

# POSTGAME

65  51

# Black Friday

## Nebraska says so long to a bowl bid — and maybe its coach



JEFF BEIERMANN/THE WORLD-HERALD

It was a tale of two halves for Nebraska quarterback Joe Ganz. He adeptly led Nebraska to a 35-24 halftime lead, but in the second half, he threw three interceptions as Colorado scored 41 points.

■ A sparkling first half turns sour as CU becomes latest to roll up big numbers.

By MITCH SHERMAN  
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

BOULDER, Colo. — In the end, it wasn't even football.

This was something else — a diversion to delay the inevitable, Bill Callahan calling a timeout with 30 seconds left as Nebraska trailed by three scores on a bitter day in more ways than one at Folsom Field.

Callahan, in all likelihood, coached his final game at NU on Friday. And what a fitting finish, this 65-51 loss to Colorado, the Huskers' highest tally ever in defeat, to secure a second losing season out of four for the coach.

There will be no New Year's

Eve in Phoenix. Only a meeting today, between the NU coaches and their boss, Tom Osborne, in which Callahan is expected to be fired.

"They've been great years," Callahan said. "I have no regrets being here at Nebraska."

He said he knew nothing of his future but seemed accepting of whatever happens. Osborne, the interim athletic director and former coach hired five weeks ago to make this very decision, walked past reporters Friday outside the NU locker room without offering any answers.

Callahan, after his team led 35-24 at halftime but surren-

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### More Husker coverage

**COACHES QUIET:** Only two Nebraska assistants give interviews after the game. **Page 12C**

**SPREAD IT OUT:** Nebraska shows a new look on offense early, but turnovers spell doom. **Page 14C**



MATT MILLER/THE WORLD-HERALD

The Huskers gave up at least 60 points in a game for the second time this season and third time during Bill Callahan's tenure at Nebraska.

## Nebraska is defenseless against any adversity

BOULDER, Colo. — Good morning, Nebraska fans.

And yes, it is a good morning, despite what your football hangover tells you. Look at the flip side.

No more West Coast offense. No more Kevin Cosgrove. No more embarrassments.

The Bill Callahan era, or error,

ended Friday. It ended with a whimper, in the late November cold and gray, with the score Colorado 65, Nebraska 51 in the backdrop. It was another one of those mind-numbing days, with a twist, perhaps a ray of light, because you knew this would be the last one.

It will be over this morning. Good morning. Tough morning. These coaches are human. They aren't trying to fail. But fail they have, and now Tom Osborne will do what athletic directors are paid to do, do what he was

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Tom Shatel

### Hangin' a hundred

Before this month, Nebraska and its opponent combined to score 100 points three times. It happened three times in November.

### 116

Colorado 65, NU 51  
Nov. 23, 2007

### 115

Kansas 76, NU 39  
Nov. 3, 2007

### 105

NU 77, Arizona St. 28  
Sept. 16, 1985

### 105

NU 63, Oklahoma St. 42  
Oct. 15, 1988

### 104

NU 73, K-State 31  
Nov. 10, 2007

### 101

NU 72, Iowa State 29  
Nov. 5, 1983

### Going to extremes

The 2007 Nebraska season will be remembered for some eye-popping statistics

### 476.8

Average total offense allowed per game, most in school history. The previous record was 379.5 in 1948.

### 6

Number of opponents who scored at least 40 points this season.

By comparison, NU opponents scored 40 or more points five times in coach Frank Solich's six seasons and five times in coach Tom Osborne's 25 seasons.

### 510

Passing yards by quarterback Joe Ganz in 73-31 win over Kansas State, an NU single-game record. Ganz passed for 484 yards on Friday, the second-highest total in NU history, and 405 against Kansas, the fifth-best game in school history. In fact, four of Nebraska's five 400-plus yard games came this season.

## KU-MU matchup a spectacle to behold



Lee Barfknecht

On the day Gary Pinkel was named Missouri's football coach for 2001, school leaders took him directly from his introductory press conference to a booster reception.

Read Pinkel's description of what happened next:

"The first 10 people who came up, right in a row, said, 'Coach Pinkel, it's good to have you here, but we better beat Kansas.' I found out real quick that it's a great, great rivalry."

A year later, Mark Mangino became the

football coach at Kansas. As is custom, school officials ushered him around town to meet key supporters.

Like Pinkel, Mangino quickly learned a lesson.

"A lot of fans would say, 'I don't care what you do all year as long as you beat Missouri,' " Mangino said. "I soon realized the Missouri game is very important to the Kansas fan base, and they reminded me, too."

The hatred — and that's not too strong a

word — goes back to the Civil War and the slave-state vs. free-state issue.

A raid by a Confederate pro-slavery guerrilla group from western Missouri on Lawrence, Kan., in 1863 left the town burned to the ground. Before that, abolitionists from Kansas had invaded Missouri.

To this day, when Kansans and Missourians gather — most conveniently at sporting events — some old-time nastiness comes out. Note that gold T-shirts with a

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### National report

LSU upset by Hogs  
Top-ranked LSU falls 50-48 in triple overtime to Arkansas.  
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Fran is gone  
Texas A&M coach Dennis Franchione resigns after the Aggies beat Texas. **Page 11C**

