

College Football

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Wildcats Topple Badgers

Unranked Northwestern's touchdown in the second overtime beats No. 7 Wisconsin 47-44

Madison, Wis. (AP) — The other shoe finally fell on the Wisconsin Badgers.

"I was probably the least surprised person out of 80,000 here today," Northwestern Coach Randy Walker said after Damien Anderson's 12-yard touchdown run in the second overtime gave the Wildcats a 47-44 victory over No. 7 Wisconsin on Saturday.

"I expected to win. We don't put a plan together, or prepare or work like we work to do anything but that."

The Badgers, who had opened their suspension-tinged season with three close calls, saw their 11-game winning streak halted and their hopes of their first national championship squelched when Anderson scooted around the left end and darted into the end zone.

Anderson wasn't convinced. After all, 51 points were scored from the middle of the fourth quarter on. "I was looking for flags," he admitted.

There was none, and the Wildcats had spoiled the Badgers' season just as Wisconsin was about to emerge from NCAA suspensions over a discount shoe scandal.

Moments earlier, the Badgers (3-1, 0-1 Big Ten) had taken a 44-41 lead on Vitaly Pisetsky's 39-yard field goal.

Northwestern (3-1, 1-0) got 174 yards on 21 carries from Anderson, who also scored on a 69-yard run.

Zak Kustok's 9-yard scramble on third-and-6 set up the winning score.

"We weren't just going to be happy going into overtime with Wisconsin," Kustok said. "We wanted to beat them."

The Badgers, who had never scored this many points and lost, saw an unranked opponent ruin their season for the second straight year. Last season, it was a stumble at Cincinnati that spoiled it.

The Badgers completed their NCAA-mandated suspensions by sitting out six players against the Wildcats, including No. 1 receiver Chris Chambers and All-America cornerback Jamar Fletcher. They were among 26 players received unadvertised discounts at a shoe store.

It looked as though Wisconsin would make it through the punishment unbeaten when Pisetsky's 47-yard field goal gave the Badgers a 34-31 lead with 51 seconds left in regulation.

Northwestern quickly moved for Tim Long's 46-yard, game-tying field goal as time expired.

"I was disappointed that for the second week in a row, we let a team march 50 yards in less than a minute with no timeouts and kick a field goal to take it to overtime," Badgers Coach Barry Alvarez said.

Both teams scored touchdowns in the first overtime, Northwestern on a 15-yard pass from Kustok to Teddy Johnson, and Wisconsin on a 5-yard pass from Brooks Bollinger to Nick Davis.

Oregon Stuns No. 6 UCLA

Eugene, Ore. (AP) — Maurice Morris ran for 139 yards and two touchdowns to lead Oregon to a 29-10 victory over No. 6 UCLA on Saturday in the Pacific-10 opener for both teams.

The Ducks (3-1) dominated UCLA throughout, holding the Bruins (3-1) scoreless until the third quarter. It was the 17th straight home win for Oregon, the longest string in the Pac-10.

UCLA was coming off a victory over then-No. 3 Michigan and opened the season with a win over Alabama — also No. 3 at the time.

Oregon quarterback Joey Harrington opened the scoring midway through the first quarter, shoving his way across the goal line from less than a yard out to cap an eight-play, 54-yard drive.

UCLA finished with minus-9 yards rushing. The Bruins did not gain a single yard rushing in the first quarter, and Oregon held them to just 22 yards on the ground in the half.

