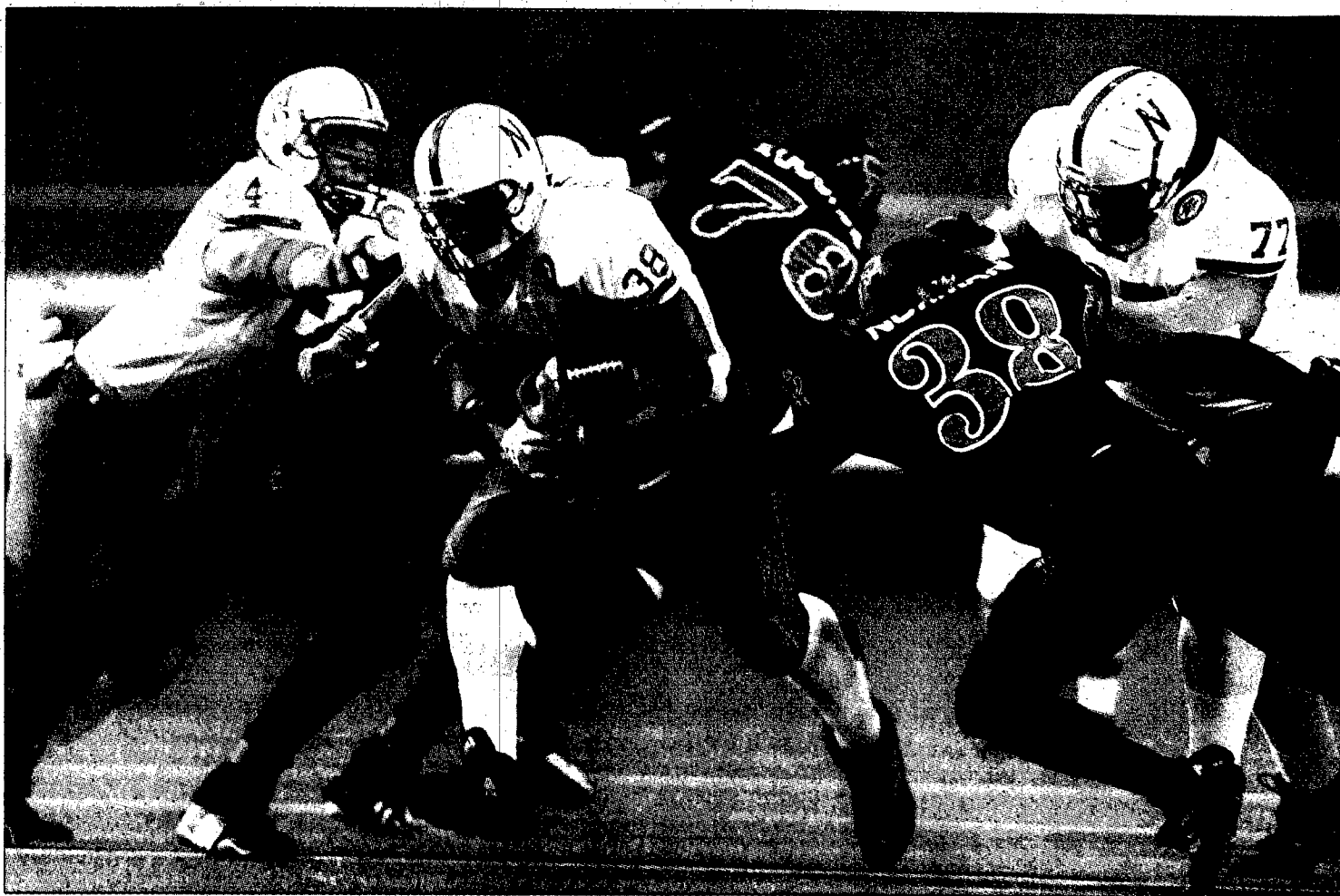


BOTTLED UP: Kansas State defender Milton Proctor can't wrap up Oklahoma quarterback Josh Heupel, who completed 29 of 37 passes for 374 yards with two touchdowns.

Huskers Crash Air Show



STRAIGHT AHEAD: Nebraska I-back Dan Alexander hits the hole for a 9-yard gain in the first quarter as Texas Tech linebacker John Norman, No. 38, moves in. Blocking for Alexander are center Dominic Raiola, left, and guard Toniu Fonoti, No. 77.

Sooners Clobber K-State

BY LEE BARFKNECHT
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Manhattan, Kan. — It seemed like old times Saturday.

Barry Switzer walked the sidelines. Oklahoma drilled Kansas State 41-31 and the Sooner starters spent part of the fourth quarter teasing the visiting fans from the sidelines.

But before you check yourself in for flashback therapy, remember that Switzer no longer is OU's coach, the Sooners had lost five straight to K-State and it was the Wildcats who were ranked second and third in the country.

These are the 21st-century, pass-happy Sooners of second-year Coach Bob Stoops, and they have awakened championship echoes with a second straight win over a Top 10 opponent for the first time since 1986. "Oklahoma's fixin' to get good," Switzer crowed. "This is no upset. Oklahoma was the best team on this field."

