



How Boring Can NU Get?

Lincoln
Ho-hum. Nebraska bore in on Oklahoma State in the second half to win Saturday, assuring NU of an NCAA-record 20th straight winning season before an NCAA-record 174th straight sellout. *Yaiwinnnnnn.*
I mean, you talk about tedium. The Huskers are 7-0, rated third and fourth in the national polls, and the possibility of a national championship is real. It's enough to put you to sleep.
To make matters worse — and this will really make your eyelids heavy — Saturday's victory over the Cowboys was Nebraska's 58th straight against Big Eight opponents other than Oklahoma and Colorado.
Put on a pot of coffee, Black. Other schools and their followers are glad they don't have to put up with this monotony. Since 1970, when NU installed artificial turf, Nebraska has won 89 percent of its home games — 119-15.
And the Huskers' coach? Now that guy is really boring. Talks in kind of an unexcited monotone, goes to church every Sunday and then goes back to work. Sometimes he gets a little owly when people make fun of his schedule, or criticize his stubborn streak on offense.
Saturday he became only the 11th coach to win 175 games at one school. Hey, there. Try to keep from dozing off.

Not Invincible

Nebraska is so boring it might not lose a game this year.
The team is not invincible, but it's in the hunt — as it often was in the 1980s, always coming up just short of the ultimate.
You have to question the schedule, you have to wonder about an offense that frequently starts slowly — it happened once again Saturday — and you have to wonder what will happen if the Cornhuskers go against an exceptional defense.
That NU has gone 58-0 against five Big Eight teams might say something about those teams, but it also says something about Nebraska and its head coach, Tom Osborne. Surely, the Huskers would have stumbled somewhere along the way.
Doesn't everyone? Didn't Oklahoma lose at home Saturday to Iowa State? Didn't formerly top-ranked Michigan lose at home Saturday to Iowa?
In 18 seasons, Osborne has never lost to a team that finished with a sub-.500 record. Gee, wouldn't it be fun to have some 7-4 or 6-5 seasons like everyone else has from time to time?
That would really keep us awake nights.

Fine Offense

Nebraska must play this week at Iowa State, a fine offensive team. If NU gets past that one, the Huskers would be undefeated as they welcome the Colorado Buffaloes in a Nov. 3 game that will definitely not be boring.
After a game at Kansas, the Huskers invade Norman to take on Oklahoma. They could lose a game or two, or they could sweep them and be headed for the Orange Bowl against — who, Notre Dame?
The fates could be cruel if all that happened and No. 1-rated Virginia, with only Georgia Tech in the way, heads for the Citrus Bowl undefeated. Nebraska came so close to winning it all so many times in the '80s — can you imagine the Huskers going 12-0 and finishing No. 2?
If we're getting ahead of ourselves, it's probably because the 1990 season is entering its most interesting stage. The Huskers have played six of their first seven games at home, but must finish with four of five on the road, including a bowl game.
The last time Oklahoma State came to Memorial Stadium, two years ago, the teams set a stadium scoring record in a 63-42 Husker victory. This time, with OSU on probation and having lost its last three road games, the outlook was for a Nebraska track meet — NU was favored by 34½.
The puzzling Nebraska offense, up one week, lethargic the next, gave NU only a 7-3 lead early in the third quarter, at which time OSU was virtually even with the Huskers in total offense.

Fast, Steady

But the Husker defense is fast and steady. You can't run successfully to the sidelines against NU's speed. You can try the middle, but there sits Pat Engelbert, who made five unassisted tackles Saturday, two for losses.
Sometimes short passes over the middle are open against Nebraska, but the Huskers' man-to-man coverage is good, and the pass-rush from Kenny Walker and others is relentless.
What has been consistent for Nebraska is the kicking game, and the "foot" won Saturday's football game. Tyrone Hughes' kickoff return to the OSU 45 set up a field goal, Nafe Turner's punt return to the Cowboy 39 set up Mickey Joseph's 39-yard run, set two OSU punts of kicks fed to the Cornhuskers' final two touchdowns — in the first 10 seconds of the fourth quarter.
The NU offense, which converted only 4 of 14 third-down plays against blitzing Oklahoma State, has great potential but doesn't always use it. As the Huskers take their show on the road, it's time to put it all together.
If Nebraska has a shot at the top, the Huskers have to go after it full bore.

Reds Proclaim: How Sweep It Is!