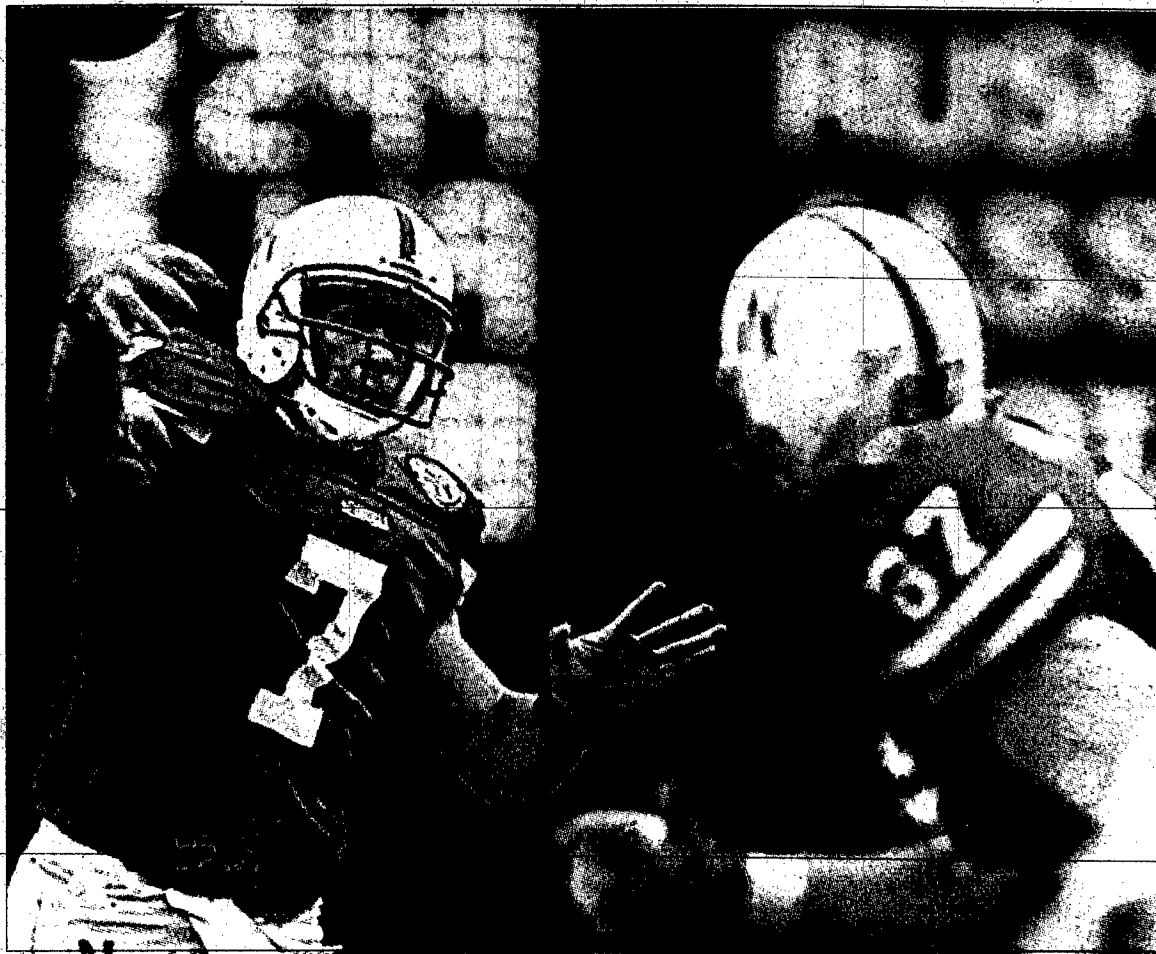
Morris had 64 of his 139 yards for Oregon in the first quarter, and the Ducks ended up with 208 yards rushing. Morris scored from a yard out, and then from 6 yards.

UCLA quarterback Ryan McCann, making his first start on the road, looked shaky at the outset and fumbled the first snap of the game. However, the play was whistled dead because of a false start. It was one of five false start penalties for UCLA in the first half, including a series of three in a row on the Bruins' third possession.

In the closing minutes, McCann lost a bad snap and Oregon recovered on the UCLA 4, setting up Morris' final touchdown.

UCLA was again without starting quarterback Cory Paus, who separated his shoulder against Alabama, and defensive end Kenyon Coleman, out for a month with torn knee ligaments.

NU Dusts Off Air Game



EFFICIENT: Nebraska quarterback Eric Crouch passed only 13 times Saturday, but came away with 10 completions, 159 yards and a school record-tying five touchdowns. In the foreground is tight end Tracey Wistrom, who also tied a school mark with three touchdown catches.