As if to punctuate his point, Switzer offered this line to a fan in a Kansas State jersey who shook Switzer's hand after the game and called him "the best."

"Thanks," Switzer said. "Y'all had a nice run."

Eighth-ranked OU (6-0, 3-0) followed last week's 63-14 pummeling of then-No. 10 Texas by building leads over Kansas State of 10 points in the first quarter, 17 points at halftime and 24 points early in the third quarter.

Quarterback Josh Heupel was the key, completing 29 of 37 passes (78.4 percent) for 374 yards with two touchdowns and no interceptions. He also ran 1 yard for a touchdown.

"Josh Heupel is the guy who makes this happen," Switzer said. "He is a great, great college quarterback."

"This team isn't as talented as we were when I was there. They don't have the physical talent. They don't have any first-round picks or first-player picks. But these coaches have done a coaching job, and that's the difference in what's happening at Oklahoma."

Kansas State, which hadn't trailed this season, led Saturday for only 22 seconds of the first quarter. In 12 years under Coach Bill Snyder, KSU's record against Top 10 foes is 1-19.

The Wildcats (6-1, 2-1) tried to salvage their 25-game home winning streak — the nation's second-longest behind Florida State's 31 — by scoring 17 straight points in a 10-minute span of the third and fourth quarters to close to 38-31.

A blocked punt for a touchdown and quarterback Jonathan Beasley's short pass to split end Quincy Morgan that turned into a 69-yard touchdown were the big plays.

But OU's defense forced K-State off the field in three plays with 7:37 left. Then Heupel led a 12-play, 47-yard drive that ate 4:10 off the clock and resulted in Tim Duncan's clinching 24-yard field goal.

"We knew we would experience some adversity somewhere through the game," Stoops said. "I was glad we did."

"I can't be more proud of a group of players and assistant coaches who kept their cool and hung in and won the game."

In many ways, Oklahoma beat Kansas State at its own game — field position through the kicking game.

OU took a 3-0 lead by driving just 24 yards after a short punt to set up Duncan's 40-yard field goal.

Kansas State retaliated with split end Aaron Lockett's 38-yard kickoff return and a 62-yard touchdown drive, all on the ground. Beasley put the Wildcats up 7-3 with a 15-yard run.

Oklahoma's response took 22 seconds.

Safety J.T. Thatcher returned the ensuing kickoff 93 yards to the Kansas State 2. Running back Seth Littrell scored from there to put OU up 10-7 and quiet the KSU Stadium record crowd of 53,011.

"We've been pretty good on special teams," Snyder said. "But we had

Tom Shatel

Defense Gives OU an Eyeful

Lubbock, Texas
Can we move up that Nebraska-Oklahoma game? Like, say, to today?

I can't wait for that game. Oh, man, what a game. What a week of hype. Let's bring back the Boz. Let's get Barry Switzer on the Frank Solich Show with a bag of Tostitos.

No. 1 Nebraska at No. 8 (until today) Oklahoma on Oct. 28. Both teams undefeated. Conference title and national championship implications. Just like old times. It looks like the Game of the New Century. Thanks to both teams doing their parts on Saturday.

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FOUR IN A ROW: Nebraska safety Troy Watchorn picks off a pass Saturday — his fourth interception in NU's last four games.

NU's Complete Game Overpowers Texas Tech

BY STEVEN PIVOVAR
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Lubbock, Texas — Nebraska grounded Texas Tech's "Air Raid" offense Saturday with a performance that should send the Huskers' confidence soaring.

The Huskers, who have played like anything but the nation's top-ranked team at times this season, relied on relentless defensive pressure and a ball-control offense to produce a 56-3 victory.

Nebraska Coach-Frank Solich didn't hesitate in ranking the performance, which came before 48,961 at Jones SBC Stadium and a Fox Sports Net television audience, as his team's finest in a 6-0 season. Particularly impressive was the defense's effort against a Texas Tech offense that had "shown" itself capable of producing a glut of yardage.

"From the sideline, I thought that was our best performance thus far," said Craig Bohl, Nebraska's defensive coordinator. "I thought we picked up some confidence last week against Iowa State, and this game is going to add to that."

"Nothing builds confidence like a little bit of success, and tonight was important in that we took another step forward."

Nebraska held Texas Tech's wide-open offensive attack to a season-low 200 yards while piling up 540 — the Huskers' second most productive offensive effort of the season. The Red Raiders, averaging almost 5 yards per play through their first six games, averaged 3.3 yards per snap against the Huskers to drop to 5-2.

"We just all blew up," Texas Tech Coach Mike Leach said. "We were overly fired up and wanted this too badly."

The loss dropped Texas Tech to 1-2 in Big 12 Conference play, while Nebraska improved to 3-0. Up next for the Huskers is Saturday's home game against Baylor, although the focus of many of the team's fans is an Oct. 28 visit to eighth-ranked Oklahoma.

The Sooners, who scored a 41-31 victory over second- and third-ranked Kansas State, run an offense similar to

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Danielsen's Late TD Grab Lifts ISU to Fifth Victory

Stillwater, Okla. (AP) — A little-used receiver, a freshman running back and a punter-turned-place-kicker helped Iowa State beat Oklahoma State 33-26 Saturday night.

