

Nebraska 22,

UT coach: NU defense sealed fate

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SAN ANTONIO — Even when Texas was down 22-6 in the fourth quarter, Texas Coach Mack Brown still felt confident his team had a chance to win.

Who could blame him? He had Major Applewhite, who had led Texas to two previous come-from-behind victories over Nebraska.

"I really thought we had enough time, but we still couldn't get enough momentum to get back into it," Brown said. "The simple story of this game was it was a defensive football game with two great defenses, and their offense made more plays than we did. Our defense held their offense much better than it did earlier in the year, but their defense held our offense better than it did, too."

In the game, the Longhorns allowed the Cornhuskers 289 total yards and only 14 first downs. But on offense, Texas had only 173 yards, 164 through the air and 9 on the ground.

"We said before the game if we can't get more than 100 yards with Hodges Mitchell and we couldn't protect the quarterback and be two-dimensional, we would lose the game," Brown said. "We didn't do either. Our goal was to be two-dimensional. Our plan died."

"We can make this into a great scheme by them and a poor scheme by us, but when theirs whip ours, schemes become less of an issue."

Brown pointed specifically to Nebraska's defensive pressure for crippling his explosive offense.

"They changed their pass rush," Brown said. "They were faster. They had the same guys, but they came harder. I think we made them mad last time. They weren't doing anything different in the game. Their guys ran by our guys or ran over our guys and made plays. The blocks we made last time, we didn't make this time. That was a credit to them."

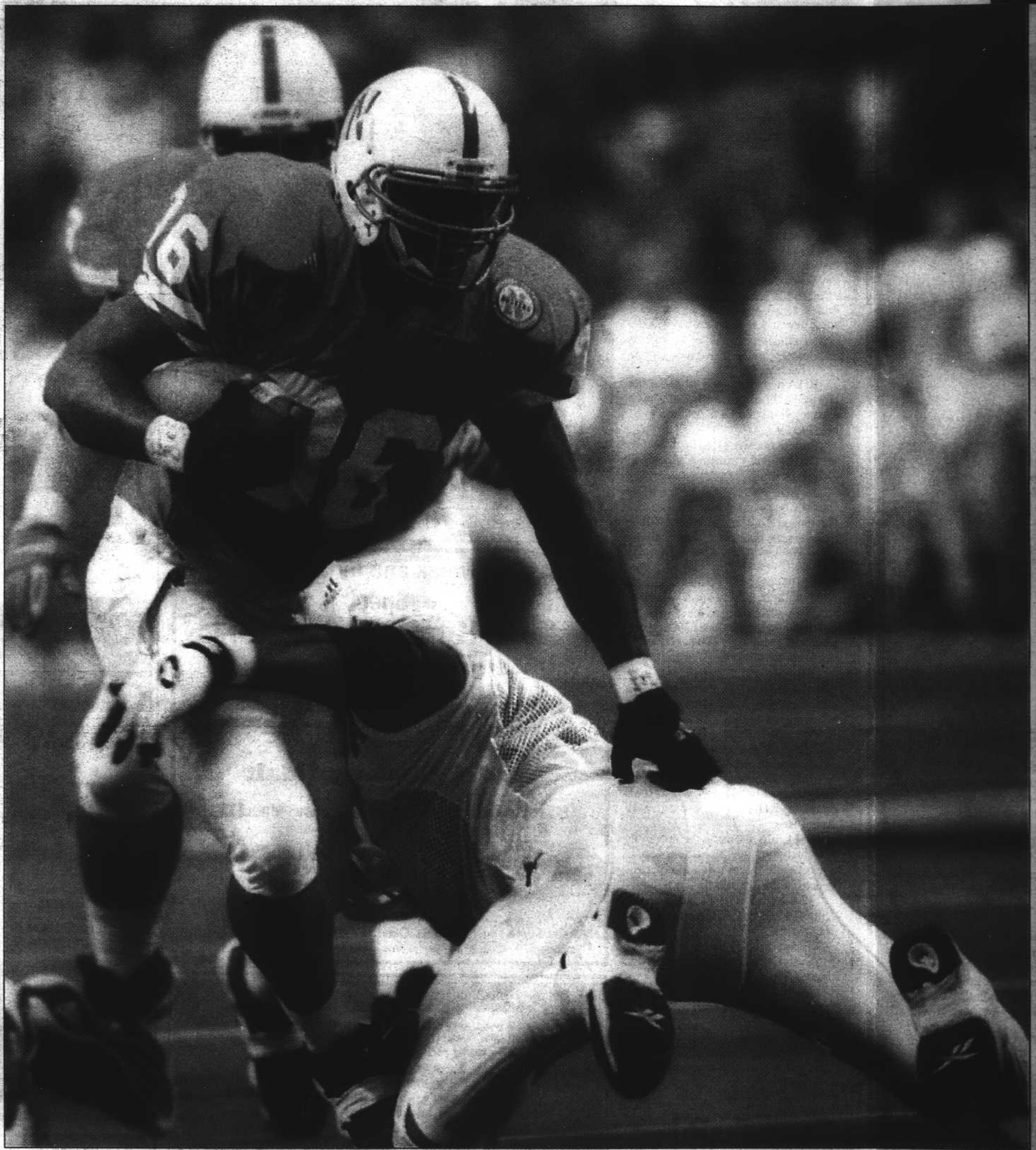
The Longhorns' inability to block Nebraska defenders puzzled Brown.

