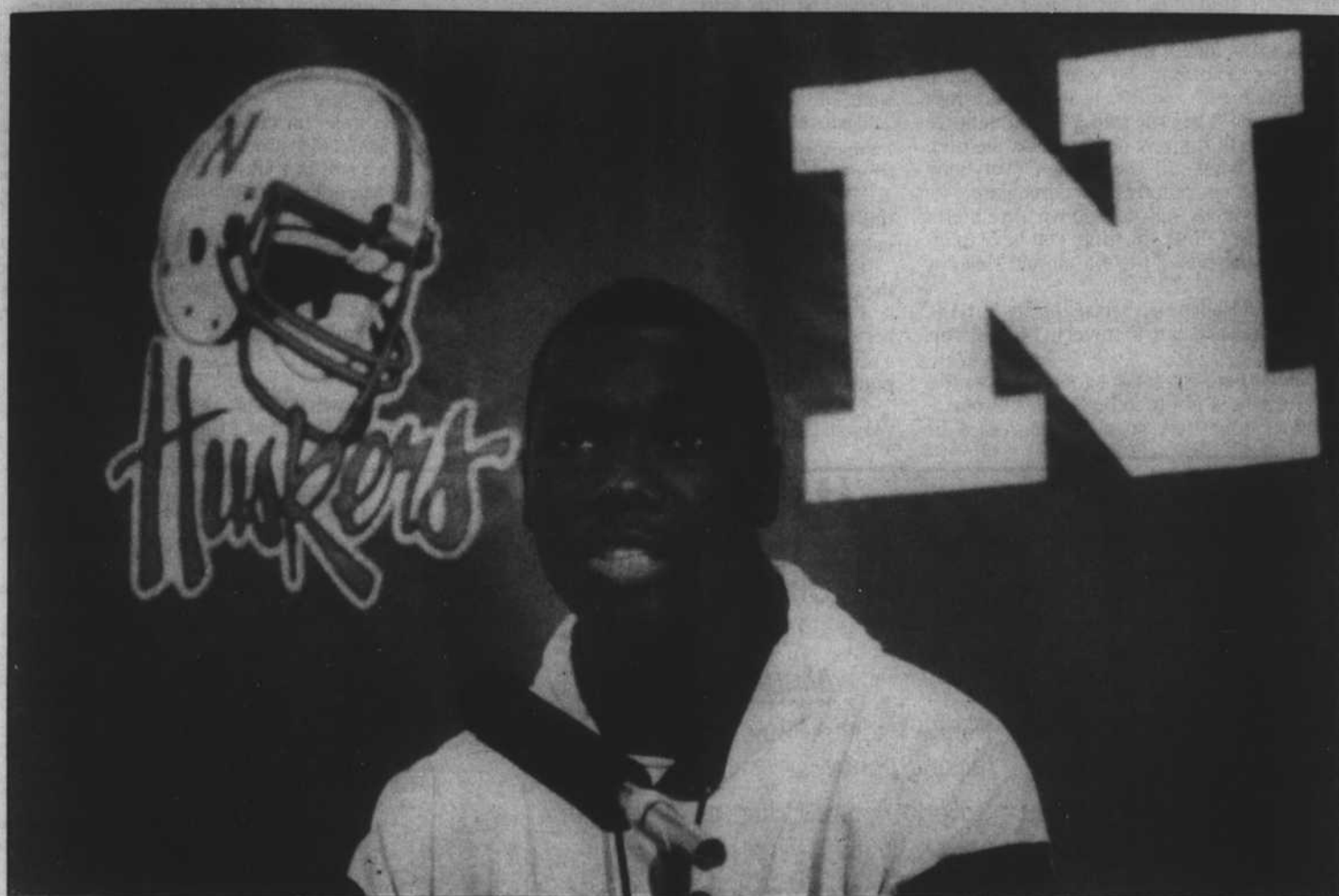


SPORTS

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Nebraska quarterback Tommie Frazier speaks for the first time since a blood clot was discovered Sept. 25. Frazier said he was finished for the season but should be ready for spring practice. Damon Lee/DN

Bouncing back

Frazier overcomes depression; concentrates on recovery

By Mitch Sherman
Senior Reporter

For the first time since being admitted to Bryan Memorial Hospital on Sept. 25, Nebraska quarterback Tommie Frazier spoke to the press on Tuesday afternoon.

