

Scrimmage demonstrates offensive strength Frazier, Berringer lead passing game

Players of few words picked to lead Huskers

By Jeff Griesch
Senior Reporter

They're quiet people off the field, but the four Cornhusker captains selected Saturday let their play do the talking during games.

Lance Lundberg, Gerald Armstrong, John Reece and Trev Alberts were selected prior to Saturday's scrimmage to represent the Cornhuskers



Alberts

as captains. Lundberg, a 6-foot-4-inch, 300-pound senior offensive tackle from Wausa, and Armstrong, a former walk-on tight end from Ponca, said they never dreamed they would become captains.

"It's not really something you can strive to be," Armstrong said. "I guess it is



Armstrong

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By Jeff Griesch
Senior Reporter

Nebraska's passing game is no longer entirely up in the air.

After a subpar performance last week, the Cornhuskers piled up 370 yards passing Saturday, which was nearly 100 yards more than they gained on the ground.

"Our quarterbacks were more comfortable with the offense today," Osborne said, "but I also think we have a little bit more ability at the receiving end than we've had in the past."

The Husker quarterbacks completed 22 out of 32 passes — a 68.8 percent completion rate — including three touchdown strikes.

First-string quarterback Tommie Frazier led the quarterbacks during the two-hour scrimmage, completing 10-of-13 passes for 143 yards and one

touchdown.

Frazier, a 6-2, 200-pound sophomore from Bradenton, Fla., credited his crisp performance to an increase in intensity over last week's scrimmage.

He also said that he was more comfortable with the offense after another week of practice.

"Today I didn't have to think about what I was doing out there because I am getting to the point where I can just react to what happens," Frazier said. "When you have to think about what you're going to do, then the mistakes will come."

Back-ups Brook Berringer and Tony Veland also had good days for the offense.

Berringer, a 6-4, 205-pound sophomore from Goodland, Kan., threw for 144 yards and one touchdown on 6-of-10 passing.

Veland completed four out of sev-

en passes — including a 34-yard touchdown strike to wingback Clester Johnson — for 69 yards.

The quarterbacks spread the wealth, with 12 different players recording at least one reception.

Freshman Eric Alford saw the most action, catching four passes for 44 yards and one touchdown.

Senior wingback David Seizys had two catches for 65 yards and tight end Trumane Bell hauled in three passes for 61 yards.

Osborne said he expected the offense to look sharp because the scrimmage was designed to have the first-team offense face the second-team defense.

Osborne said that as a whole, the Huskers have picked up the pace after disappointing practices early in the week.

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Husker volleyball team defeats alumnae talent despite missing players

By Tim Pearson
Senior Reporter

The Nebraska volleyball team passed its first test Saturday night.

But it was only a practice exam, and it doesn't count in the gradebook.

The Cornhuskers defeated some familiar faces Saturday night before a crowd of 1,935 people at the NU Coliseum. In the annual Alumnae Match, the Huskers prevailed over Nebraska alumnae 15-9, 15-13, 15-12, 13-15.

Husker coach Terry Pettit gave the team a passing grade for the exhibition match, but he said his team still has a lot of improving to do before their first regular-season match at home against Iowa on Wednesday.

"At times we did all right, and at times we struggled a little bit," Pettit said. "We were playing against some talented players, though."

Those talented alumnae, with eight former Husker All-Americans on the team, couldn't put their talent together to defeat the Huskers.

Senior setter Nikki Stricker, who had 52 set assists, said the alumnae were a good test for the young Husker team.

"It's hard to say how good they are," she said. "They played well, but it's tough to come together and play without practicing together."

The Huskers jumped out to a 10-0 lead in the first game, but the alumnae hung tough, fighting to within five points at 14-9 before losing the first game.

The alumnae jumped out to an early lead in the second game, taking a 12-8 lead. But Nebraska fought back and won the game on the strength of sophomore Billie Winsett's three kills

and sophomore Allison Weston's two aces down the stretch.

The third game was a seesaw battle, but the Huskers won 15-12. Because it was an exhibition match, the match went four games instead of the necessary three wins required for victory. The alumnae salvaged the fourth game.

Stricker, Pettit said, took control of the team in the absence of senior outside hitter Laura Luther and junior middle blocker Kim Tonniges.

"Nikki really took charge out there tonight," he said. "She played well tonight and really showed some leadership."

Luther and Tonniges were both held out of the match because both are recovering from off-season shoulder surgery.

Pettit was limited to using nine players, and he said his team did well with who they had playing.

