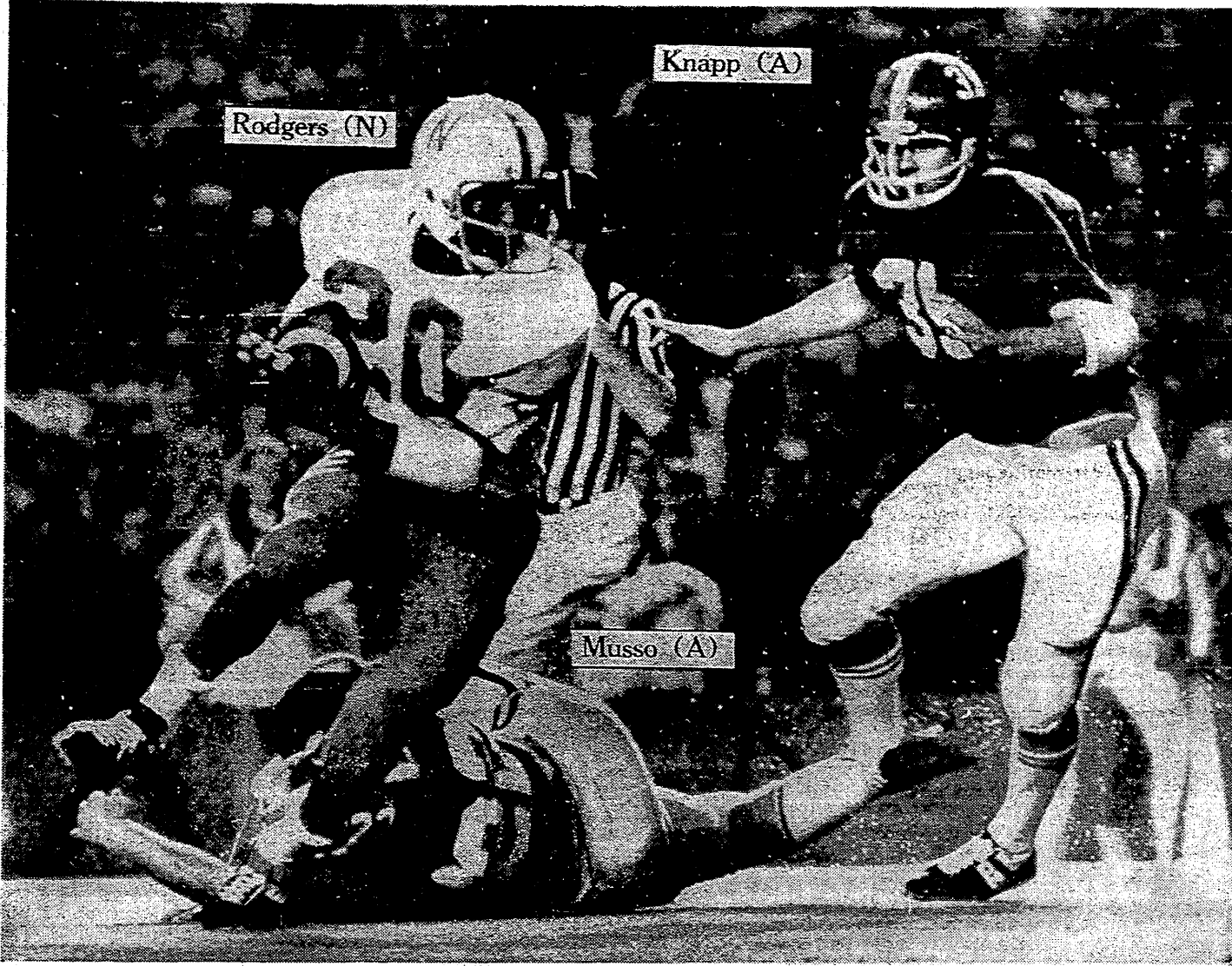


# No. 1 Tries Harder, Gains Revenge



Johnny Musso sprawls on the mud sod . . . as Johnny Rodgers hustles on his 77-yard punt return in the first quarter.

## Big Mildren, 'Scared' Pals Crush Auburn

New Orleans (AP) — It was a pretty surprising statement, coming after a 40-22 victory over Auburn in the Sugar Bowl football classic Saturday, but Oklahoma Coach Chuck Fairbanks said his Sooners came to New Orleans "running scared."

Fairbanks lavished praise on his special teams after the victory before a record crowd of 84,031 — largest ever in the south — and singled out his defensive unit "that gave the offense the opportunity to score several times in the first half."

