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# 'Bama's No. 1 Tide Comes Rushing In, But Husker Offense Left High and Dry



Don McNeal's sweeping one-armed tackle snags Rick Berns, the pounding Nebraska runner...who gains five yards as the Huskers are enjoying an offensive spree in the first quarter.

# Indy's Power Is Turned Off As Paschall Leads Omaha

By Howard Brantz

Indianpolis — For the second night in a row, Omaha, sitting on a powder keg, turned the defusing job over to a rookie.

Billy Paschall shut off the Indianapolis power Saturday night as Omaha won its second straight American Association playoff game a 3-2 spine-tinplayoff game, a 3-2 spine-tin-

playon game, a or opmongier.
For the Indians, who led the Association in power hitting and average (.288), it has been a frustrating two games. Indianapolis management provided postgame fireworks displays both nights, but it was little con-

witnesses, who turned out Sat-urday expecting the Indians to It's Christenson Today

But during the game, Indy collected only five singles — the same as a night earlier — as Omaha took a commanding 2-0 Omana took a commanding 2-0 edge in the best-of-seven series that moves to Omaha Monday night after today's 2 p.m. game at Bush Stadium.

Omaha Manager John Sullivan has nominated lefty Gary Christenson (8-5) to go against rookie Charley Liebrandt (2-1) today.

Sullivan said he was almost afraid to mention the super area where Bobby Detherage

putching efforts against the power-laden Indianapolis attack. "They are capable of erupting at any time," Sullivan said.

But Saturday, it was the same fizzling attack that dogged the Indians a night earlier against Silverio Saves Game

Silverio Saves Game Indianapolis came within inches of knotting the game in the ninth when Mike Grace bombed one into straight-away center where Lou Silverio reached over the four-foot high field-shortening fence to make the catch at the 395-foot mark.

stammed a two-run triple to wipe out a I-0 deficit in the fourth inning.

Paschall, uncustomarily wild in the first inning, settled to stifle the Indians thereafter— except for an unearned run in

The 24-year-old Paschall, who boosted his record to 15-9, had walked less than two batters for warked less frant two batters for every nine innings pitched. But in the first frame, he yielded a leadoff single to Lynn Jones and they walked three batters to force in a run. But he walked only one man

thereafter. He escaped serious

Birmingham, Ala. - The Nebraska offense went south Satur-

the top-ranked Crimson Tide snowed enough offense and defense for a 20-3 season-opening victory.

With a little bit of offense, the Huskers could have ranked 1-A before a record Legion Field turnout of 77,023, a national television audience and the Goodyear blimp. But, aside from an initial thrust that produced a 48-yard field goal by Billy Todd and a 3-0 lead, the Huskers crossed over to the Tide side only three times. Briefly.

Huskers crossed over to the Tide side only three times. Briefly. Alabama, meanwhile, displayed textbook wishbone for a 99-yards-plus touchdown drive to take the lead in the second quarter, then used an interception and a freaky pitchout theft to dent the Husker defense twice more.

The Nebraska offense, which averaged 294.5 yards rushing last year, was held to 110. I-back I. M. Hipp, who had publicly proclaimed his intentions of gaining 2,000 yards this season, still needs 1,946 after 14 carries Saturday night. Hipp, the Husker record-setting rusher last year, gained 24 of his 54 yards on two plays late in the fourth quarter and finished as the Huskers' leading rusher..

ING FUSITET. Alabama outyarded the Huskers 318-174, and the three points were the fewest scored by a Nebraska team since the 27-0 white-wash by Oklahoma in 1973.

except for Alabama's cross-country march after Tom Ohrt curled around a Tim Smith punt inches from the Bama goal midway through the second quarter.

day night. It should have stopped off in Birmingham.

The Cornhusker offense, which produced a school rushing record last year and had the major backfield components back, missed a dandy game at Legion Field.

Alas, the Alabama defense wasn't the Husker scout team, and the top-ranked Crimson Tide showed enough offense and defense gas on-opening victory.

