

Sports Opinion



Mitch Sherman

Frazier needs to back away from Frost talk

Tommie Frazier is back. Tuesday, he held a press conference. It should be his last, for a while at least.

Frazier spoke about his fabulous four-year career, in which he cemented his place as the most productive player in the history of NU football. He discussed the thrill he'll feel Saturday when his jersey No. 15 is retired before Nebraska's 6 p.m. meeting with Kansas.

He thanked all Husker fans for supporting him, through thick and thin. He talked about his new radio career with Pinnacle Sports Productions and his lagging football career with the Montreal Alouettes of the Canadian Football League.

And then Frazier did it. He talked about Scott Frost.

Not a good idea.

At times, Frazier said, Frost doesn't pitch the ball early enough while running the option.

"It's not that I'm trying to put him down," Frazier said. "But being an option quarterback, I made a comment on it."

"I'm not trying to interfere with what's going on out there."

Just by talking about Frost, Frazier is interfering. Frazier doesn't realize the weight of his own words, especially when they are spoken before 10 television cameras and 30 reporters armed with tape recorders and notebooks.

Much like he has done for weeks when asked anything at all, Frazier should have simply said, "No comment."

"I'm not around enough to be a distraction," said Frazier, NU's all-time total-offense leader who made his press box debut last Saturday in the Pinnacle radio booth. "I try to stay away because I might be a distraction."

Frost doesn't need the grief. NU's often-beleaguered first-year quarterback has enough to deal with as it is. The last thing he needs is Frazier, a legend one year removed, speaking out behind his back.

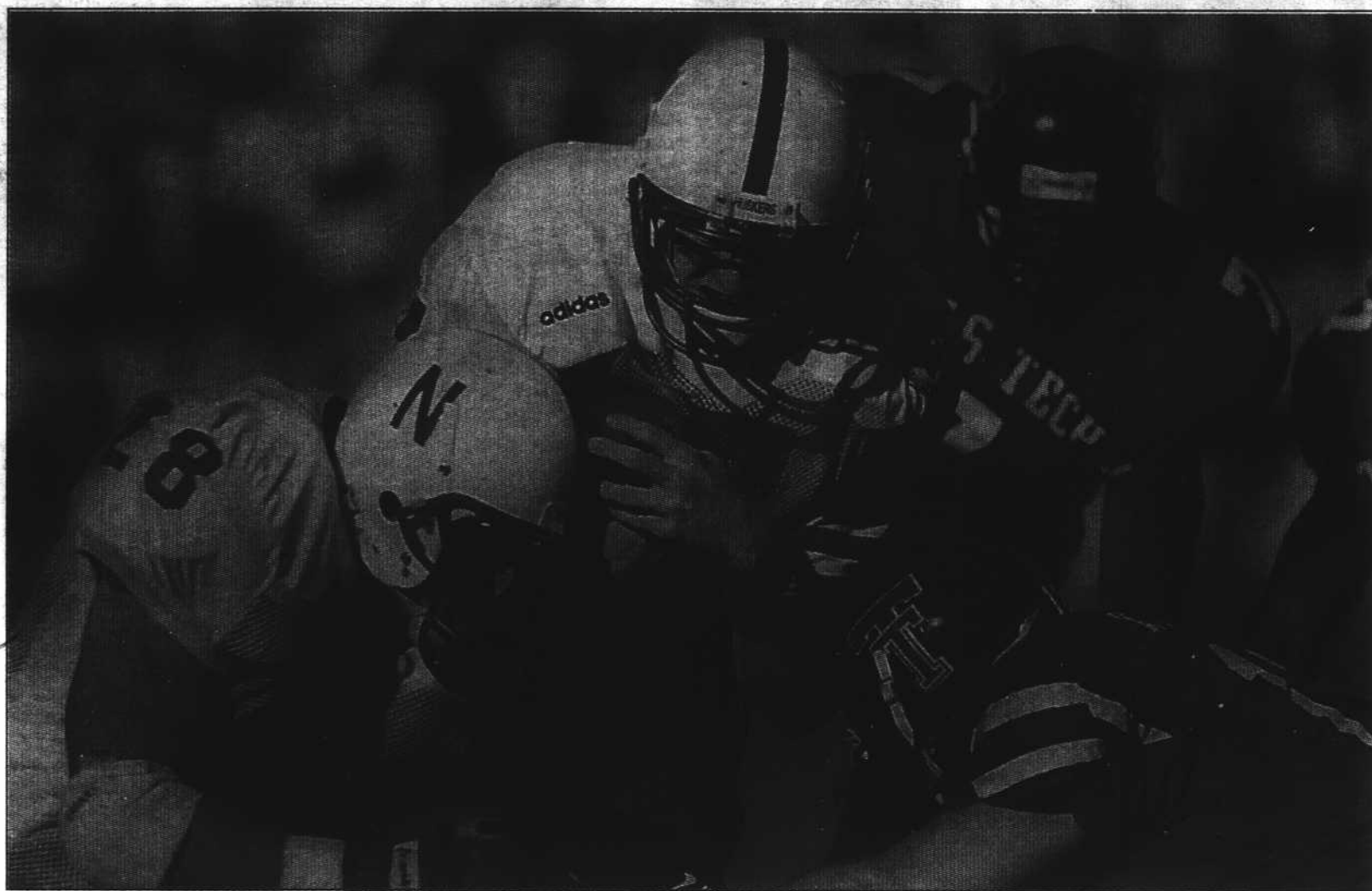
Frazier's stats — 5,476 yards, 31 wins, 79 touchdowns and two national championships — speak volumes. Frost will never do that, and we don't need Frazier reminding us.

