

# No. 1 Huskers face No. 12 Bruins

By Derek Samson  
Senior Reporter

Nebraska fans should get their money's worth in the Cornhuskers' home opener Saturday against UCLA.

The 12th- and 13th-ranked Bruins bring their high-powered offense with them to Lincoln hoping to upset the No. 1 and 2 Huskers.

The Bruins and Huskers will meet in a nationally televised game at Memorial Stadium. Gametime is 2:34 p.m.

Coach Tom Osborne, whose team is a 14-point favorite, said the teams are very evenly matched.

"UCLA has fine athletes and probably physically is a very comparable football team to ourselves," he said. "Of course, they're much

more of a passing team, and we're more of a running team.

"But I think in terms of quality of athletes, overall team speed and those kinds of things, they're a great football team."

Osborne said despite the presence of big-play receivers J.J. Stokes and Kevin Jordan, UCLA's running game was a big concern.

"Sometimes they're more dangerous running the ball out of the shotgun than they are at anything else," he said. "They've got a lot of clever schemes, and we've been very impressed with their offensive concept. They have a lot of ways to hurt you."

But the biggest way is Stokes, a Heisman Trophy candidate.

The 6-foot-5, 223-pound senior split end caught 82 passes for 1181 yards and 24 touchdowns last season.

"He's a great player," Osborne said. "But we don't really focus on just one player. We won't be sending three people after Stokes because

they've got enough other great players, including their running game, that you can't do that."

Osborne said the UCLA offense also prevents opponents from concentrating on Stokes alone.

"They do a lot of things very well," he said. "They run a lot of formations, a lot of sets. They're in the shotgun probably 50 percent of the time. They do a lot of clever things off the shotgun. They have a good running game off the shotgun, which most people don't."

After a 25-23 win over Tennessee in the season opener, UCLA struggled last week to a 17-10 victory over Southern Methodist at the Rose Bowl. The Bruins were without Stokes, who was out with an injury.

Osborne said a number of factors, including looking ahead to Saturday's game, could account for the close game.

"I thought that they would win handily," Osborne said. "I'm sure not having Stokes play was a factor. Probably not really being up for

*"They've got a lot of clever schemes, and we've been very impressed with their offensive concept. They have a lot of ways to hurt you."*

**TOM OSBORNE**

Nebraska head football coach

## Coach unsure about Bruins' strength

By Matthew Woody  
Senior Editor

UCLA head coach Terry Donahue brings his 12th- and 13th-ranked Bruins into Memorial Stadium Saturday unsure how good that team is.

After beating a strong Tennessee team, which handily defeated Georgia the next week, in week one of the season, the Bruins responded with a lackluster 17-10 victory over Southern Methodist University.

"I don't know if we deserve to be No. 12 or No. 13 or even first," Donahue said in a telephone conference.

He said that two weeks into the season, he didn't know if there was enough information available to rank teams in a poll.

But there was one thing he seemed pretty sure about — the strength of the Nebraska Cornhusker football team.

"It's a very, very impressive team," Donahue said. "It apparently has no weakness. It's a team that appears very powerful in all aspects of the game."

UCLA won't necessarily try to

stop Nebraska's offense. One of the keys for UCLA — or any team — to be successful against Nebraska, Donahue said, is to run the ball effectively, thus keeping the clock running down and keeping Nebraska, and quarterback Tommie Frazier, from running down the field.

"I think Frazier is one of the premier players in the country," Donahue said. "I know he's young, and I know he's got a great future ahead of him."

Stopping a Nebraska offense that, through two games, has averaged 540 yards in offense — 446 on the ground — will be difficult for the UCLA defense, which Donahue said wasn't as good as last year. Through its first two games, the Bruin defense has given up 763 yards.

That may be part of the reason that Donahue said he would look to his offense Saturday, especially if All-American wide receiver J.J. Stokes sees action.

Donahue said he didn't know if Stokes would play. Stokes has been absent from the Bruin lineup since the Tennessee game with what

Donahue called a "very deep thigh contusion." Such an injury usually requires two weeks to heal, he said.

