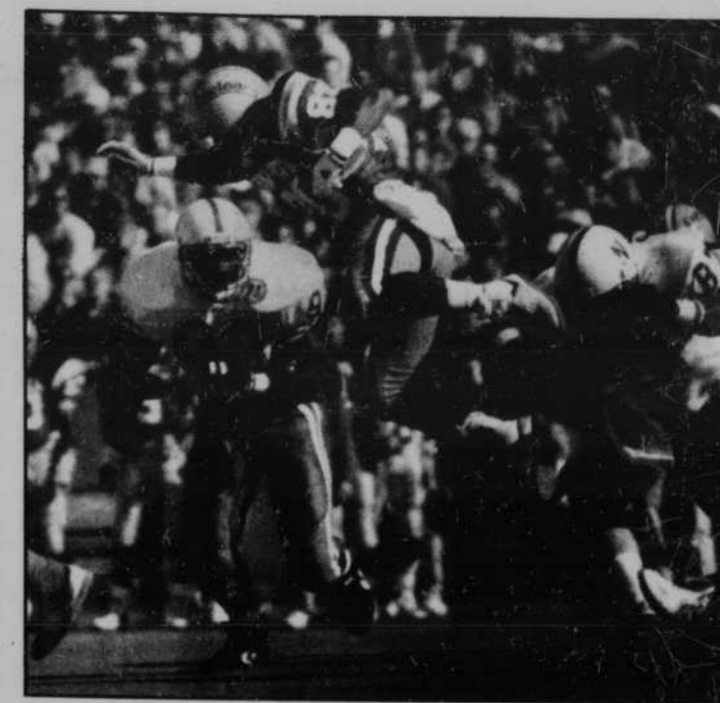
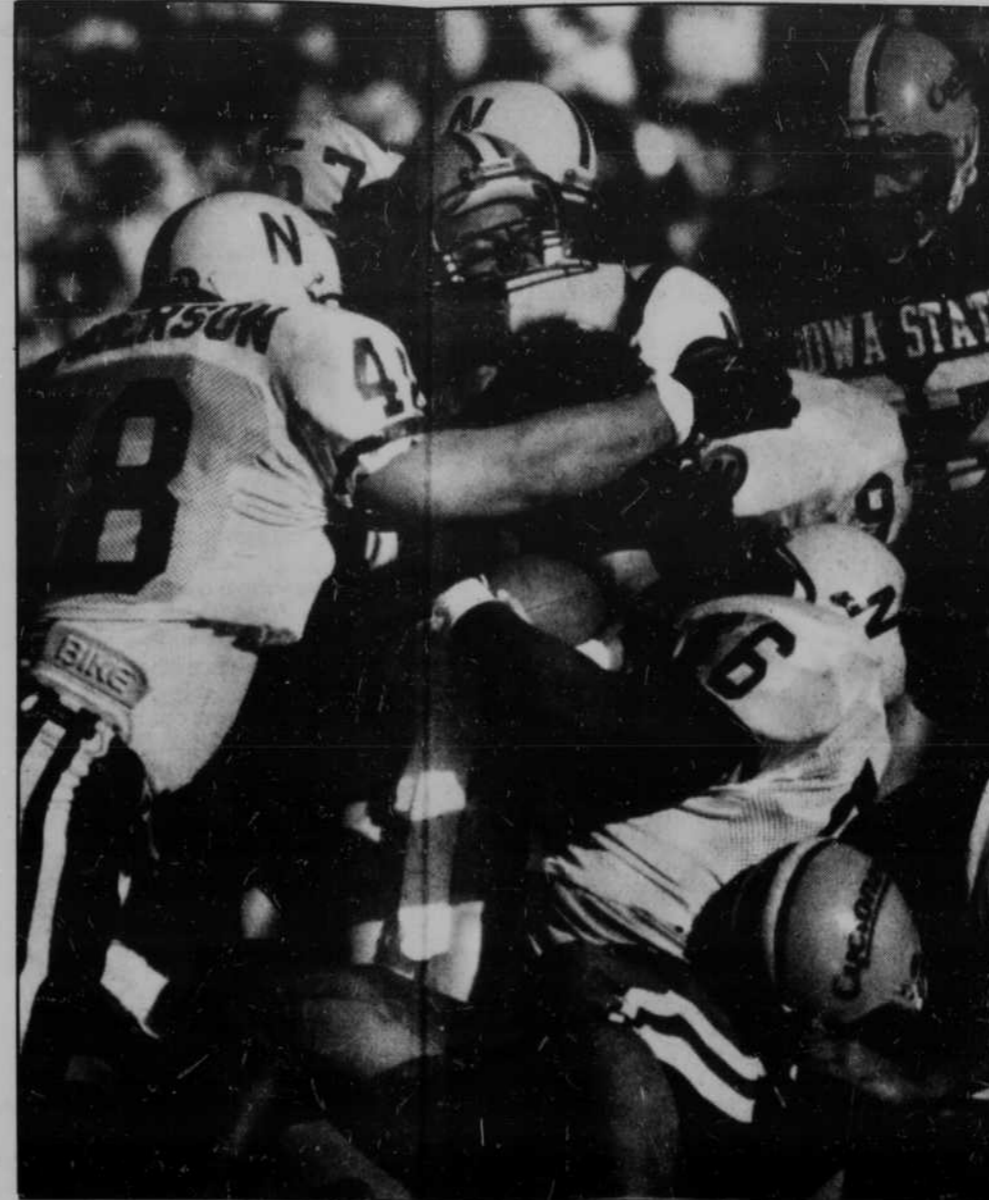