Crouch ties a school record with five touchdown passes in 42-13 win over Iowa

BY STEVEN PIVOVAR
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Lincoln — Nebraska's performance Saturday against Iowa proved to be a real rush for Tracey Wistrom and the rest of the Huskers' receivers.

Wistrom tied a school record with three touchdown catches, and split end Matt Davison had two more in one of the more efficient passing performances in school history. Half of quarterback Eric Crouch's 10 completions went for touchdowns, which also tied a school record, as top-ranked Nebraska posted a workmanlike 42-13 victory before a record crowd of 78,070 at Memorial Stadium.

"This is unheard of around here," said Wistrom, a junior tight end. "I didn't come here thinking I'd be catching three touchdown passes in a game. Don't get me wrong, I'm enjoying this."

The smile on Davison's face indicated that he, too, was thrilled with catching almost as many touchdowns in one game as he had in his first 41 as a Husker. He came into Saturday's game with three career touchdowns but came up with scoring catches of 31 and 43 yards in the first half against the Hawkeyes.

"That was more balls than I caught all week in practice," Davison said jokingly. "I have a question for you: When was the last time Nebraska didn't have a rushing touchdown? And won?"

That was in 1998, Nebraska didn't score a rushing touchdown in back-to-back games to close that

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On a Strange Day, Crouch Is Reliable

Lincoln — As a cold wind blew in from the north, a sea of red shivered in parks beneath gloomy gray clouds at Memorial Stadium. And the fans all had to be thinking the same thing:

This is September?

Yes, and good thing, too. On a Nebraska football day that felt like November, the No. 1-ranked Huskers could only be glad it wasn't. If Iowa's Scott Mullen can carve up the Big Red like a Thanksgiving turkey, wait until Oklahoma and Kansas State come to dinner.

It's important to note here at the start that NU beat the Hawkeyes, 42-13, and that the Huskers are 3-0 and still ranked No. 1. With two more undefeateds (UCLA, Wisconsin) hitting the bricks on Saturday, that's a sunny forecast, whatever the weather.

What a weird day. Nebraska throws for five touchdown passes and doesn't run for any. The Hawkeyes throw for 252 yards and get 18 first downs and never cross the goal line after the first series. You never felt like the Hawks were out of it. Or ever in it.

Tom Shatel

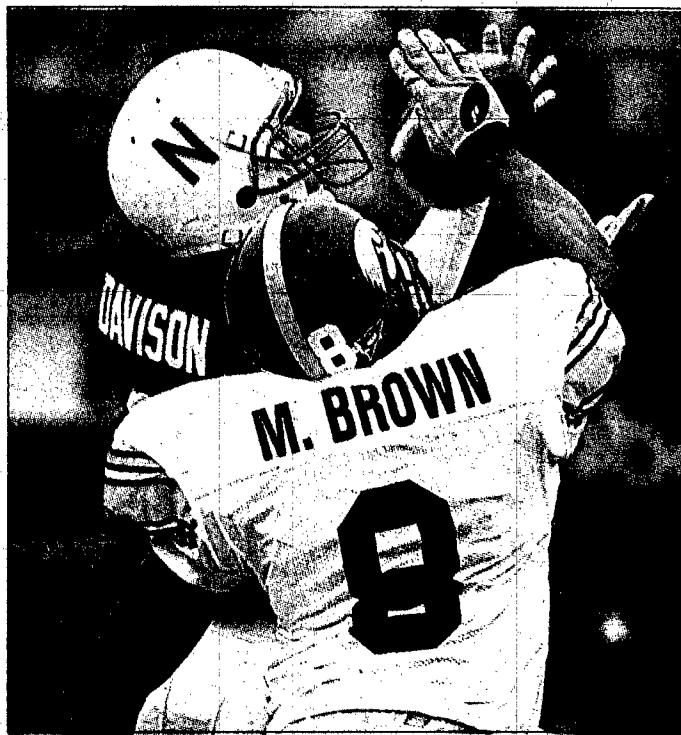


What a weird season. Every week, a crisis. One hole plugged and another leak springs. The first week the Huskers can't tackle. Then they go to Notre Dame and you think the defense has turned the corner and it's the passing game that's under red alert. After Saturday, it appears the Big Red passing game needs more work. On defense.