"We didn't come here to set any records," the youthful Oklahoma pilot said. "In fact, we came here running scared."

Jack Mildren of third-ranked Oklahoma, called by his coach "the best player in college football this year," scored three touchdowns in outdueling Heisman Trophy winner Pat Sullivan of No. 5 Auburn.

### 'Mildren Best'

Mildren scored on runs of five, four and seven yards, all in the first half, as the awesome Sooners streaked to a 34-0 lead before Auburn got its first touchdown in the third period.

Joe Wylie's 71-yard punt return was the only long distance dash of the day by the fleet Sooners.

"Mildren is the best player in college football this year," Fairbanks said shortly after his 199-pound quarterback from Abilene, Tex., was presented the trophy as the game's outstanding player.

### 'Pat Deserving'

However, in accepting his award, Mildren said, "Pat Sullivan deserved the Heisman Trophy. What Ed Marinaro said was out of place. Sullivan deserved the award."

Marinaro, the all-time rushing leader from Cornell, had criticized the selection of the Sullivan over himself.

Oklahoma's unheralded defense put a clamp on Auburn's All-American passing combination of Sullivan and wide receiver Terry Beasley through the first 30 minutes of action.

Sullivan and Beasley did, however, get together on passes of 42 and 35 yards in an 80-yard scoring drive in the third period, but Mildren and his mates had already settled the issue.

Auburn scored two other touchdowns following fumble recoveries in the final four minutes.

### Oklahoma 11-1

Oklahoma, now 11-1, and loser only to top ranked Nebraska, got its other touchdowns on a two-yard run by All-American Greg Pruitt and a four-yard plunge by Leon Crosswhite.

John Carroll, the nation's kick scoring

Please turn to Page 2, Col. 1

## Inside Today . . .

Knights beaten at Oklahoma City 4-2, Page 2.

Miami-Baltimore, San Francisco-Dallas tangle today, Page 3.

Musicians Irk Husker fans, Page 4.

Penn State whips Texas, Page 10.

## Devaney Fishing if Halas Calls

By Conde Sargent

World-Herald Sports Writer  
Miami — Bob Devaney's friends say he isn't going to be a pro football coach.

But the coach of two straight national championship college football teams kept the door slightly ajar Saturday night after his team defeated Alabama.

"George may call me tomorrow (Sunday)," said Devaney glibly, referring to the coachless owner of the Chicago Bears.

"But I'll be out fishing."

The Huskers are participating in a deep sea fishing contest today on their final day in Miami before returning to Lincoln.

"No pros have contacted me," Devaney said, sticking to that despite a report from Denver's officials who say they've chatted with the 10-year Nebraska coach.

About considering a change in jobs, Devaney said: "Yes, if some club can come up with a good offer—good from the standpoint of winning and everything."

Devaney, though, concerned himself mostly with savouring the college victory instead of discussing his future.

"These players of ours had this in mind from the first game of the season," said Devaney. "There was tremendous pride in these players."

"It is a great satisfaction to come out and be No. 1. The most important thing is that we won two in a row. There's no question about this one. It's unanimous with the win."

"Certainly it's nice to win any

game and it adds to the satisfaction to beat a good football team coached by Paul Bryant. You keep winning. That's the way you get your paycheck."

In accepting the MacArthur Trophy in the dressing room, Devaney said: "If we have to play another game to get this trophy, we'll do that, too."

Devaney said N.U.'s coaches learned quite a bit about playing the wishbone after its 35-31 conquest of Oklahoma, which Devaney said should be No. 2 in the nation's polls.

"It certainly helped our defense. We were in a position to hit hard on defense and cause some mistakes for them. Our defense did a very fine job of containing Musso (John, Alabama's top back). "We knew that Musso ran to the tight inside a lot. We played a defense that was perhaps heavy to that one side. I think we are the best overall defense in the country. There's not a team better overall."

We seemed to improve as the season went along.

"Our pass defense was much more effective (than against Oklahoma). We intercepted two passes that were very, very important. Joe Blakak caught one in the end zone and it kept them from scoring. Jim Anderson had one that gave us a score."

"Alabama ran the same plays we expected them to. That flea flicker pass we hadn't seen, but we were in a prevent defense in just a little time left in the half so it didn't matter."

"The punt return by Rodgers was an extremely key play. He is tremendous. I haven't seen anybody in college football who can return the football like John Rodgers."

"Jerry Tagge is the finest quarterback in the country. (Jeff) Kinney was a tough runner in there. The offensive line play was tremendous."

"Defensively, Rich Glover was a stickout in there like a sore thumb. Anderson and Blahak played good pass defense and the linebackers played well. We'll have to call it a well rounded defense."