"I know we tried hard," he said. "That is the confusing thing. At halftime I was mad, but I didn't know who to be mad at because we were trying, but they were whipping us. Their defense was quick and dominating. It gave us an inability to run the football. Therefore when you can't run and be two-dimensional, we couldn't protect well enough to pass it."

Mitchell, who came into the game as the second leading rusher in the conference, finished with 17 yards on five carries. Applewhite also was sacked seven times and knocked around on numerous occasions.

"If we had to do anything different, the only thing I would tell our guys was to block them," Brown said.

"Our effort was there. If we hadn't played hard, as good as Nebraska plays, they would have beaten us pretty badly."



MIKE WARREN/DN
ABOVE: NU I-BACK Correll Buckhalter tries to break through the Texas line and the arm tackle of strong safety Lee Jackson.

TOP RIGHT: NU ROVER Mike Brown gets an arm in on Texas quarterback Major Applewhite. The Blackshirts sacked Applewhite a total of seven times on Saturday.

FAR RIGHT: SENIOR WEAKSIDE linebacker Eric Johnson gives an upside down hook 'em horns sign at the end of play to the Nebraska fans showing that Nebraska had beaten Texas.

Football Game Review

Nebraska				Texas									
Rushing				Rushing									
No.	Name	Yds	Avg TD	No.	Name	Yds	Avg TD						
36	C. Buckhalter	138	8.8 0	29	V. Ika	21	7.0 0						
7	Eric Crouch	72	3.1 0	33	K. Hayter	19	2.4 0						
15	W. Miller	17	2.1 0	3	H. Mitchell	17	2.4 0						
Receiving				Receiving									
No.	Name	No	Yds	TD	No.	Name	No	Yds	TD				
64	J. Bowling	2	30	0	8	K. Cavin	5	90	0				
3	M. Davison	2	19	0	22	R. Nunez	3	31	0				
12	B. Novomace	2	6	0	26	V. Ika	2	19	0				
Passing				Passing									
No.	Name	Att	Cmp	Int	Yds	TD	No.	Name	Att	Cmp	Int	Yds	TD
7	Eric Crouch	6	14	1	55	0	11	M. Applewhite	15	42	3	164	0

Game Stats	Nebraska	TX	Nebraska	TX
First downs	14	15	Fumbles lost	2 1
Rushing attempts	58	29	Interceptions	3 1
Rushing yards	234	9	Penalties / yards	4 / 20 3 / 17
Passing attempts	15	42	Punt returns / yards	6 / 74 6 / 44
Passing completions	6	9	Kickoff returns / yards	3 / 60 2 / 38
Passing yards	55	164	Time of possession	37:51 22:09
Total plays	73	71	Third-down conversion	4 of 17 4 of 15
Total yards	289	173	Fourth-down conversion	1 of 1 0 of 0
			Sacks / yards	5 / 33 1 / 3

