

Nebraska rallies to lasso Cowboys

By Tim Pearson
Senior Reporter

STILLWATER, Okla. — The Oklahoma State defense came into Thursday night's contest against Nebraska with the Big Eight's top-ranked defense.

But it was Nebraska's defense that saved the day in the Cornhuskers' 27-13 win over the Cowboys in front of 35,580 at Lewis Field and a national television audience.

Husker cornerback Barron Miles provided Nebraska with the spark they needed, blocking an Oklahoma State punt in the end zone with 14:09 left in the game to put the Huskers on top for good.

"It hit me in the chest," Miles said. "When he kicked it, I was already there."

"It hit the ground, and I fell on top of it."

Husker coach Tom Osborne, who recorded his 200th career victory, said Miles' block was a big momentum shift for the Huskers.

"In the second half, our defense stepped up and did a great job," Osborne said. "They made some great plays. The punt block by Barron Miles was a huge play in the game."

"Barron comes in on every play and he never

quits coming."

The Cowboys stunned Nebraska early after Husker quarterback Tommie Frazier fumbled on the fifth play of the game. Oklahoma State turned the miscue into a Lawson Vaughn field goal to put the Cowboys up 3-0 with 10:48 left in the first quarter.

Vaughn added another field goal to make it 6-0 with 3:06 left in the first quarter.

In the second quarter, Husker kicker Byron Bennett connected on a 28-yard field goal to cap an eight play, 71-yard drive to bring Nebraska within three.

The Cowboys struck back, engineering a 16-play, 80-yard drive, which ended with a Louis Adams' touchdown dive from the one-yard line.

The Huskers then ran a no-huddle offense with just over one minute left in the half. With 19 seconds left in the half, Frazier hit Corey Dixon for 31 yards to the Oklahoma State nine-yard line.

After an incomplete pass, Bennett added his second field goal as time expired in the first half.

See HUSKERS on 8

Jones' dream becomes nightmare in OSU's 27-13 loss to Huskers

By Derek Samson
Staff Reporter

STILLWATER, Okla. — Oklahoma State coach Pat Jones' halftime fears became reality when Nebraska outscored the Cowboys 21-0 in the second half on its way to a 27-13 victory Thursday night.

Jones said he was even worried when his team held the Cornhuskers to six points and took a 13-6 halftime lead into the locker room.

"I was a little afraid we were too emotional," Jones said. "Even though they got the field goal, we were really juiced up at the half and it worried me."

"I guess I would rather have it that way than

the other way."