Asked if bowl winners Nebraska, Oklahoma and Colorado from the Big Eight Conference should be ranked 1-2-3 in the country, Devaney replied: "That wouldn't be a bad way to put the down."

He also was asked if Michigan's loss in the Rose Bowl affected N.U.'s attitude for the Orange Bowl game. "Michigan is my home state," he said. "I had no feelings about the Michigan-Stanford game at all. It had no bearing on our game."

"Colorado's win over Houston and the Oklahoma win over Auburn gave us a little more sound feeling, to know that the football teams we'd played and beaten were good. I was overjoyed to have a 28-0 lead at half-time."

### Bowl Results

Orange  
Nebraska 38, Alabama 4  
Sugar  
Oklahoma 40, Auburn 22  
Cotton  
Penn State 30, Texas 6  
Rose  
Stanford 13, Michigan 12



Jim Anderson, Husker captain, and Durward Varner, president of the University of Nebraska systems . . . huddle with the MacArthur Bowl. It's emblematic of the national collegiate football championship.

## Nerves Not A Problem For Kicker

From World-Herald Press Services.

Pasadena, Calif. — "I wasn't real nervous but I was slightly nervous," said Rose Bowl hero Rod Garcia with a grin.

"I just visualized I would make it. I tried to relax and concentrate."

Garcia, a 5-9, 155-pound sophomore from La Mirada, Calif., made Stanford football coach John Ralston's second straight trip to Pasadena a happy one with a 31-yard field goal with 12 seconds left to beat Michigan, 13-12, Saturday.

"I'll take a Michigan win in the Rose Bowl over a San Jose State loss anytime," Stanford's Ralston said, referring to Garcia's five missed field goal attempts against the Spartans in one of the Indians' three regular season losses.

"I couldn't have been more thankful of the outcome. It really took James Ferguson off the hook."

Ferguson, a sophomore, was tackled in the Stanford end zone after trying to run a missed goal out with 3:10 remaining. That gave the Wolverines a 12-10 lead.

"I didn't say anything to Rod," Ralston continued. "One of our players asked me not to. I guess he remembered that I talked to him during the San Jose game."

Garcia, who also booted a 42-yard field goal in the third period, said he didn't think about taking Ferguson off the hook, only winning the game.

"That didn't even occur to me until someone said something to me in the dressing room," the little soccer-style place kicker remarked.

"When I blow a game people don't get on me. In fact, no one on this team gets on anyone else."

Stanford Quarterback Don Buncie, voted the Player of the Game, said he knew Garcia would kick the game winner.

"I had all the confidence in the world in him," the blond senior declared. "Except for one game, he's done the job all year long."

"I dreamed a lot about coming back here and repeating," added Buncie, a redshirt last season who watched Jim Plunkett lead Stanford to an upset victory over Ohio State.

"The element of surprise was gone this year, though. Michigan was favored but they knew what we had done the year before."

In the gloomy Michigan dressing room, Coach Bo Schemenbecher said, "Stanford deserved to win."

"Stanford is the best offensive team we played this season and we just didn't get the first downs when we needed them. It's a hell of a thing to lose a Rose Bowl when you have it won."

"Bunce? He looks better on the field than he does on film. He did a great job under the blitz. He knows how to control his team."

Billy Taylor, Michigan's workhorse running back who said before the Rose Bowl that he felt his team deserved to be No. 1 in the nation, said:

"It's hard to say whether Stanford was the best defense team we played this year. But today they were great and cut us off. I would call them comparable to Ohio State. I didn't think they could stop our running game like they did."

Stanford appeared through, but Michigan hadn't counted on the resourceful Buncie, successor to 1970 Heisman Trophy winner Jim Plunkett, who engineered Stanford's 27-17 upset here last year over Ohio State.

This time, Michigan's Big Ten champions came to Pasadena with an 11-0 record and were favored by nearly two touchdowns over the Pacific-8 titlists, who were just 8-3 during the regular season.

After Michigan couldn't move on taking the free kick following the safety, the Indians got the ball again at their 22.

Bunce hit his tight end, Bill Scott, on the first play, then flipped a 16-yarder to his flanker, John Winesberry, before an incompletion and a penalty set the Indians back to their 48.

But Buncie completed successive passes to Miles Moore

Please turn to Page 6, Col. 1

## Alabama Jinx Ends; 2nd Title Secured

By Tom Ash

World-Herald Sports Writer

Miami — Squinting out across the Orange Bowl field Saturday night, Alabama Coach Paul "Bear" Bryant may have been able to envision what it would be like if he had accepted that offer to coach the Miami Dolphins two years ago.