The Cyclones got a 33-yard touchdown catch by Lane Danielsen — his only catch of the night and third of the season — with 18 seconds remaining for the victory.

"Great throw, great protection, outstanding play," Iowa State Coach Dan McCarney said. "Those are the kind of plays you need to make if you want to turn a program around."

Danielsen's catch came after Iowa State (5-1, 2-1 Big 12) had come up with its third turnover in the final 18 minutes — all three of which led to points.

Freshman Michael Wagner, playing in place of Big 12 rushing leader Ennis Haywood, had 170 yards on 26 carries and scored three times. And Carl Gomez, a senior punter who hadn't kicked a field goal in a game since high school, hit two fourth-quarter field goals.

Iowa State has now won three straight on the road for the first time since 1978, the last time the Cyclones went to a bowl game. The 5-1 start is the Cyclones' best since 1980.

The loss was the fourth straight for Oklahoma State (2-4, 0-3), which got a good performance from freshman Aso Pogi in his first start at quarterback in place of injured Tony Lindsay.

Pogi was 26 of 45 for an OSU freshman-record 328 yards and two touchdowns, and he scored once on the

Big 12 Standings

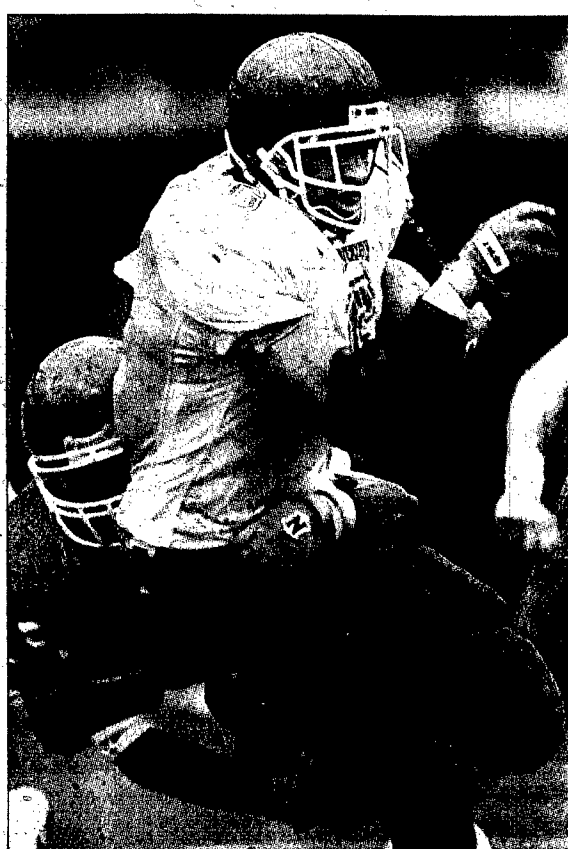
	NORTH DIVISION		SOUTH DIVISION	
	Conf	All	Conf	All
	W	L	W	L
Nebraska	3	0	7	0
Kansas State	2	1	6	1
Iowa State	2	1	5	1
Kansas	1	2	3	3
Colorado	1	2	1	5
Missouri	1	2	2	4
Oklahoma	3	0	6	0
Texas	2	1	4	2
Texas A&M	2	1	4	2
Texas Tech	1	2	5	2
Baylor	0	3	2	4
Oklahoma State	0	3	2	4

ground. But he also threw an interception that set up Iowa State's final drive.

On the play before the interception, Pogi had hit Jamaal Fobbs for a 47-yard gain to the ISU 39. But a penalty for excessive celebration pushed the Cowboys back 15 yards.

"I thought our next step was just to move it into field-goal range," Coach Bob Simmons said. "The official said he threw the ball way up in the air. That's his call."

See ISU FOOTBALL Page 2



WORKHORSE: UNO tailback Adam Wright pulls South Dakota cornerback Kaseem Gaines behind him on a fourth-quarter run. Wright went over the 1,000-yard mark for the second straight season.

Rally Lifts Mavericks Past Coyotes

BY RICH KAIPUST
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Vermillion, S.D. — Pat Behrns is either the most patient or most stubborn head coach in NCAA Division II football.

For the second straight week, Behrns scrapped any thoughts of offensive overhauls or quarterback changes after a scoreless first half for the University of Nebraska at Omaha. For the second straight week, the Mavericks rewarded his faith by knuckling down and producing in the third and fourth quarters.

No. 8-ranked UNO jump-started its running game and erased a 7-0 deficit Saturday to beat South Dakota 21-7 at the DakotaDome. Tailback Adam Wright and quarterback Trev Guidry combined for 171 second-half rushing yards after mostly being shut down early before a crowd of 5,961.

The turnaround — a close replica of last week's 17-7 victory over Northern Colorado after also trailing 7-0 at the break — pushed UNO's winning streak to six games and left the Mavs tied with North Dakota State for the North Central Conference lead.

"We had to stick with what we were doing," Behrns said. "In fact, we cut back even more at halftime than what we did in the first half. We were just not going to win that football game if we didn't start becoming physical."

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