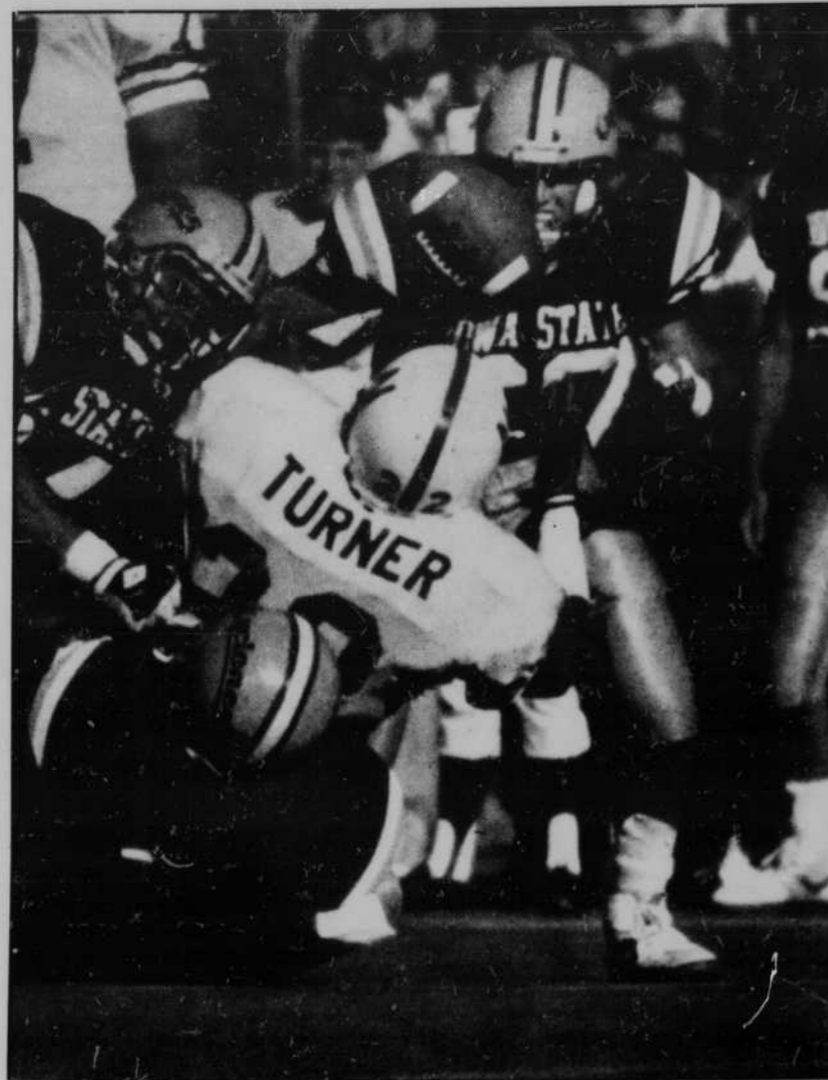