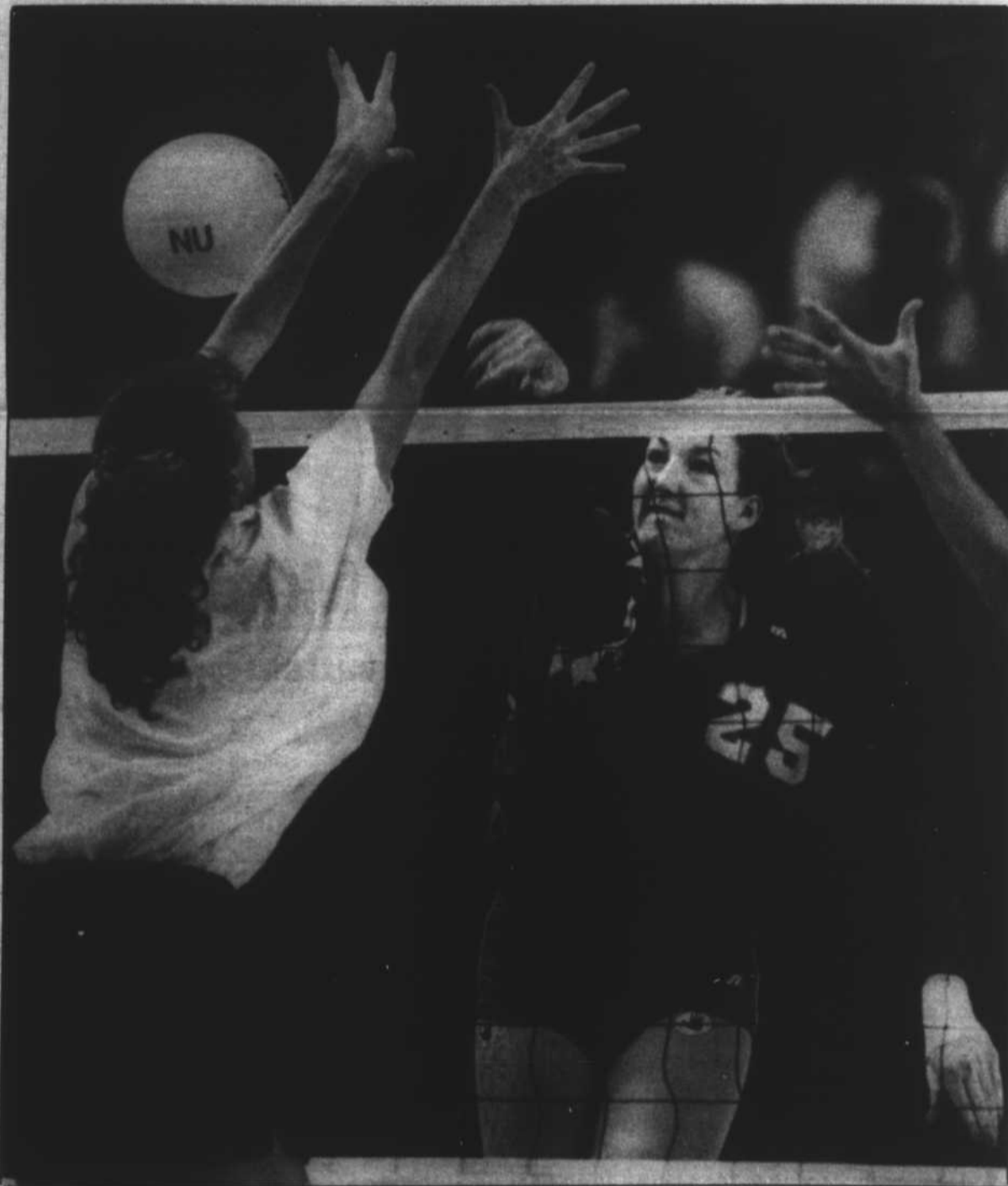
"We thought earlier in the week that Kim and Laura would be able to play but they couldn't," Pettit said. "We didn't have many people to play. It didn't give us a great deal of flexibility."

Nebraska's four freshmen all saw action Saturday. Middle blocker Jen McFadden had 13 kills and setter Stephanie Clerc, from Bellevue West, recorded seven digs.

Stricker said she was impressed with the freshmen and what they can add to the team.

Stricker said this year's Husker team will be different from last year's 22-6 Big Eight championship team.

"We'll be a lot different from last year," she said. "We did pretty well (Saturday night), but we'll get stronger as the year goes on."



Freshman middle blocker Jen McFadden, from Dubuque, Iowa, hits a ball past Alumna Janet (Kruse) Sellen during Saturday night's Alumnae Challenge at the NU Coliseum.

Shaun Sartin/DN

At tight end, Trumane Bell eager to hammer linebackers

By Mitch Sherman
Staff Reporter

Nebraska tight end Trumane Bell hopes to send opposing linebackers away from Memorial Stadium this fall with ringing sounds in their ears.

Bell, a 6-foot-3-inch, 220-pound senior from Chicago, said he was looking forward to playing tight end — and doing the blocking that goes with it — after playing split end last season.

"I like the switch to tight end," Bell said. "They're different styles. You have to adjust; there's more interior blocking (at tight end). We take on linebackers. I'm more part of the offensive line."

On Saturday, Bell proved he was still a receiver.

Bell caught three passes for 61 yards, including a 42-yard reception from Tommie Frazier on what appeared to be a broken play.

Bell, who transferred to Nebraska from Highland (Kan.) Community College and redshirted during the 1991 season, caught 14 passes for 124 yards and one touchdown in 1992.

"(Playing tight end) gives me the chance to get the ball a little bit more, be in the game more," Bell said. "In our offense, there's a lot of two tight end sets."

Receivers coach Ron Brown said he expected Bell to be an important part of the Husker offense in 1993.

"Trumane is a great worker," Brown said. "I

expect him to improve all the time because of his attitude. He's got a great work ethic, a very diligent guy.

"And he's got excellent athletic ability. He's quick, really a very smooth tight end, particularly as a receiver."

Bell said being a receiver at a school like Nebraska, which focuses on the rushing game, called for difficult assignments.

"It puts a little more pressure on you," Bell said. "At other schools that pass the ball more, you don't have to worry about blocking as much."

"Here you try to concentrate on both, because you can't be a great running team without guys out there making the blocks." Brown said moving Bell to tight end was a natural

move.

"I feel pretty good with Corey Dixon and Reggie Baul (at split end), and we really needed a second tight end that I felt could run, and that's where Trumane fit in," Brown said. "He's a big guy at split end, so it's just kind of a natural move. He's had to make a few adjustments, but there's some things he really has helped improve at tight end."

One of them is speed, Brown said. "We're probably quicker at tight end than we've ever been as far as the top two guys," Brown said. "Johnny Mitchell had great quickness. William Washington was a tremendous blocker. But these two guys, as receivers together, give us the best one-two punch as receivers that I've had at tight end since I've been here."