

Big 12 Notebook

The Big 12 offensive player of the week was Nebraska senior quarterback Scott Frost. Frost ran for 97 yards and two touchdowns in NU's 27-14 upset of then second-ranked Washington. Frost also passed for 88 yards in the win over the Huskies.

The Big 12 defensive player of the week was Missouri linebacker Barry Odom. Odom intercepted a pass in the fourth quarter to thwart a Tulsa drive in the Tigers' 42-21 victory over the Golden Hurricane. He also collected eight tackles in the game.

The Big 12 special teams player of the week was Texas A&M sophomore running back Dante Hall. Hall had 173 return yards in a 66-0 victory over Southwestern Louisiana, including one 70-yard punt return for a touchdown.

Missouri is the Big 12 team in the spotlight this week as the 2-1 Tigers take on seventh-ranked and 3-0 Ohio State Saturday in Columbia, Mo. Coach Larry Smith said that MU will be ready for what may be its breakthrough game onto the national scene against the Buckeyes.

"We celebrated the Tulsa win for about a minute, then it was all Ohio State," Smith said. "We've got to pull the trigger and be super aggressive in this game to win it."

Kansas State is already thinking about Nebraska, even though the game is two weeks away on Oct. 4, in Lincoln. The No. 17 Wildcats play Bowling Green this week but utilized their off week to start preparations for the Huskers.

"We're focusing on Bowling Green right now," Kansas State coach Bill Snyder said, "but we spent a good part of our off week looking at Nebraska and seeing what we can do against them."

Oklahoma State looks to go 4-0 for the first time since 1984 this weekend when they take on NE Louisiana in Stillwater, Okla. Senior All-American tight end Alonzo Mayes said the turnaround has come because of a change in approaching games.

"We came in with a whole new attitude this year," Mayes said. "We knew that we wanted to get some things done this season, and we're trying to do that."

Colorado coach Rick Neuheisel spoke highly of Big 12 rival Nebraska's performance in the win over Washington this past weekend. "Nebraska played terrific," Neuheisel said. "I'm glad to see them carry the Big 12 banner and beat a team like Washington."

This Week's Big 12 Schedule

Texas at Rice
Ohio State at Missouri
Bowling Green at Kansas State
Wyoming at Colorado
Texas A&M at North Texas
Louisville at Oklahoma
Northeast Louisiana at Oklahoma State

Big 12 Notebook compiled by Daily Nebraskan staff reporter Sam McKewon.

Sanderford era dawns at Nebraska

By SHANNON HEFFELFINGER
Assignment Reporter

A new era of women's basketball has dawned on Nebraska.

It began June 19 when a monthlong hiring period concluded with the announcement that former Western Kentucky coach Paul Sanderford would occupy the vacancy left by Cornhusker coach Angela Beck. Beck flew to the ranks of the American Basketball Association, closing an 11-year chapter in Nebraska basketball history.



Sanderford

Now Sanderford speaks of a new chapter with a new message that, two months before his coaching debut, he has already begun to write.

"Everyone in Nebraska knows the football team is great," Sanderford said. "Everyone knows the volleyball team is great. What I want people to realize is that the women's basketball team can be great too."

"When you hear people talk about the big names in women's basketball, we want you to hear Nebraska being mentioned. And not only in the Big 12 Conference, but also in the upper echelon of national teams."

Sanderford has been to the top of the women's basketball world before. It was a fast trip for Sanderford, who led the Lady Toppers to the NCAA Tournament Final Four in his third year, vaulting WKU and Sanderford into the upper echelon of women's basketball.

In 15 years at Western Kentucky, Sanderford guided WKU to 12 NCAA Tournaments, three Final Four appearances and the 1992 national championship game.