Huskers steal Cyclone wind

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Sims
NU defensive tackle



“We were really conscious of (the draw) today. We felt that was one of their biggest plays against Oklahoma.”

Engelbert
NU middle guard

Nebraska erases quarterback draw

By Paul Domeier
Senior Reporter

AMES, Iowa — The quarterback draw was supposed to be both an Iowa State strength and a Nebraska weakness, but the combination didn't add up to anything Saturday. The Cornhusker defense kept Iowa State quarterback Chris Pedersen contained, allowing Pedersen 18 yards on 11 carries. Ignoring the 24 yards lost in sacks, Pedersen still had only 42 positive yards.

“We were really conscious of it (the draw) today,” Husker middle guard Pat Engelbert said. “We felt that was one of their biggest plays against Oklahoma.”

Pedersen had earned Big Eight offensive player of the week honors the previous Saturday by gaining 148 yards on 29 carries as Iowa State defeated Oklahoma.

And Nebraska appeared vulnerable to the quarterback draw. For Baylor, the draw was its most successful play against Nebraska. Oklahoma State set up its one field goal with a long draw play.

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said the Huskers shut down the play with the dime defense.

“That was as much for running purposes as for pass purposes,” he said.

Four linemen rush in the Nebraska dime, one more than in the usual Husker defense. Oklahoma, however, rushed three players and dropped the linebackers deeper, Osborne said, giving Pedersen room to run.

Nebraska defensive coordinator Charlie McBride said Engelbert and tackle Joe Sims, the two inside players in the dime defensive line, stopped the Cyclones.

Engelbert, who had five tackles, said he and Sims concentrated on staying in the middle and watching for the scramble once they pushed a few yards upfield.

The emphasis on stopping the draw delayed the success of Nebraska's pass rush. The Huskers had two sacks in the first half. In the third quarter, though, Nebraska recorded two more sacks.

“I think we started to wear them down,” Engelbert said. In the fourth quarter, Nebraska sacked reserve quarterback Bob Utter four times — twice in the game's final four plays. Freshman Trev Alberts, Kenny Walker's back-up in the dime, had three sacks, giving him a total of four this season.

McBride said the Nebraska secondary helped with a zone defense, possibly flustering an Iowa State offense prepared for man-to-man coverage.

“I don't know whether that was a factor or not, but I had that feeling,” McBride said. Nebraska was in man-to-man coverage and blitzing when Pedersen threw a 64-yard touchdown pass to Brandon Hughes on the third play of the game.

“They're going to get big plays against whoever they play,” McBride said.

The Cyclones worked their way downfield for a field goal on their next possession. That series, McBride said, was the last series on which Nebraska blitzed. The basic four-man dime rush, backed up by zone coverage, then kept Iowa State at bay, except for one fourth-quarter field goal.

“We weren't flustered,” Engelbert said. “We stayed cool and relaxed and kept things going.”

“That put us in a heck of a hole,” Osborne said.

Clockwise from top left: Nebraska wingback Nate Turner coughs up the ball after being tackled in the fourth quarter. Iowa State quarterback Bob Utter is smothered by Nebraska's Mike Anderson, Kenny Walker and Joe Sims in the fourth quarter. Nebraska linebacker Dan Svehla grabs Iowa State wide receiver Lamont Hill's ankle after a catching a first-quarter pass while Travis Hill rushes in to assist. Nebraska cornerback Tyrone Legette shows that he knows who recovered an Iowa State fumble in the third quarter.

By Paul Domeier
Senior Reporter

AMES, Iowa — The wind was whistling, but Nebraska's running game was humming.

With that harmony, the Nebraska Cornhuskers gained 557 yards rushing and passed only four times Saturday as they beat the Iowa State Cyclones, 45-13.

I-back Leodis Flowers rushed for 208 yards and quarterback Mickey Joseph rushed for 123 yards, both career-highs, as the Huskers ran options, traps, pitches, reverses, double reverses and just about everything else in the team's rushing arsenal.

“The wind obviously was a factor,” Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said.

By throwing only four passes, the Huskers were able to avoid the 15-mph wind that gusted up to 30 mph. The four passes that Joseph did throw were complete, two for touchdowns to tight end Johnny Mitchell.

But it was the runs that helped Nebraska, 8-0, recover from a 10-3 first quarter deficit.

Particularly effective were the options in the second half. Twice the Huskers broke third-quarter options for 70-yard gains, once on a Joseph keeper and once on a pitch to Flowers.

Joseph said the running success didn't come from tricks or magic.

“We just had good blocks on the perimeter and good blocks on the offensive line,” he said.