Frazier, who underwent surgery on Oct. 6 to tie off a superficial vein that was feeding a blood clot behind his right knee, said his recovery was going well.

"I feel a little down and out, not being able to play the rest of the season," he said. "But it's just something that came with the injury, and I'll take it from there."

After being released from the hospital for the first time on Sept. 28, Frazier returned to practice with the Cornhuskers on Monday, Oct. 3. The junior from Bradenton, Fla., said he threw about five or six passes and worked out on the exercise bike.

"After the first clot," he said, "I thought it was totally over."

On Tuesday, Oct. 4, Frazier's doctors

told him another clot had been discovered. It was also at that point he learned he was finished for the season.

"My heart dropped," Frazier said. "It seemed like it just stopped right there. I wasn't expecting that."

Since then, Frazier, released from the hospital for the second time on Oct. 11, said he had learned to come to grips with the fact that he was done for the year.

"I pretty much accepted it," he said. "The first couple of days, I was kind of down. Then I missed the Oklahoma State game. My mom was here, and I was kind of depressed. But after that I have been taking it in stride."

The former Heisman Trophy candidate, who had put together 23 consecutive starts before missing the Oct. 1 Wyoming game, said the toughest times had come when the team was playing. Frazier made the trip to Manhattan, Kan., on Saturday and watched as Matt Turman and Brook Berringer led the Huskers to a 17-6 win over Kansas State.

Frazier said he definitely would attend Nebraska's two remaining home games against Colorado and Kansas. He will also travel to Iowa State on Nov. 12, but he said he wasn't sure if he would be able to go to Missouri this weekend or Oklahoma on Nov. 25.

He said it wasn't always easy to stand on the sidelines.

"I love the big games when they're close," Frazier said. "That's when I play my best ball."

During the Kansas State game, he said he was thinking, "I wish I could just suit up right now and play. But I understand the circumstances I am in."

Instead, Frazier said, he could help the team by offering the players — especially the quarterbacks — advice in tense moments.

"Saturday, I tried to calm Matt (Turman) down a little bit," he said. "You could tell he

See FRAZIER on 8

Huskers hope to be 18-0 after Kansas

By Trevor Parks
Staff Reporter

The 17-0 Nebraska volleyball team, 4-0 in the Big Eight, have won three consecutive Big Eight road games. The Cornhuskers will try to continue their record-setting 17-match winning streak.



Noth

percentage at .173.

Nebraska assistant coach Cathy Noth said playing on the road always was difficult.

"The goal on the road is to improve as a team," Noth said. "Then when you go back home, that will help going down the stretch."

Included in those last three road wins were back-to-back four-game wins at Kansas State and Iowa State.

But, looking at past results, the Jayhawks shouldn't pose a problem for the Huskers. Nebraska holds a 52-0 all-time record against the Jayhawks. The Huskers have been taken to four games only six times and five games only once in the series against Kansas.

Last season Nebraska defeated the Jayhawks 3-0 in Lincoln and 3-1 in Lawrence.

Noth said thinking about the 52-match win streak against Kansas could get the Huskers in trouble.

"I know when I was a player that you don't think of what the record is," Noth said. "You just want to go in, get the job done and go home."

Former Husker All-American Karen Schonewise coaches the Jayhawks. Schonewise took over for Frankie Albitz, who had coached at Kansas for nine years.

The Huskers will return home to play host to Iowa State on Saturday at the NU Coliseum. Nebraska defeated the Cyclones last Saturday in four games in Ames.

With seven of their last nine matches at home, Noth said these road tests should prepare the Huskers well.