Oakland, Calif. (AP) — Believe it. Because it happened.
The Cincinnati Reds, given no chance to beat the Oakland Athletics, needed only four fast games to win the World Series in one of the biggest upsets in baseball history.
The Reds won in every way, even completing their improbable sweep Saturday night after losing two star players, Eric Davis and Billy Hatcher, to injuries.
Cincinnati again relied on pitcher Jose Rijo and rallied for two runs in the eighth inning for a 2-1 victory.
And that was all she wrote for Oakland, which became the first team in history to sweep the Series one year and then get swept the next.
The Athletics' third straight trip to



Rijo Morris

World Series

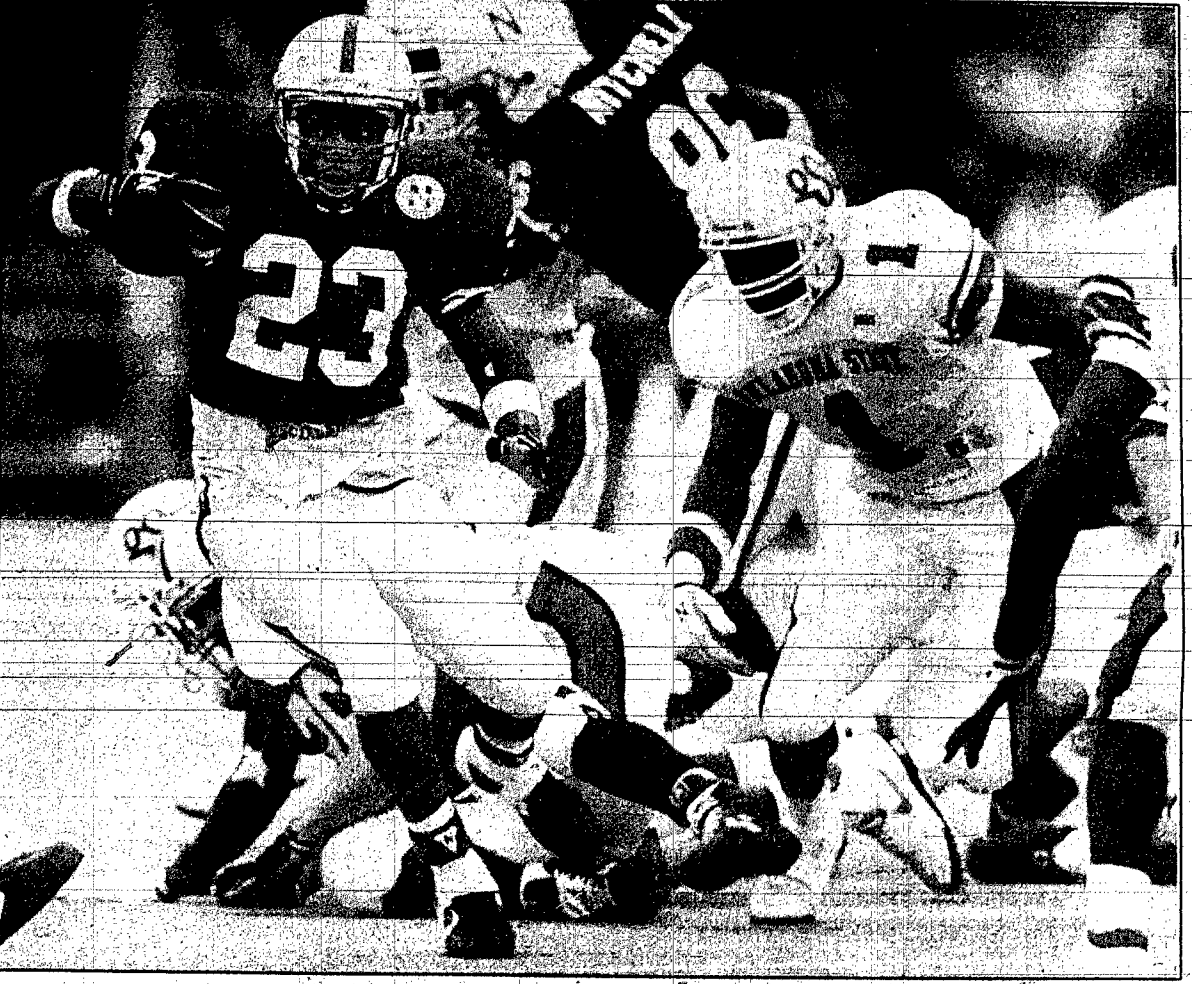
Result Saturday
Cincinnati 2 Oakland 1
Cincinnati wins series 4-0
overshadowed by the Bay Area earthquake.
"You don't expect to win a series like this and sweep a team that was playing so well," said Lou Piniella, the first-year manager of "The New Red Machine."
Added Piniella, "But we felt we'd play well and thought that if we got

Davis Listed in Serious Condition

Oakland, Calif. (AP) — Cincinnati outfielder Eric Davis was hospitalized in serious condition Saturday night after injuring a kidney in the first inning of the Reds' World Series-sweeping victory over the Oakland Athletics.
The Reds said Davis was in the intensive-care unit of Merritt Hospital and was expected to remain there three to seven days.
Davis bruised a kidney and his rib cage while trying to make a diving catch of a fly ball by Willie McGee. In the top of the inning, teammate

Billy Hatcher sustained a severe bruise on his left hand when he was hit by a pitch from Dave Stewart.
"It's very, very bad," Reds team physician Dr. Michael Lawton said of the kidney bruise.
The Reds said Davis was unresponsive, bleeding.
"He's going to be in the hospital for quite a while," Dr. Lawton said.
Davis tried to make a diving catch on McGee's slicing drive to left field but dropped the ball when hit the ground, jamming his elbow into his midsection.