The victory for the Huskers, the 13th straight over Iowa State, gave the 3-4-1 Cyclones a splash of reality after their upset win at Oklahoma last weekend.

A raspy-voiced Joseph said Iowa State's fans, welcoming their team home, were very loud, adding to the noise of the wind.

“I basically had to scream the whole ball game,” he said. A Cyclone Stadium-record 54,475 spectators watched the home team score on the game's first series.

Nebraska won the toss and deferred to the second half.

But Osborne's ideas of getting good field-position and scoring a couple of quick, first-quarter touchdowns with the wind at the Huskers' backs were wiped out by a big play.

Cyclone quarterback Chris Pedersen lofted a pass into the wind for Brandon Hughes. Hughes slowed down to catch the ball, then out-raced Huskers Tyrone Byrd and Bruce Pickens for a 64-yard touchdown.

“That put us in a heck of a hole,” Osborne said.

Score by quarters

Nebraska	3	14	21	7	45
Iowa State	7	3	0	3	13

Iowa St.	Hughes 64 pass from Pedersen (Shudak kick)
Nebraska	FG Barrios 37
Iowa St.	FG Shudak 26
Nebraska	Flowers 1 run (Barrios kick)
Nebraska	Mitchell 22 pass from Joseph (Barrios kick)
Nebraska	Flowers 70 run (Barrios kick)
Nebraska	Flowers 5 run (kick blocked)
Nebraska	Mitchell 33 pass from Joseph (Joseph run)
Iowa St.	FG Shudak 36
Nebraska	Achola 1 run (Barrios kick)
A	54,475

	Neb	IS
First downs	25	13
Rushes-yards	70-557	39-126
Passing	67	191
Return Yards	20	16
Comp-Att-Int	4-4-0	8-18-1
Punts	3-34	5-47
Fumbles-Lost	3-2	2-2
Penalties-Yards	6-57	7-75
Time of Possession	31:55	28:05

Source: Associated Press.

Individual STATISTICS

Rushing

Nebraska	Flowers 25-208
	Joseph 8-123
	Baldwin 10-76
	Turner 4-51
	Achola 5-29
	Lewis 6-24
	Brown 2-20
	Johnk 4-15
	Grant 5-14
	Hughes 1-(minus 3)
Iowa St.	J. Williams 5-81
	S. Williams 16-54
	Pedersen 11-18
	Utter 7-(minus 27)

Passing

Nebraska	Joseph 4-4-0-67
Iowa St.	Pedersen 7-15-1-174
	Utter 1-3-0-17

Receiving

Nebraska	Mitchell 2-25
	Bostick 1-9
Iowa St.	Spencer 5-106
	Hughes 1-64
	Glottfelty 1-17
	S. Williams 1-4

John Bruce/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska came back with a field goal, but the Cyclones responded with a field goal of their own. The second Iowa State drive was more consistent, going 68 yards in 11 plays, helped out by a Husker pass interference penalty.

Nebraska defensive tackle Joe Sims said the Huskers thought the long pass was a fluke play, but that they knew they needed to get going after the second drive.

“We thought, ‘Hey, we’re going to get upset unless we start playing football,’” he said.

The Husker offense came back with a 63-yard touchdown drive. On the second play of the series, Joseph scrambled for 28 yards around the left end.

“A couple times the passes weren't there,” Joseph said. “You have to pull it down and find the open field.” I-back Derek Brown ran 20 yards on a double reverse to put the ball on the Iowa State 1-yard line.

On the play, though, Brown was spear-tackled by Cyclone linebacker Jim Doran. Brown separated his shoulder and, though the severity of the injury was unknown after the game, is doubtful for the Colorado contest. Doran lay on the turf for a few minutes and had to be taken for X-rays on his neck.

Brown's injury was the only seri-

ous blow to the Huskers, though tight end William Washington did not play because of an injured foot and tackle Steve Engstrom did not make the trip because of a turf toe.

Nebraska took a 17-10 halftime lead thanks to a 61-yard touchdown drive in the last two minutes of the first half. Joseph threw a 22-yard touchdown pass to Mitchell for the score.

