UNO trailed the Cornhusker junior varsity 16-14 after three quarters before Nebraska cruised to a 36-14 win Friday, with a 20-point fourth quarter at Memorial Stadium.

UNO does not have enough players to allow its junior varsity team to practice separately, as Nebraska's does. So the Maverick junior varsity practiced together just 45 minutes each day for six days prior to the game.

Maverick coach Bruce Southwell said he was pleased with his team's performance considering what little practice time it had and because it lost a couple of players to the varsity who normally would have played for the junior varsity. "We played very well," Southwell said. "We did show some very good potential for our program. We can't be satisfied with losing, but we showed some people we can play."

The Mavericks wasted little time in showing the Nebraska defense that it came to play. Running back Bruce Martins broke the second play from scrimmage for a 72-yard run to the Husker 5-yard line. Eric Hill scored on fourth-and-goal from the 1, giving the Mavericks a 7-0 lead.

Nebraska, 4-0, struck back on

its next drive. Quarterback Mike Grant had runs of 27 and 13 yards, which set up his 43-yard touchdown run, tying the score at 7-7. Grant ran for 133 yards and two touchdowns, and threw for 60 yards and two more touchdowns.

"We kind of put it right back in their face," Grant said of his first touchdown run. "It was good so the defense wasn't down 7-0 and had to go right back out there."

Husker coach Shane Thorell said Grant played well but can still improve.

"(Grant) has a lot of ability that hasn't been shown yet," Thorell said. "He can play better than he did. He's going to get better."

Thorell said that before the game, he wanted Nebraska to cut down on its mental mistakes and penalties. However, a holding penalty on Nebraska's second possession nullified a touchdown run. Bob Hoover kicked a 35-yard field goal, though, and Nebraska led for the first time, 10-7, early in the second quarter.

The Huskers, who had averaged 13 penalties for 122 yards a game in their first three wins, committed nine penalties for 82 yards against the Mavericks.

Nebraska's Tyrone Legette intercepted a pass two possessions later, and returned it to the UNO 11-yard line. Grant hit Jon Bostick with a 7-yard touchdown pass on third down, giving Nebraska a 16-7 lead.

UNO then drove from its 30-yard line to the Husker 9-yard line with 1:01 left in the half. But Nebraska linebacker Paul Wight-



Eric Gregory/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska junior varsity I-back Scott Baldwin tries to elude the grasp of University of Nebraska at Omaha's Chris Grass during the Cornhuskers' 36-14 win Friday at Memorial Stadium. The win improved Nebraska's record to 4-0.

man sacked UNO quarterback Dan Sellon, forcing a field goal attempt. Abel Fernandez's kick sailed wide to the left.

"It would've been nice to get that field goal," Southwell said. "We still felt we were in the game, though."

Nebraska tried a fake punt late in the third quarter, but UNO stopped Husker fullback Jerry Kleidosty inches short of the first down. UNO then drove from the Husker 40-yard line to the 3, where Martins scored on a fourth-down

run, pulling the Mavericks to 16-14 with four seconds left in the third period.

"Legette came up with another big kickoff return and he had a nice interception return for us," Thorell said. "He's probably the defensive guy that helped us the most."

UNO quarterback Marty Kracl, who entered the game at halftime, could not bring the Mavericks back as the Husker defense shut down the Maverick passing game. UNO completed seven of 17 passes for 69 yards, and had three inter-

cepted.

Grant hit Bostick with a 47-yard pass and Tom Werner caught a 22-yard pass from Bart James to account for Nebraska's final 14 points.

Grant said Nebraska seemed to wear down the Maverick defense. The Huskers gained 369 yards, including 178 in the final quarter.

"In the fourth quarter, (UNO's defense) were getting really tired and they weren't talking as much or playing as emotional as they had been," Grant said.

Husker defense tames Wildcats 48-3

By Nick Hodge
Staff Reporter

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said Sunday that the Cornhusker defense had perhaps their best performance of the season in Nebraska's 48-3 victory over Kansas State Saturday in Manhattan, Kan., at KSU Stadium.

Last week, Nebraska beat Oklahoma State 63-42 and the Husker defense gave up more than 400 yards of total offense. Meanwhile, Kansas State lost to Oklahoma 70-24, but the Wildcats piled up 419 total yards — 347 through the air.

Osborne said most of Kansas State's yards came after the game's outcome had been decided, but said the Wildcats still had the ability to move the ball offensively. He said the Nebraska coaching staff wanted to

see the defense stop Kansas State better.

"We really wanted to see our defense start shutting someone down a little bit," Osborne said.

'We really wanted to see our defense start shutting someone down a little bit'

—Osborne

The Husker defense would have notched their first shutout of the season without the 25-mph wind blowing in Manhattan.

After Nebraska took the game's opening kickoff and scored, Kansas State quarterback Carl Straw hit wide receiver Greg Washington on a 38-yard pass to the Husker 33-yard line on the Wildcats' first offensive play.

Nebraska's defense stiffened and forced Kansas State into a fourth-and-20 at Nebraska's 43-yard line. With the wind at his back, Wildcat senior kicker Mark Porter connected on a 61-yard field goal, one yard short of a Big Eight record, to cut the Husker's lead to 7-3 with more than 10 minutes remaining. Kansas State would not score again.

The Nebraska defense limited Kansas State to just 189 total yards — 44 rushing and 145 passing. Meanwhile, the Husker offense racked up

its fourth straight game of gaining more than 600 yards — rolling to 622.

Osborne said he was pleased with the overall effort of Nebraska's defense because second team players played almost half of the game.

Osborne said the Wildcats' score was set up by the long pass play when the receiver was well covered and was followed by the "horrendously long field goal."

"They really didn't mount very many serious scoring threats during the day," Osborne said.

Osborne said the Husker defense still made some mistakes against the Wildcats, but part of that was related to some different offensive looks presented by Kansas State.

Osborne said he was pleased because the Husker defense was able to force three Wildcat turnovers.

NU Rugby Club finishes season

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Rugby Club won two games and lost two while finishing in fourth place at last weekend's 11-team Jackalope Tournament at Laramie, Wyo.

The Cornhuskers, who finished their fall season with 4-5 record, lost to eventual runner-up Colorado State 15-3 after being tied 3-3 at halftime of the first-round game.

After two straight wins against Metro State of Denver, Nebraska suffered a 12-3 loss to Air Force after trailing 6-3 at halftime. Air Force's final score came during the game's final minutes.

The Huskers will begin their spring schedule in March.