"When we go down there, we don't want to diddle-daddle around," Noth said. "Each of these matches prepares us for the matches to come."

A gerbil named Mookie and an analyst who's kooky

I tell you, my vast readership and fellow babies, I'm as lonely as a cross-dressing hemophiliac sitting on a fishing dock with a muskrat hanging from each ear.

That's pretty lonely.

As you all perhaps know, my gerbil and confidant, Mookie, moved out of my room and, in effect, my life.

It's been a long two weeks without Mook, and my pain has only intensified with the notice that Mookie intends to sue me for palimony.

For those of you non-lawyers who may not be familiar with legal cause of action, I'll give you a brief description:

Palimony is where you like give money to a buddy for like some reason or something.

I guess it's pretty cool for Mookie, but it sort of blows for me. I not only lose the pal I talk to and eat Twinkies with but also have to give the little squid cash. The law bites.

Oh well, the joke's sort of on him. My net worth is only about 49 cents, the fair market value of a bag of stale

chocolate doughnuts.

Hence, he ain't gettin' nuttin'. You can't squeeze blood out of a turnip.

Let me place Mookie aside for a second and get to my intended topic: Lee Corso.

For those of you who do not watch ESPN, Lee Corso is the network's chief college football analyst and also a part-time Mary Kay cosmetics dealer.

Corso stated last week that the Cornhoppers would lose to the Kansas State Air Kitties, the Colorado Golden Felons, and the Oklahoma Swooners.

Nebraska, of course, did not lose to the flying felines, thus quashing the first portion of big boy's prediction.

But Corso was not fazed by his inaccuracy.

Corso immediately stated after the 17-6 Cornpooper win over Kancer State that Nebraska's offense couldn't beat Colorado.

You know, I've been hearing these Nebraska naysayers for the past 10 years. I thought we were finally through with them after last year's



Beau Finley

Orange Bowl performance. But noooooooooooooo.

Corso, who picked the Cornhuggers to win the national championship a few weeks ago, has to keep up the outdated analysis that Nebraska can't win with a conservative offense.

The Huskers have proved over and over again that they, in fact, can and will win with a dominating running attack.

Hey, Corso: You're a bandwagon-jumpin', no-thought goofball, and your mother dresses you funny. Wake up and smell the defense.

The only thing Nebraska can't beat is Corso's dog, because Corso has already beaten it.

Hey, Lee: OW ROW ROW ROW

ROW ROW ROW ROW ROW ROW ROW ROW ROW!

That's the sound a beaten dog makes. But, then again, you already know that, don't you, Lee?

CRYBABY CORNER: Chad "flowers in the month of" May, the quarterback for the Kansas State Air Kitties, will be the subject of this week's corner.

Chaddie spent an appreciable amount of Saturday's postgame press conference complaining that Nebraska was a "dirty team" and premised this label upon an eye-gouging incident that occurred during the game.

What happened on the play in question is that May decided to put his head into the pile to try to get some extra yardage. Well, surprisingly enough, someone touched Chadwick, and he got his eyes poked.

Hey, pretty boy, let me explain to you the laws of probability. If you run into a pile of 15 people, and among them, eight are trying to grab and tackle you, chances are fairly high

that your head is going to get touched. I would also say that in these cramped conditions, there's a good chance a flailing hand could pass through the face mask and poke an eye.

Is this dirty? No. It's probable, or at least substantially possible.

Besides, what do you expect? Did you think Terry Connealy and Christian Peter were going to give you candy and flowers in the pile? Well, they're sentimental guys and maybe they would after the game, but the middle of a football game is no time for pleasantries.

Chad, frankly I think you're a teary-eyed weenie who's more concerned about excuses than about a fair assessment of the contest.

Um, Chad: OW ROW ROW ROW ROW ROW ROW ROW ROW ROW!

That's the sound you're going to make when Colorado beats you this Saturday.

Finley is a second-year law student and a Daily Nebraskan sports columnist.