**Kicking Game Helps Subdue Cowboys
NU Generates Something Special to Beat OSU**



Rich Janda/World-Herald

Leodis Flowers topped the 100-yard mark for the fifth straight game this season with 138 yards on 21 carries... The Nebraska 1-back tries to outrun Oklahoma State's Mike Clark, No. 1, in the first quarter, during which he scored on a 12-yard run.

Hawks Have Last Word, Upset No. 10 Michigan

Ann Arbor, Mich. (AP) — The Iowa Hawkeyes were doing the Hokey Pokey again and nobody was dancing harder than quarterback Matt Rodgers.
Rodgers, who passed for one touchdown and ran for another, led a brilliant drive to the winning touchdown in the closing minutes Saturday as the 22nd-ranked Hawkeyes defeated No. 10 Michigan 24-23 to remain unbeaten in the Big Ten.
"This has to be the biggest victory I have ever played in," Rodgers said. "We just went with what was working. We knew we had the ability to pass well, and we knew Michigan would give us the short passes and dump-offs."
Iowa Coach Hayden Fry had promised just such a game plan. "We'll scratch where it itches," he had said.
It produced the second Iowa victory in Michigan in a two-week span. The Hawkeyes won their Big Ten opener at Michigan State.
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How the Top 25s Fared

AP/UPI	Next Opponent
1/1 Virginia (7-0) defeated Wake Forest 49-14	Georgia Tech (Nov. 3)
2/2 Miami, Fla. (4-2) lost to Notre Dame 29-20	Texas Tech
3/4 Tennessee (4-1) lost to Alabama 9-6	Temple (Nov. 3)
4/3 Nebraska (7-0) defeated Oklahoma State 31-3	Iowa State
5/5 Auburn (5-0-1) defeated Florida State 20-17	Mississippi State
6/6 Notre Dame (5-1) defeated Miami 29-20	Pittsburgh
7/7 Florida St. (4-2) lost to Auburn 20-17	LSU
8/9 Illinois (5-1) defeated Michigan State 15-13	Wisconsin
9/ Houston (6-0) defeated SMU 44-17	Arkansas
10/8 Michigan (3-3) lost to Iowa 24-23	Indiana
11/11 Georgia Tech (5-0-1) tied North Carolina 13-13	Duke
12/10 Brigham Young (5-1) did not play	New Mexico
13/12 Washington (6-1) defeated Stanford 52-16	California
14/14 Colorado (6-1-1) defeated Kansas 41-10	Oklahoma
15/13 Southern Cal (5-2) lost to Arizona 35-26	Arizona State
16/ Oklahoma (5-2) lost to Iowa State 33-31	Colorado
17/ Florida (6-1) defeated Akron 59-0	Auburn (Nov. 3)
18/18 Mississippi (6-1) defeated Arkansas State 42-13	Vanderbilt
19/15 Texas (4-1) defeated Arkansas 49-17	SMU
20/16 Indiana (4-1-1) lost to Minnesota 12-0	Michigan
21/17 Wyoming (8-0) defeated Weber State 21-12	Texas-El Paso
22/22 Clemson (6-2) defeated North Carolina State 24-17	Wake Forest
23/19 Iowa (5-1) defeated Michigan 24-23	Northwestern
24/23 Michigan State (2-3-1) lost to Illinois 15-13	Purdue
25/21 Texas A&M (4-2-1) tied Baylor 20-20	Rice
1/19 Texas Christian (5-1) did not play	Baylor
2/24 Oregon (4-2) played Arizona State	Stanford
3/25 Louisville (6-1-1) defeated Pittsburgh 27-20	Western Kentucky