Thank goodness for the sloppy special teams. At least something is consistent.

"We keep playing to the level of our opponents," said senior middle

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STARTING A TREND: Nebraska wide receiver Matt Davison beats Iowa defensive back Mikkel Brown to the ball Saturday. The catch was the first of three first-half touchdown passes for NU and helped the Huskers pull into a 7-7 tie on a day when NU rushed for 331 yards but no touchdowns. "We have the talent to throw the ball, and we have the receivers to go out and make big plays," quarterback Eric Crouch said. "It was one of those situations where we had to go oit and prove it in a game. We wanted to do that today, and we accomplished it. It was a good day."

Crouch's Air Raid	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	End of 1st Half	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
Eric Crouch tied a school record Saturday by throwing five touchdown passes in a single game.	After Iowa strikes first to go ahead 7-0, a 31-yard pass to Matt Davison with 7:40 left ties the score.	With just over 11 minutes left in the half, Crouch connects with Tracey Wistrom to give the Huskers the lead, 14-7.	With seconds left on the clock, Crouch finds Davison from 43 yards out to give NU a 21-13 halftime edge.	Wistrom again, this time from the 10 yard line with 11:25 left on the clock. Nebraska starts pulling away, 28-13.	Just as Nebraska's drive seems about to stall, Wistrom makes his third TD catch with 1:27 left in the game. Nebraska 35, Iowa 13.



TOUCHDOWN: UNO's Adam Wright, left, bounces past Morningside's Andre MacIn to score on a 14-yard run Saturday at Sioux City, Iowa.

Mavs Almost Left Mourning

Missed field goal by Morningside in fourth quarter lifts UNO in sloppy game

BY RICH KAIPUST
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Sioux City, Iowa — UNO deserved to have to sweat this one out.

It was the Mavericks' punishment for a list of mistakes too long to detail. It was for breathing life back into Morningside when they had a chance to deflate the Mustangs early.

The University of Nebraska at Omaha had to wait until Morningside kicker Rob McWilliams missed a 23-yard field goal with 2:36 left to claim a 16-14 victory Saturday.

"It was an escape that probably shouldn't have been necessary before a Roberts Stadium crowd of 1,504.

"We let them back into the game with a lot of those things we did wrong," UNO rover Tyrone Brice said. "Sitting there watching that field goal

was kind of scary. But everything came out OK."

Despite another 200-yard rushing game by tailback Adam Wright (33 carries, 216 yards) and a 100-yard game by quarterback Trey Guidry (19 for 114), UNO was held to its lowest point total of the season. It nearly cost the No. 19-ranked Mavs a North Central Conference win they had to have to keep pace with No. 3 North Dakota State, No. 8 South Dakota State and No. 9 North Dakota.

But being 3-1 overall and 2-0 in the NCC — instead of 2-2 and 1-1 — made the scare easier to deal with afterward.

"What I told them was that there are no ugly victories that I know of," UNO Coach Pat Behrns said. "We came in here with something in mind, and that was that we had to win this game. We came out of here with that."

"In no way am I disappointed or unhappy. Are there things we need to correct? Yes, there are, and some are very obvious. But to me it's easier to correct the obvious sometimes than the unobvious."

Where to start?

Maybe special teams, where UNO missed two field goals and an extra point, botched a punt return and sent a snap sailing over its punter's head.

Or with the offense, which offset some good work by committing two turnovers inside the Morningside 10-yard line and another in its own territory that gave Morningside its last chance.

Or possibly the defense, which mostly held tough but was penalized five times, including costly infractions before both of the Mustangs' touchdowns.

"We did do a little bit of everything wrong," Behrns said.

Morningside (1-3, 0-2) got its final opportunity when linebacker Beau Livingston intercepted Guidry and returned the ball 19 yards to the UNO 15 with 4:51 remaining. The Mustangs were forced to try the field goal when Tyree Kellogg and Abrian Stovall stopped Brad Sitzmann just short of a first down on a third-and-4 play.

McWilliams then puffed his kick to the left.

"Hard to swallow, huh?"

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