If Stokes does play, Donahue said the Bruins would have a "big-strike offense."

"When we have all our players in the game ... we have some explosiveness and some firepower offensively," Donahue said.

One of those players is Wayne Cook, who is back in command of the Bruin offense after starting 11 games last season and the first two this year.

"I like Wayne Cook. He's a tough, hard-nosed quarterback," Donahue said. And he's just getting better with age, he said.

"It's the old adage about experience. I just think Wayne's a better quarterback this year because he's experienced," Donahue said.

But just because the Bruins have a solid passing game, Donahue said he didn't expect the Nebraska secondary to sit back and watch.

"If you look at Nebraska and chart the team over the years, they're always going to have outstanding athletes in the defensive backfield."

## Game Day '94

Memorial Stadium  
Lincoln, Nebraska  
Saturday,  
2:34 p.m.  
TV: ABC  
UCLA



Nebraska

### OFFENSE

QB 15	Tommie Frazier	6-2	205	QB 15	Wayne Cook	6-4	215
FB 40	Cory Schlesinger	6-0	230	LH 36	James Milliner	6-0	216
IB 1	Lawrence Phillips	6-0	200	RH 33	Shannon Shah	5-10	189
SE 7	Reggie Baul	5-8	170	SE 18	J.J. Stokes	6-5	223
WB 27	Abdul Muhammad	5-9	160	FL 4	Kevin Jordan	6-2	188
RT 72	Zach Wiegert	6-5	300	RT 69	Chad Overhauser	6-5	290
LT 56	Rob Zatechka	6-5	315	LT 79	Jonathon Ogden	6-8	315
RG 66	Brenden Stai	6-4	300	RG 73	Matt Soenksen	6-6	300
LG 76	Joel Wilks	6-3	280	LG 62	James Christensen	6-3	270
C 54	Aaron Graham	6-3	280	C 58	Mike Flanagan	6-5	281
TE 85	Matt Shaw	6-3	235	TE 99	Brian Richards	6-4	247
PK 12	Tom Sieler	6-5	205	PK 37	Bjorn Merten	6-0	194

### DEFENSE

LOLB 86	Dwayne Harris	6-2	225	LT 55	Sale Isala	315
DT 55	Christian Peter	6-2	285	NG 59	George Kase	245
NT 99	Terry Connealy	6-5	275	RT 89	Gary Walton	257
ROLB 84	Donta Jones	6-2	220	OLB 97	Phillip Ward	225
SAM 4	Troy Dumas	6-4	220	ILB 40	Rod Smalley	235
MIKE 48	Doug Colman	6-3	240	ILB 90	Shane Jasper	258
WILL 32	Ed Stewart	6-1	215	OLB 23	Donnie Edwards	216
LCB 14	Barron Miles	5-8	165	LC 2	Teddy Lawrence	187
RCB 29	Tyrone Williams	6-0	165	RC 10	Andy Colbert	165
ROV 29	Kareem Moss	5-10	190	R 12	Marcus Coleman	201
FS 9	Tony Veland	6-2	200	FS 12	Paul Guidry	175
P 6	Darin Erstad	6-2	195	P 28	Darren Schager	194

DN graphic

## Bruin players look to stand out in front of TV audience

### UCLA linebacker hopes to make name for himself on field against Nebraska

By Derek Samson  
Senior Reporter

UCLA linebacker Donnie Edwards isn't trying to produce a season similar to the season former Bruin linebacker Jamir Miller had last year.

Nor is he trying to make people forget about the loss of Miller to the National Football League's Arizona Cardinals.

Edwards is just trying to be himself. "Everybody's talking about me finally being out of Jamir's shadow, and that's not how it is," the junior from San Diego said. "I'm at a totally different position than Jamir was. I know Jamir was the focus of our team last year. I'm not trying to fill in for Jamir."