Rocket Takes Wind Out of 'Canes

By Ivan Maisel
The Dallas Morning News
South Bend, Ind. — The most talented player on the field decided the most competitive rivalry in the nation on the prettiest football Saturday of the autumn. Life is supposed to work that way.
"What can you say about Rocket?" said Miami Coach Dennis Erickson.
"What can you say about Rocket?" said Notre Dame Coach Lou Holtz.
"He's the best player in the country."
They may as well repeat themselves. What Irish junior flanker Raghib "Rocket" Ismail did to No. 2 Miami on Saturday won't be repeated soon.
Ismail
He scored on a 94-yard kickoff return, rushed for 100 yards and finished with a



career-high 268 all-purpose yards, in leading the sixth-ranked Fighting Irish to a 29-20 victory.
He even overcame dizziness. Dehydration caused him to leave the field in the second quarter. He received saline solution intravenously at halftime and had no more problems.
Back in Title Hunt
Ismail came off the training table. Notre Dame, 5-1, came off the critical list. Welcome the Irish back to the national championship race. With Miami and No. 3 Tennessee losing Saturday, Notre Dame could rise as high as fourth in the next Associated Press Top 25.
"It's like the epitaphy column," Holtz said. "If you wake up and don't read your name in it, you feel pretty good."
As for Miami's defense of its title, rest in peace. A sellout 59,075 at Notre Dame Stadium watched the 4-2 Hurricanes lose a second regular season game for the first time since 1984.
Blame the four turnovers, two in the final 9:19. Blame Notre Dame kicker Craig Henrich, who held up inside the

Miami 30-yard line as well as the Hurricanes' defense. When Notre Dame stalled, Henrich responded. His five field goals — from 25, 44, 34, 35 and 35 yards — set a school record.
"Erickson preferred to blame his own team."
"You just can't make the mistakes we made in the second half and expect to beat Notre Dame, especially on the road," he said.
Hurricanes Gain 473
The obvious ones — the turnovers — overshadowed an otherwise excellent offensive performance. The Hurricanes gained 473 yards, 365 from the arm of quarterback Craig Erickson. However, Notre Dame switched to man-to-man coverage in the second half and limited the Hurricanes to three second-half points.
The biggest mistake may have been made by kicker Carlos Huerta. Miami kicked away from Ismail on its first two attempts. After Huerta's 23-yard field goal put the Hurricanes ahead 10-3 with

Inside Sports

Mankato Deals UNO Fifth Straight Loss

Mankato State hands the University of Nebraska at Omaha its fifth consecutive loss, defeating UNO 23-3 in a game played in steady rain.
Page 9
SIMPSON REIGNS: Jim Simpson holds off a strong challenge by John Mahaffey to win the \$180,000 first prize at the Walt Disney Golf Classic. Page 2
FAMILIAR ROLE: James "Buster" Douglas takes the familiar role as the underdog into his first heavyweight title defense Thursday against Evander Holyfield. Page 3
BUFFS BREEZE: Colorado enjoys its first easy game of the season, handing Kansas a 41-0 loss. Page 4
HEART IN DEFENSE: Penn State's Shelly Hammond's rips Boston College for 206 yards rushing, then declares he'd rather play defense. Page 13
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Cyclones 'Play Guts Out' to Hit Sooners 33-31

Norman, Okla. (AP) — By halftime, No. 16 Oklahoma had an 11-point lead over Iowa State and had knocked the Cyclones' top runner, Blaise Bryant, out of the game with injured ribs.
Big deal.
Behind Chris Pedersen, Iowa State scored 13 fourth-quarter points Saturday to shock the Sooners 33-31 in Big Eight play. Pedersen, who scored the winning touchdown on a 1-yard sneak with 35 seconds left, ran for 148 yards and also threw for a touchdown.
Iowa State, 3-3-1 overall and 1-1-1 in the Big Eight, was a 24-point underdog and had not beaten the Sooners, 5-2 and 2-1, since 1961. Before Saturday, Oklahoma held a 56-4-2 advantage in the series.
"I'm almost overwhelmed," Iowa State Coach Jim Walden said. "I mean, this is a great, great football team. We had to play our guts out."
"This is Oklahoma we're talking about, where football was invented. I could die happy right now."
Pedersen, a junior, hurt the Sooners with quarterback draws and also with scrambles after he was forced from the pocket.
"This win was not just for this team but for last year's team, which felt we should have won," he said. A year ago, the Cyclones rolled up 609 yards — the most ever against an Oklahoma team — but lost 43-40.
"This is for all the teams that all those years have kept getting beat up by Oklahoma," Pedersen said. "It was for that 1987 team that got beat so bad when (Jamelie) Hollaway and those guys took off their pads near the end of the game and ate hot dogs. We kind of took that personal."
Oklahoma opened leads of 14-0 and 28-14 in the first half and led 28-17 at halftime. The Sooners still led 31-20 starting the fourth quarter.
But Iowa State used trickery and the running ability of Pedersen to rally.
Sherman Williams, playing in place of Bryant in the second half, scored on a 7-yard run with 11:47 left to make it 31-26. That 80-yard, 15-play drive was kept alive on a fake punt, when Marv Seiler hit Troy Moore with a 23-yard

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