

Longhorns triumph over NU

NU from page 8

It was that offensive production that ultimately gave the Huskers a good chance at victory. After Buckhalter's fumble, UT was forced to punt, and NU took over at the Longhorns' 44-yard line. Crouch hit Alexander on a 22-yard shuttle pass to the 11 and then scored himself on a 9-yard option run. NU led 20-17 with 7:52 remaining.

But as it had in the previous two wins over Nebraska, Texas came right back. Applewhite, who completed 8 of 9 passes for 166 yards in the second half, hit Ryan Nunez for 39 yards on the first play of the drive to move the ball to the NU 21. Then, on third and six two plays later, Applewhite rolled left and found tight end Mike Jones, who broke three tackles for a touchdown. Only 2:01 had elapsed off the clock.

The quickness with which Texas scored wasn't surprising considering the history of the three games, but it didn't fit at all with the context of the first half, when UT did virtually nothing, amassing only 92 total yards. But as Solich said, "Texas threw it better in the second half. And they caught it better." Conversely, Nebraska did not tackle or cover receivers quite as well.

And throughout the Longhorns' young offensive line protected just well enough to give Applewhite an opening.

The Blackshirts blitzed the sophomore at times but got no sacks. They batted down four passes in the first half but none in the second.

"The offensive line played so good," Applewhite said. "Their defensive rush was just quitting and throwing their hands up."

And while NU ran nearly every type of trick play known to football, UT stayed basic, hitting its biggest plays off slants and rollout passes. The Longhorns stayed patient - typically a Husker trademark - and waited for opportunities.

NU Defensive Coordinator Charlie McBride took blame for some of the schemes his team ran. As the game went on, Nebraska seemed to attack less and react more.

"That's as bad a job as I've done in maybe my coaching career as far as calling defenses," McBride said. "We had our kids in a couple of binds out there. We didn't hold our end of the deal up."

Neither did the NU offense on its final drive. It had 5:51 to score, but the time was misleading, because the Huskers had already burned all three timeouts by then because of snafus in sending in plays, a problem that plagued NU in losses last year. Nebraska's final drive had a touch of the bizarre - officials called what looked like a catch by Matt Davison

incomplete.

But once the Huskers entered UT territory on the drive, they picked up a false start penalty, and their final two offensive plays were passes that fell to turf as Crouch was under heavy pressure. Without any timeouts, there weren't many options.

"We need to get the plays in a little bit faster," Crouch said.

Solich got defensive afterward when asked about play-calling, saying it happens to every team that likes to run different sets or plays.

Texas ran out the clock and celebration ensued on the field. Rover Mike Brown sprinted for the locker room but jarred with fans for five minutes. Nose tackle Steve Warren lingered, looking up at the band and crowd. Solich had to separate some of his players from the taunting crowd, then stayed at the top of the steps to make sure every play went to locker room without saying a word to the fans.

About the only bright spot for Nebraska on a day when its national title hopes were probably left for dead is the notion that, with its two toughest remaining games at home, it could get Texas again. Texas A&M lost 51-6 to Oklahoma, so UT is the leader along with Texas Tech.

"We might see them again," McBride said.

McBride: Talk hurt Huskers

DEFENSE from page 10

was said. She said there was an article in the paper about 'hate' something. I don't even like that word because it is a famous word at Colorado.

"I will guarantee you that it is a definite motivation. I mean that there is no question in my mind as a competitor that those kind of things are things that I would like to hear every week. I think it is a motivating factor both defensively and offensively when somebody comes out and says they hate you."

McBride said that the situation needs to be handled but "that is not my job."

As far as the rest of the season goes, McBride said he sees his players bouncing back.

Nebraska still has a chance to get to the Big 12 Championship game - and a possible rematch with Texas - but NU must win the rest of its games left to do so.

"We just have to win the rest of our games in order to have what I think is a successful season," McBride said.

Texas earns respect in third-straight win

UT from page 8

yards (429-275) than Texas. But one category killed the Huskers and determined the fate of the game - turnovers.

NU coughed up the ball five times, three of which Texas recovered. The costliest of all came when Husker running back Correll Buckhalter fumbled on the UT 1-yard line in the fourth quarter with NU down 17-13. The UT defense also forced NU quarterback Eric Crouch to fumble twice.

The turnover ratio was big for Brown, considering UT turned the ball over itself six times in the 35-17 loss to

K-State on Oct. 2. Thanks to a reverse performance Saturday, Brown hinted at a possible showdown with NU in the Big 12 Championship game Dec. 4.

"When we played Kansas State, the Texas folks were mad because we messed up, and the Kansas State fans were glad because they forced turnovers," Brown said.

"That's interesting because I thought the turnovers were forced today. I didn't think Nebraska messed up. I think it's a great Nebraska team. They're disappointed today. I know if we're good enough, there's a chance we'll see them again."

Longhorns' 1-2 punch KOs the Huskers in five games

VOLLEY from page 10

The two teams traded points nearly blow-for-blow in the rally-scoring fifth game. After NU middle blocker Amber Holmquist's block cut the UT lead to 12-11, Tilson stepped up with two monster kills to give UT match point at 14-11.

Nebraska called time out and stayed alive thanks to freshman Greichaly Cepero's fifth kill of the game, and then she and sophomore Jenny Kropp got a block to pull the Huskers within 14-13.

But that's when Tilson banged down the biggest kill of her career to shatter NU's hopes of a comeback.

Pettit said his team's disorganization and failure to dig the aggressive attacks from Aldrich and Tilson made the difference. UT's .279 hitting percentage was the highest an opponent has hit on the Huskers this year.

"The thing that surprised and disappointed me was our defensive effort," Pettit said. "It just seemed like we weren't getting the balls we should have."

Husker rifle team captures two titles

■ NU had the top four individual finishers in the air rifle and smallbore competitions.

By SEAN CALLAHAN
Staff writer

The Nebraska rifle team continued to show that it is already a dominating team in only its second year of existence.

This weekend the Cornhuskers had the top four individual finishers in both the air rifle and smallbore competitions to help them capture both team titles.

In the air rifle competition, the Huskers were led by freshman Nicole Allaire's first-place finish. Allaire fired a 389 out of a possible 400 to take her second air rifle title of the season.

Freshman Amanda Trujillo added a second-place finish for NU with a 386. Sophomore Terim Richards finished third with a 384,

and freshman Rachel Spiry was fourth with a score of 381.

The Huskers' combined team score in the air rifle competition was a 1,540 out of a possible 1,600. Austin-Peay shot a 1,414 to take second.

In the smallbore competition Allaire also took first for Nebraska. It was her third smallbore title of the season. Allaire shot a 1,154 out of a possible 1,200.

Trujillo took second for NU with a score of 1,145. Freshman Victoria Ridge finished third with a 1,118, and Spiry was fourth with a 1,110.

Nebraska's combined team score in the air rifle competition was 4,527 out of a possible 4,800. University of Missouri at Kansas City was second with a 4,122.

The team titles were the third titles the Huskers have captured this year in as many tries.

The Huskers next will be in action Nov. 5 at the Walsh Invitational at Xavier University. NU will also compete in the University of Kentucky Invitational in Lexington on Nov. 6.

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