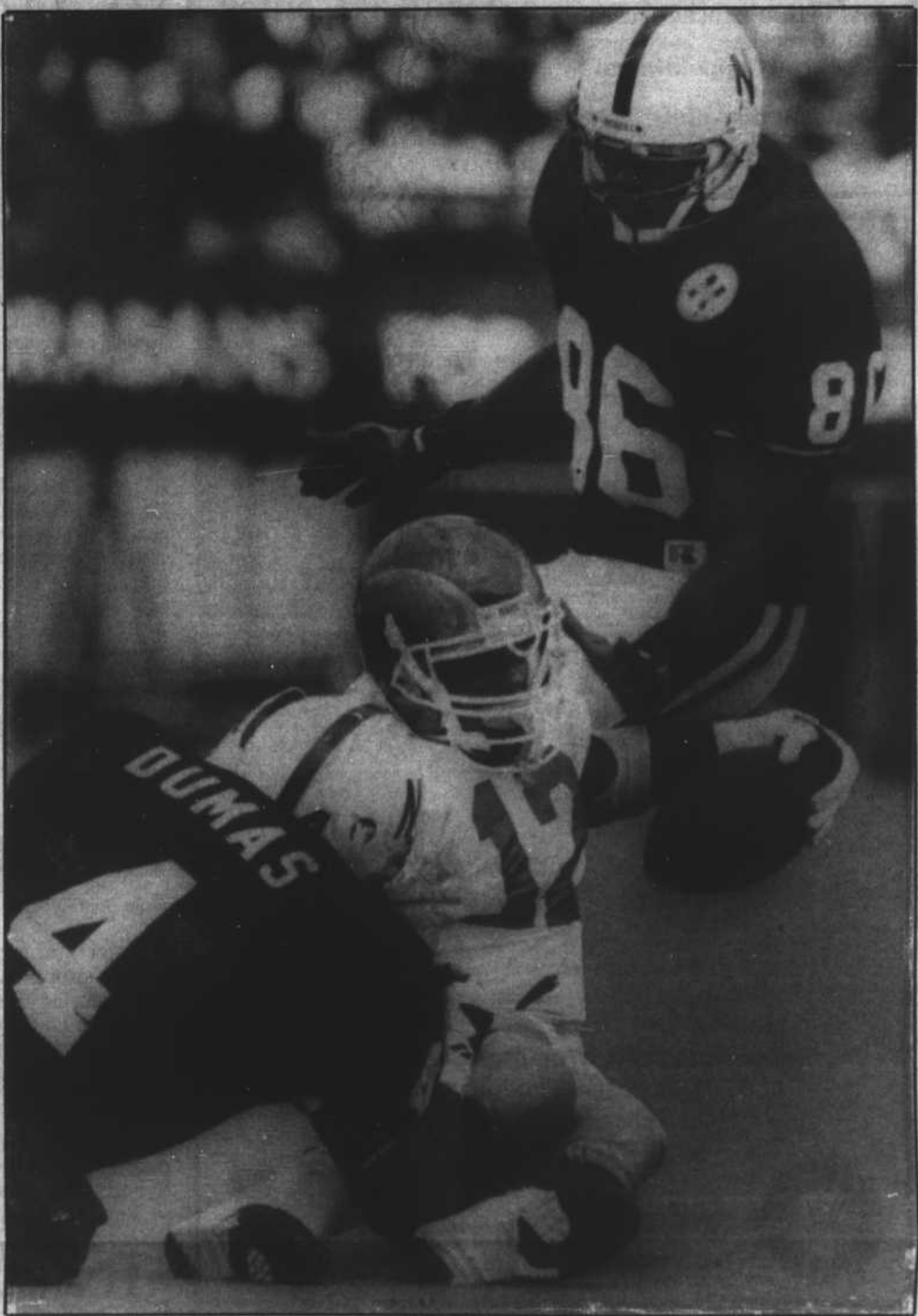
After a slow start, Nebraska ended up gaining 241 of its 359 total yards in the second half. The Cornhuskers gained 203 rushing yards in the second half.

Jones said a couple of breaks against Oklahoma State contributed to Nebraska's second half comeback.

"I really thought that the two biggest plays were when we broke a trap in the third quarter and it was called back, and then the punt block," he said, referring to Barron Miles' blocked punt and touchdown in the second half.

"We get sacked on a third down to put us on

See COWBOYS on 8



Kiley Timperley/DN

Nebraska's Troy Dumas (left) and outside linebacker Dwayne Harris sandwich Colorado State fullback Leonice Brown in the Cornhuskers' win. Harris had one sack and Dumas added a tackle in Nebraska's 27-13 win over Oklahoma State Thursday night.

Osborne doused with praise after reaching milestone

By Jeff Griesch
Senior Reporter

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne was showered with Gatorade after his 200th career win Thursday night.

And in the Cornhuskers' celebration of the 27-13 victory over Oklahoma State, he was showered with praise from a former foe, Barry Switzer.

"Let's go for 300," Switzer told Osborne after Nebraska's win Thursday night. "Congratulations Coach."

Osborne said he deserves only part of the praise.

"I'm pleased to have been part of 200 wins," he said after the game in Stillwater, Okla. "But I've only been

a part of it. What's important to me is seeing a team play as well as they can play."

Nebraska secondary coach George Darlington said earlier this week that kind of consistent focus helped Osborne achieve the milestone.

"Tom is the most emotionally stable guy I have ever met," Darlington said. "That means a lot to the stability of a football team and to the players' emotional levels."

"It's not like one day he is patting you on the back and the next day yelling at you like you're a dog. When that happens, the players wonder which coach is going to show up, but with Tom, the players know what they

can expect from him."