Leaving a successful program at Western

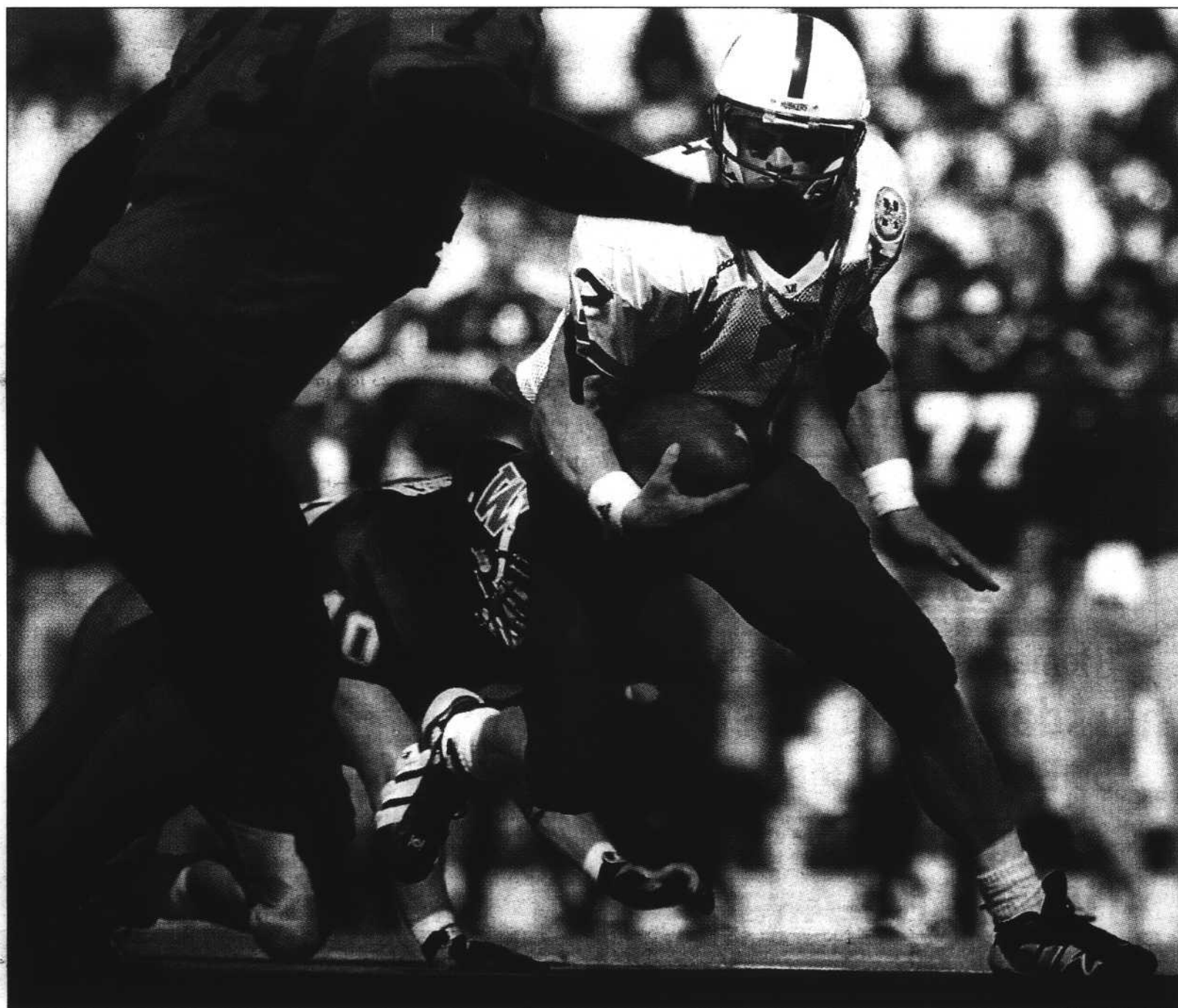
Kentucky was difficult, Sanderford said, but the 13th winningest active coach in the nation desired a new challenge.

"The fact that UNL shows excellence in a lot of fields and its overall reputation attracted me," Sanderford said. "Western Kentucky was a regional institution, and they were very good in some areas. But I was interested in working in a situation where national athletic and academic reputations were established."

Despite his credentials, Sanderford's drive to create a new, successful era of basketball at NU was nearly destroyed by a head-on collision with members of the state Legislature. Legislators strongly favored hiring a woman to fill the position. Of NU's 23 coaching positions only three are held by women.

"My response to criticism is: Look at my cre-

Please see SANDERFORD on 8



MATT MILLER/DN

SCOTT FROST, who was named player of the game Saturday, led the Huskers to a 27-14 victory over Washington.

Frost's big day silences critics

By DAVID WILSON
Senior Reporter

SEATTLE - Scott Frost left the ungrateful fans of his home state and traveled to Washington last weekend with his respect on the line. The senior quarterback led Nebraska to a 27-14 victory over the then second-ranked team in the nation before a hostile crowd at Husky Stadium and a regional ABC television audience.

Sweet revenge, right? Maybe, but Frost will be the last to admit it.

"I'm just happy to win this game," Frost said. "I'm happy for the team, I'm happy for the families of the players. I'm happy for the coaches and I'm happy for the fans who have supported us through everything. Those are the true fans and they deserve this win as much as we do."

Against Washington, Frost rushed for 97 yards and threw for another 88 in an effort that earned him Big 12 offensive player-of-the-week honors. Nebraska improved to 3-0 and jumped from seventh to third in the Associated Press poll. But the Huskies weren't Frost's only oppo-

nent. Mentally, Frost had to deal with the pressure of a big game as well as opposing fans - both in Seattle and Lincoln.

"It's been very distressing to me as a coach to see a player treated the way he's been treated, when all he's done is the best he can," NU coach Tom Osborne said.

In Lincoln on Sept. 13, Frost was booed by Nebraska fans against Central Florida. After failing to score on the Huskers' first two drives, Frost found Sheldon Jackson for a 16-yard touchdown pass to tie the game at

seven. But on the fourth drive, in a pre-planned move by Osborne, Frost was replaced by sophomore Frankie London. Osborne said he wanted London to have experience in case something happened to Frost, but after London led Nebraska to its second touchdown, some fans didn't want to see Frost return.

But fan displeasure for Frost dates back to last season, his first at Nebraska after transferring from Stanford and sitting out a season.

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