"Before the KSU game," Frazier said, "people told me they had a uniform for me. Of course I'd like to be playing football, but my career is over. I have to move on to other things."

Just like Frazier, whose latest bout with blood clots cut short his three-game CFL season, Nebraska fans need to move on. Remember, even though you may see Frazier high above the stadium behind a microphone, he's gone.

And he's not coming back.

Sherman is a senior news-editorial major and the Daily Nebraskan sports editor.



MATTHEW WAITE/DN

SCOTT FROST follows the block of fullback Brian Schuster Saturday against Texas Tech in Nebraska's 24-10 victory.

NU can't explain problems

Statistics show that Frost is the key to NU's offensive attack.

BY TREVOR PARKS
Senior Reporter

A brief word from the Nebraska offense: Don't panic.

NU's offense hit another bump in the road Saturday in the fifth-ranked Cornhuskers' 24-10 win over Texas Tech.

But it's not time to worry about the offense falling apart, quarterback Scott Frost said Tuesday.

"The mark between a great offense

and a good offense is a team that can come out and play consistently," Frost said. "I don't think we've quite gotten to the level of consistency."

So far this year, the offense has played consistently good or consistently bad.

Before struggling against the Red Raiders, NU averaged 52 points, 377.5 yards rushing and 133.8 passing yards per game in its four victories.

Saturday, like it did against Arizona

State, the offense took a dismal turn. In games with ASU — a 19-0 loss — and Texas Tech, the Husker offense has only 26 first downs, averaging 232 yards per game. NU converted just three third-down attempts in each game and fumbled the ball 13 times, losing seven.

But the Arizona State game was the second of the season, with an inexperienced offensive unit. Why is this continuing to happen at the season's midpoint?

"You think about it, and I really don't have any answers," I-back Damon Benning said. "Sometimes you just go out there and play that way."

Please see OFFENSE on 8



Benning

Williams, Cone lead Yanks to Game 3 win

ATLANTA (AP) — Now this was what the New York Yankees were supposed to do all along.

Get six good innings from David Cone, a home run from Bernie Williams and let the bullpen do the rest.

It all came together for the Yankees on Tuesday night, and not a moment too soon. Their 5-2 win at Fulton County Stadium over Atlanta cut the Braves' World Series lead to 2-1, and put the drama back into a Series that was on the verge of becoming a rout.

Relievers Mariano Rivera, Graeme Lloyd and John Wetteland finished off a victory that made the Yankees the first team ever to win six straight road games in the postseason.

The win ended New York's six-game losing streak in the World Series that dated to 1981 and stopped a five-game winning streak by the Braves, during which they had outscored their opponents 48-2.

New York will try to make it 7-0 away from Yankee Stadium on Wednesday night when Kenny Rogers

World Series

pitches against Atlanta's Denny Neagle. Rogers originally was dropped from the rotation, but restored when a rainout eliminated a travel day and forced the Yankees to use four starters.

After losing twice at home, the Yankees shook up their lineup, benching slumping Tino Martinez and hobbling Wade Boggs and Paul O'Neill. Manager Joe Torre's moves worked.

Darryl Strawberry, Cecil Fielder and Charlie Hayes stepped in and each made contributions.

The Yankees broke it open with a three-run eighth, highlighted by Williams' homer, his sixth — tying the postseason record — and Fielder's double off Greg McMichael.

Williams, MVP of the American League Championship Series, had been hitless in the first two games before an RBI single in the opening inning against Tom Glavine.

A tale of two seasons

In wins over Michigan State, Colorado State, Baylor and Kansas State, Nebraska's offense is averaging 52 points per game. In NU's two other games, it is averaging 12 points.

Game	Total yards
Arizona St.	226
Kansas St.	432
Texas Tech	238

NU's Moore returns, hopes to be leader

BY DAVID WILSON
Staff Reporter

Senior Mikki Moore returned to Nebraska basketball practice Monday after missing nearly all of the first week because of an "academic deficiency."

His absence, Coach Danny Nee said, was not a disciplinary suspension.

"He just wasn't getting it done in the classroom," Nee said. "And we're trying to send a message."

Last season, Moore missed Nebraska's two exhibition games because of academic problems, but he regained his starting position six games into the season.

Moore started 27 games and finished the season averaging 9 points per game. He also led NU with 71 blocked shots.

In Moore's absence, Nee said,

forward Bernard Garner, the only other senior on the Husker squad, and sophomore point guard Tyrone Lue have assumed leadership roles in the first week of practice. But the veterans, Nee said, have performed well.

Moore said he hopes to join the other veterans in helping the younger players stick together and play as a team.

"Last year we were lacking a little bit of leadership," said Moore, a 6-foot-11, 215-pounder who needs 36 blocked shots this season to break Rich King's school record. "We're trying to keep this team as a unit so we can go further."

After losing nine lettermen, who combined for 56 percent of the Huskers' scoring last season, Nee said true freshman Cookie Belcher and sophomores Alvin Mitchell,

Please see MOORE on 8