Only Florida State's Bobby Bowden and Penn State's Joe Paterno have more wins than Osborne.

Earlier this week, Osborne downplayed the significance of winning 200 games, attributing his success to his players and not to anything he has done as a coach.

"When I read about coaches winning, I don't like to take credit," Osborne said. "I'm not the one out there winning the games. I have never won a game as a football coach, and I've probably never lost one either."

"I've been pleased that I have been able to be here quite a while but it's not reflective of one person. It has to

— 66 —
Let's go for 300. Congratulations Coach.

—Switzer
former Oklahoma coach

99

do with the fans and a lot of players that have worked hard over the amount of time and a lot of coaches that have done a great job."

Darlington is one of the coaches that has put in a lot of years under Osborne. Darlington is the only member of Osborne's staff that has been at Nebraska since Osborne's first season as head coach in 1973.

The speed which Osborne reached the 200-win plateau was more significant than just winning 200 games, Darlington said. Osborne took the fewest number of seasons to reach the milestone. Paterno took one more year but reached 200 victories in fewer games.

See 200TH on 8

Nebraska players take on Air Force JV team Friday

From Staff Reports

Some of the Nebraska football players who didn't make the trip to Oklahoma State will take on the Air Force Junior Varsity football team today at 1 p.m. at Memorial Stadium.

There is no admission charge.

The Air Force Academy, at 2-0, is one of the few universities to still field a junior varsity football team.

Anybody who didn't travel will play. Nebraska graduate assistant football coaches Bill Busch and Gerry Gdowski will coach the team.

Nebraska fielded a junior varsity team until the program was disbanded before the 1991 football season.

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said earlier this fall that players who are redshirting this season would not risk losing a year of eligibility by playing.

The Cornhusker reserves also will travel to play Air Force's Junior Varsity in Colorado Springs on Nov. 12.

"They have well over 200 people and separate varsity, junior varsity and freshman teams," Osborne said. "So they are going to be a lot more prepared than our guys are going to be going into these games."

"These two games are going to be for the guys who wouldn't get a chance to play during the season but who don't have the opportunity to redshirt this year."

NU to brave Sooner hot streak

By Jeff Griesch
Senior Reporter

Nebraska's volleyball team will run into a hot Oklahoma team when it travels to Norman, Okla., to take on the Sooners.

The Cornhuskers, ranked No. 5 in the coaches' poll and No. 7 in Volleyball Monthly, are 2-0 in the Big Eight and 13-1 overall.

Meanwhile, the Sooners, 8-7, are riding a five-match winning streak into their match with the Huskers on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. at the OU Fieldhouse.

Oklahoma improved to 2-0 in the conference on Wednesday with a 16-14, 15-10, 15-9 sweep of Iowa State in Ames, Iowa.

Nebraska coach Terry Pettit said he was not surprised the Sooners were playing well after struggling early.

"Oklahoma is a team that always plays better the second half of the season than they do the first," Pettit said.

One of the main reasons for the Sooners' turnaround has been the play of outside hitter Gloria Holcomb, Pettit said.

Holcomb, who was named Big Eight Player-of-the-Week for her play against Kansas and Iowa State, pounded out 17 kills against the Cyclones in 31 attempts, for a .548 hitting percentage.

"Holcomb plays the same role on their team that Allison Weston plays on our team," Pettit said. "She is a very physical player that can dominate a match."

Middle blockers Gretchen Anderson and Heidi Luehmann also are playing well, Pettit said.

Anderson recorded 14 kills and a .438 hitting percentage against Iowa State. Luehmann had 15 kills against the Cyclones.

Oklahoma coach Miles Pabst said he had not seen his team playing as well in a long time.

"It was not just the fact that we've played as a team, but that we've played as a dominating and intimidating team," Pabst said.

Pettit said the Sooners had a couple of physical players, but they could become a dominating team only if the Huskers allow them to be, and that one way for the Huskers to counteract the Sooner's physical play was with passing.

"The key for the match for us will be our ball handling," Pettit said. "We are very good at passing the ball, and if we continue to do that, we can control the game."