Substitute fullback Billy Jackson made an appearance about then and ripped off gains of 14 and 10 yards on third-down plays to learn the 16-play drive that deprived the Husker offense the ball for 6:54.

Quarterback Jeff Rutledge, who has thrown a Tide record 94 pages without an interception since giving up five to Nebraska in

Quarterback Jeff Rutledge, who has thrown a Tide record 94 passes without an interception since giving up five to Nebraska in 1977, pitched the go-ahead touchdown pass to Major Ogilvie. It was a four-yard floater over rookie cornerback Andy Means.
Rutledge, who scored the final touchdown on a 2-yard option keep with 2:17 remaining, was named the outstanding offensive player by ABC-TV. The defensive player award went to Nebraska end George Andrews, who was a demon with 17 tackles.
Starting quarterback Tom Sorley personified the Nebraska offensive miseries. He completed only nine of 21 passes for 60 yards and two interceptions. Both thefts were costly.
Nebraska was still in serious contention late in the third quarter with a 7-3 deficit when Husker punt returner Frank Lockett decided unwisely to fair catch a punt at his 8 yard line. Sorley tried to crawl out of the hole by passing deep down the right sideline to split end Smith, but cornerback Don McNeal snagged the underthrown ball on the Husker 39. Nine plays later, Tony Nathan sailed rown ball on the Husker 39. Nine plays later, Tony Nathan sailed two yards into the end zone

Sorley's greatest embarrassment came early in the fourth quarter when he rolled to the right flank on an option play. He was

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### 'Stupid Mistakes' Cited

### Sorley Takes Blame for N.U. Problems

Birmingham, Ala. — Nebras-ka quarterback Tom Sorley slowly toweled off. He had been beseiged by sportswriters wanting to know what went wrong with Nebraska's offense during its 20-3 loss to Alabama

Saturday night.

As a result of all those questions, Sorley was the last Husker into the shower. Now, Bear's Revenge

Nebroska. 3 0 0 0 3 Alabama 0 7 6 7-20 Neb-FG Todd 48 Ala-Colley e 4 pass from Rutledge (Chapman kick) Ala-Nothan 2 run (kick falled) Ala-Rutledge 3 run (McEiroy kick) A-77,023

while most of his teammates were already on the bus, Sorley slowly rolled his head and

hopes of staging a rally. They trailed 13-3, but faced third-and-three on their 35.

The play was to have been an option to the right side. Sorley was to read Alabama's left defensive end. If that end was going to take him, Sorley was going to pitch to wingback Kenny Brown, who had swung around from the left side.

"But that other defensive end "But that other detensive ena (E.J. Miller) followed Kenny clear across the field. I never even suspected he was around. I pitched the ball right to him. It just happened he decided he wanted the football. . .the dirty

going to pitch to wingback
Kenny Brown, who had swung
around from the left side.

"It's a play we just put in this
year," Sorley said. "We've run
it a thousand times in practice
and there has never been a de-

not to pitch blind."
But all the Huskers felt a need loss.
The defense did all that could

he detended that that comb be asked of it by holding the na-tion's No. 1 team to only 13 points before a fumble late in the game led to the Tide's final touchdown from five yards out. Yet defensive end George An-drews named the game's most drews, named the game's most

# **UNO Builds Victory** From Coyote Errors

By Jerry Fricke

Vermillion, S.D. — The red face of Coach Sandy Buda was Beaming for two reasons after his University of Nebraska at Omaha football team posted 23-7 victory over South Dakota on a hot, humid Saturday af-

slowly rolled his head and complained of a sore neck.

"The problem with our offense was probably me," said the senior who was 9 for 21 in passes, including two thet were picked off, and lost a total of 20 yards on seven carries.

"I didn't play a good game. We made some stupid mistakes and I really made some stupid ones. It's not like me to play like that."

The play that made Sorley Buda's face reflected not only the flush of victory in his debut as a head coach, but four hours of standing in the sun on a 95-degree day.