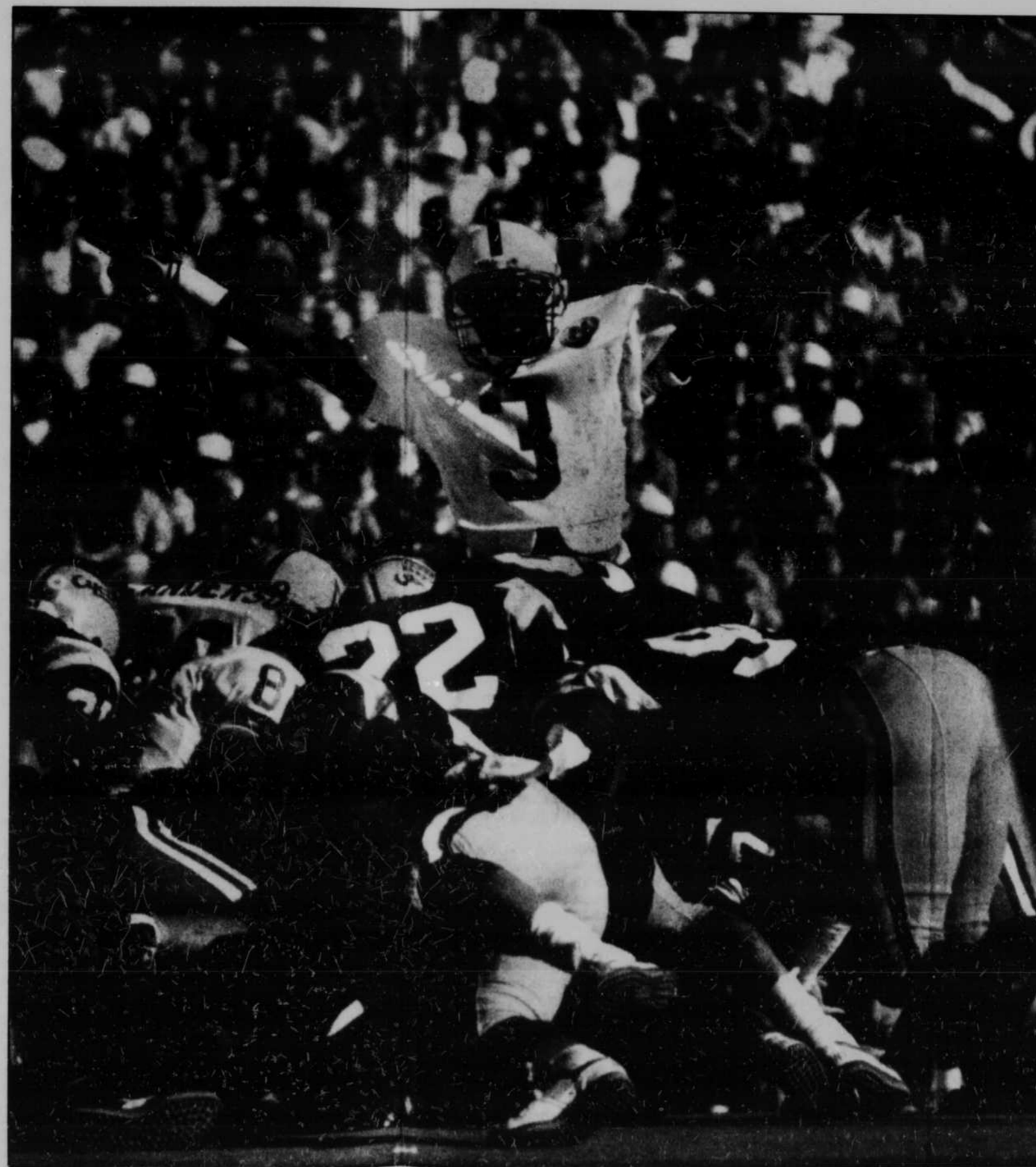
On the first series of the second half, Flowers sprang his 70-yard run for a touchdown, faking out All-Big Eight cornerback Marcus Robertson. Flowers gained more than 100 yards for the sixth straight game, tied for the third longest streak in Husker history. Flowers has 884 yards for the season.

Joseph took his turn with the long run on the next drive, being tackled by Cyclone free safety Shawn Walker at the Iowa State 18.

“The worst thing about that is I got caught — from the back,” he said.

The Husker defense, after allowing 132 yards on the first two Cyclone possessions, gave up only 185 yards the rest of the way. Nebraska sacked Pedersen and back-up Bob Utter eight times.

The Nebraska offense totaled a season-high 624 yards. The 557 yards on the ground is the seventh best in Nebraska history.



Photos by Michelle Paulman