Edwards

At his outside linebacker position, the All-American Miller collected 69 tackles, including 12.5 sacks last year. Edwards, who started every game as the other outside linebacker, racked up 63 tackles with two sacks.

After such a strong sophomore season, Edwards' name has been mentioned often as a Butkus Award and All-American candidate.

But Edwards isn't thinking about awards. "I just want to play to win," he said. "I just do what Donnie Edwards needs to do to help this team win. I don't play for the TV audience or for the Butkus, I play for God."

"He's given me the talent to play this

game, and I just want to be able to look at myself in the mirror after every game and know that I haven't wasted that talent."

The only thing Edwards was wasting last Saturday was the Southern Methodist quarterback, as he tied a school record with 4.5 sacks in the game.

In UCLA's first two games, Edwards has totaled 18 tackles, 12 of which came against SMU.

"Last week, I just rushed the passer a lot more," he said. "What I do at my position varies from game to game, and it just happened that I was going after the quarterback a lot more last week. Most of the time, I'm in coverage."

"That's why I don't feel like I have to fill in for Jamir in any way. What he did last year was rush the passer, while I was usually in coverage. I'll still be in coverage most of the time this year."

After losing to Nebraska 14-13 last year, the Bruins dropped to 0-2, but won eight of their final nine regular season games.

This season, the 12th- and 13th-ranked Bruins head into Lincoln with a 2-0 record, which includes a 25-23 victory over Tennessee.

"At this time last year we were 0-2, and now we're 2-0," Edwards said. "That does a lot for our confidence. This is a more unified team. We have a lot of young guys, but we're playing well together as a team. Everyone knows there is a lot more unity this year."

When the Bruins come into Memorial Stadium Saturday to face the No. 1 and No. 2 Cornhuskers, Edwards said the Bruins

See EDWARDS on 14

### Receiver won't play second fiddle

By Mitch Sherman  
Senior Reporter

In last year's 14-13 loss to Nebraska, UCLA flanker Kevin Jordan made the first start of his career.



Jordan

UCLA's two victories this season.

"I don't have any control over what J.J. does," Jordan said. "I do have control over how I play. If the ball comes my way, I'll get it."

UCLA quarterback Wayne Cook has repeatedly delivered the ball Jordan's way in the past year. Last season, Jordan, who was called the most underrated receiver in the nation by UCLA's Sports Information Department, caught 45 passes for 612 yards.

That's four more than Stokes caught as a sophomore in 1992. However, Jordan, named third-team sophomore All-American last year by Football News, said he doesn't care about all the comparisons.

"I don't care if J.J. gets all the publicity," he said. "I am still going to play Kevin Jordan's game."

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said he was well aware of what Jordan could do if the Cornhuskers focused too much on Stokes.

"(Jordan) is a big strong receiver," Osborne said. "We don't ever really focus on one guy. About the time you focus on one guy, another guy kills you."

*"We have a chance to show the country that we're good."*

**KEVIN JORDAN**

UCLA receiver

The Bruins, Jordan said, have been looking forward to playing the No. 1 and No. 2 Huskers ever since last season's one-point loss to Nebraska at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif.

"It means a lot to us," he said. "Not too many people get a chance to play the No. 1 team in the country. I felt we stuck with them last year and had a chance to win at the end."

But UCLA fell just short. Saturday's game at Memorial Stadium, Jordan said, hopefully will end on a better note for the Bruins, who are the defending Pac-10 champions. If it does, it won't be because of Nebraska's defense, which is better than last year's, he said.

But he said the Bruins would be ready, despite a lackluster 17-10 win on the road against Southern Methodist last week. Playing without Stokes, UCLA was forced to stop SMU on a first-and-goal at the three-yard line with under 1:30 left in the game to preserve its seven-point lead.

"That game is behind us," Jordan said. "We're confident. We're still 2-0. We're not playing the same type of team we played Saturday. We are playing the No. 1 team in the country. We want to come out there and play hard. We have a lot at stake."

"We have a chance to show the country that we're good."