Buda was enthusiastic about

The play that made Sorley feel like crawling into a hole came early in the fourth quarter when the Huskers still had

#### Three Ex-Champion's In Net Tournament

New York (UPI) — Pancho Gonzalez, Vic Seixas and Australian Neale Fraser, all past winners of the U.S. title, are among the former champions who will take part in the fifth annual Hall of Fame tennis tournament held in conjunction with the U.S. Open Champion-ship.

just made fewer than they did. I was very pleased at the way the defense played. They bent some but they didn't break and they would have had a shutout if it hadn't been for that interception runback."

Tom Berry scored South Dakota's only touchdown with a 32-yard pass interception in the second quarter.

Nine Turnovers
The story of the game was the Payton. Comes to Terms

Chicago (UPI) — Walter

Chicago (UPI) — Walter

Payton, the National Football

would sign the agreem

Buda was enthusiastic about the way his 41-man squad had outplayed the 80-man roster of the Coyotes in the burning heat before 4,750 spectators. "Both teams made a lot of mistakes," said Buda, "But we just made fewer than they did. I was very leased at the way the

Maverick defense.

The Coyotes lost three fumbles in the first half and after each one UNO scored touchdown to take a 20-7 lead.

The first lost fumble countries and pay-

The first lost fumble seemed According to Finks, the

to turn the game around in the first quarter.

days reached with Holmes, in Jackson, Miss., by

South Dakota quarterback Scott Pollock lost the ball after a 4-yard sneak to kill a 72-yard march at the UNO 17. Mav cocaptain Scott Linder made the recovery. From that point UNO went 83 yards in 11 plays to its first touchdown of the game.

The scoring play was a 29-yard pass from quarterback Mike Mancuso to flanker Kurt R. Anderson. That combination produced again early in the

R. Anderson. In at combination-produced again early in the second quarter after UNO de-fensive back Dan Severa recov-ered a South Dakota fumble at the Coyote 26. The second score was a 25-yard pass from Mancu-so to Anderson.

Bass Scores Less than two minutes later, running back Bobby Bass, who gained 113 yards on 37 carries, swept right for 16 yards and UNO's final touchdown.

UNO had four other chances to score in the second half due to

fumbles or intercepted passes but could manage only a 45-yard field goal by sophomore Mark Schlecht early in the fourth quarter.

Buda had been concerned about his offensive line but said

about his orientive fine but sau the linemen played very well, especially in the first half. "They established our run-ning game and that made our passing work," Buda said. Pass Underthrown

Anderson made impressive plays on both of his touchdowns. On the first one, the ball was slightly underthrown and Anderson came back to catch the ball in front of defensive back Rob Gruber in the end zone.

Bob Gruber in the end zone. On the second touchdown, he caught the ball at the six and

Please turn to Page 2, Col. 1.

### Big Four Survive at U.S. Open Tennis Tourney

New York (UPI) — The Big nors broke the DuPre in the Four survived at the U.S. Open eighth game of the third set but some of them did so by the

but some of them did so by the skin of their teeth.

Top-seeded Bjorn Borg had the least trouble. The Wimbledon champion was matched shot for shot for awhile by a Swiss teen-ager, Heinz Gunthardt, but put down the threat to win 6-2, 6-4.

Jimmy Connors, Guillermo Vilas and Vitas Gerulaitis were run dizzy and escaped elimina-

run dizzy and escaped elimina-

Not Tough on Women

Not Tough on Women
Connors spent his 26th
birthday fighting off Pat
DuPre. Connors was set back by
DuPre's powerful serve and
deep groundstrokes but finally
won 7-5, 4-6, 6-3.
Borg's difficulties against
Gunthardt were seen by a night
crowd of 8,696. The largest afternoon crowd in Open history,
16,762. watched Connors strug-16.762, watched Connors strug

16,762, watched Connors struggle for 2 hours, 15 minutes against DuPre.