He could have thought the Baltimore Colts had sneaked into the Orange Bowl a few hours early for their American Football Conference playoff game today against Miami.

But the Nebraska collegians, not the pro Colts, were the parties responsible for the Cornhuskers' shockingly easy 38-6 triumph. Red lettering on the backs on white jerseys spelling out names like Tagge, Kinney, Rodgers, Glover, Harper and Jacobson said so.

But Nebraska dominated the early going so convincingly that the game ballyhooed as the College Super Bowl was played before a half-empty stadium during much of the fourth quarter.

### No. 1 Assured

The outcome assuredly will give the Huskers a sweep of the national championship honors. There can be no claim of "backing in" to the title from the spoilsports who surfaced after Nebraska was awarded its first championship one year ago.

And it was hardly necessary for Nebraska Coach Bob Devaney to suggest how the Pope might vote in the final polls as he did here last year.

Devaney has said that the few hours after a victory are the most satisfying in a coach's life. But he had to savor every glorious second of the game that obviously should wrap up his first selection as the

Coach of the Year by the

Football Coaches Association of America, an honor that has eluded him so far.

The trouncing should also finally erase from memory those back-to-back losses to Alabama and the Bear in 1966 and 1967. Another dash of sweetness for Devaney was the victory margin—32 points, five more than his losing spread in the 34-7 Sugar Bowl loss in 1967, the game regarded as his most frustrating defeat.

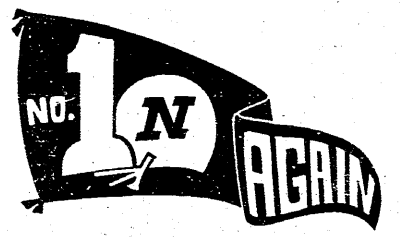
The game, played before 78,151 in 70-degree weather, and the elaborate pageantry of the Orange Bowl Classic showed no ill effect from the two-hour downpour that ended just before the game.

### Johnny R. Unequaled

The colorful pregame and halftime shows could only be rivaled in flair by Nebraska's incomparable Johnny Rodgers, whose 77-yard punt return in the opening quarter served notice that the Huskers' one touchdown favorite odds were not nearly enough.

But it was the nose-bloodying work of the Blackshirt defensive unit that was mainly responsible for keeping the N.U. unbeaten string going up to 32 and winning streak to 23.

The Blackshirts held the Crimson Tide, an outfit that scored at a 32.9 points per game pace through 11 unbeaten regular season games, to a single touchdown. Defensive captain Jim Anderson's gang set up three touchdowns by recovering fumbles.



bles, and Anderson personally applied the coup de grace when he intercepted a pass from Alabama third-string quarterback Benny Rippitoe and returned it to the Tide one-yard line to give the offense its shot at the final touchdown 4:45 from the end.

### Attack Flawless

After Nebraska made the most of opportunism and a flawless attack to build a 28-0 halftime lead, there appeared to be little doubt about the outcome.

As Nebraska fans settled back to enjoy the second Orange Bowl win in two years (17-12 over Louisiana State last year), it was to the everlasting credit of a spunky bunch of Alabamians that statistics told a far different story than the final score — and made more apparent the opportunism of the Blackshirts.

The Tide led in first downs, 16-15; rushing plays, 57-47; and yards rushing, 241-183.

But N.U. held a total offense advantage of 342 yards to 288 and passing, 159-147 in 11 completions in 20 attempts.

Another statistic that reveals a great deal is the 136 yards Rodgers gained returning punts to 36 for the Tide.

### Force Punt

With Nebraska clinging to a 6-0 lead eight seconds before the end of the first quarter, the Blackshirts forced a punt by Alabama's Gregg Gantt.

It was not the long, driving type of punt, beyond the de-

Please turn to Page 4, Col. 7

## Big Eight No. 1, Too?

Nebraska and Oklahoma, with convincing victories over Southeastern Conference teams in bowl games Saturday, helped the Big Eight Conference make a claim for No. 1, too, as the top conference in the nation.

The No. 1 Huskers' 38-6 victory over SEC champion Alabama capped a big weekend for the Big Eight. Oklahoma whipped Auburn, of the Southeastern Conference, 40-22, in the Sugar Bowl.

On Friday, Colorado defeated Houston, 29-17, in the Astro-Bluebonnet Bowl, giving the Big Eight three wins in post-season play. Only Iowa State, a 33-15 loser to LSU in the Sun Bowl, failed to carry Big Eight colors to victory.