The women's seeds don't seem to be having the same problems as the men. Top-seeded Martina Navratilova had it easy Saturday night with a 6-1, 6-2 victory over Maria Pin-

vilas Needs 2 Hours Connors charged whenever possible and the gamble paid off in key winning volleys. Con-

nors broke the DuPre in the eighth game of the third set when DuPre committed his first double-fault. Commors then held service to win. Vilas needed two hours to dispose of Stan Smith 6-4, 3-6, 6-3 in another thriller while Gerulaitis came within two points of defeat in his match against Rhodesian Andrew Pattison. Gerulaitis held on to post a shaky 6-4, 3-6, 7-5 victory and join Connors and Vilas in the join Connors and Vilas in the fourth round.

counth round.

Connors jumped on DuPre's second serve and attacked the net to go ahead 30-0 in the pivotal eighth game of the third set. DuPre then committed his only double-fault and was broken a when he hit a forehand

**Dupre Felt Good** 

Connors' gambling resulted in 28 winners compared to 18 for DuPre, but the second-seeded errors compared to 59 by DuPre. Connors had no aces and

only one service winner.

"I feel very good, even losing," DuPre said, soaking his injured right ankle in ice.

"I've been doing well against

these top guys and something's going to happen." Smith, the 1971 Open champi-on who has been plagued by in-juries for several years, broke

Vilas in the sixth and eighth games of the second set

games of the second set.

Vilas steadied himself in the
third set and exchanged services through the first five
games. Vilas then broke Smith
at 30 in the sixth game to go
ahead 4-2 and held his serve to win.
Gerulaitis was expected to be one of the top performers on the hard, fast surface used this

year.
Against Pattison, Gerulaitis trailed 45 in the third set with Pattison serving at 30-30. Pattison needed only two points to clinch the match but Gerulaitis

bore down, won the next two points and broke through to tie the set 5-5. Gerulaitis held and broke Pattison again to reach the Open's fourth round for the first time in his career.

In other afternoon matches involving men's seeds, No. 3 Brian Gottfried beat Erik van Dillen 6-1, 6-0 in a third-round match, No. 5 Eddie Dibbs outlasted Hungarian Balazs Ta-roczy 7-6, 4-6, 6-3 to gain the third round; No. 8 Raul Ramirez of Mexico, upset in the first round last year, moved into the fourth round with a 6-2, 6-3 victory over John Lloyd of Britain; and No. 12 Harold Solomon de-feated Gene Mayer 6-4, 6-2 to reach the third round.



Call disputed...Vitas Gerulaitis argues with umpire.

### Hambletonian Victory Taken by Speedy Somolli

Du Quoin, Ill. (UPI) —
Speedy Somolli, upset in one heat by Florida Pro, rallied for a third heat victory in 1:57 Saturday to capture harness racing's Hambletonian Stakes for 3-year-old trotters.

Speedy Somolli, the favorite speedy Count and in 1969 with Lindy's Pride, the last horse before Somolli to come of the pride of the last horse before Somolli to come of the pride of the last horse before Somolli to come of the pride of the last horse before Somolli to come of the pride of the last horse before Somolli to come of t

in all three heats, trotted a in all three heats, trotted a world record 1:55 to capture the first heat. In the third heat, Speedy Somolli moved into the lead at the half mile pole and stood off the challenge of Brissey Hower.

with the victory, Speedy Somolli equaled the performance of both his sire and grandsire. His father, Speedy Count, won the classic stake in 1971 and his grandfather, Speedy Scot, in 1963.

Somolli's victory was the third for his driver, Howard Beissinger, who won in 1971

Somothi's win also kept him as a potential winner of harness racing's triple crown since he previously won the Yonkers Trot and was eligible for the Red Mile at Lexington.

Somolli, off at 4-5 in the first heat and 3-5 in the other two, returned \$3.60, \$2.40 and \$2.10 in the last heat while Briscoe Hanover paid \$3.60 and \$2.10 and Florida Pro \$2.10.

In the second heat, Florida

Florida Pro \$2.10.

In the second heat, Florida Pro paid \$8.00, \$2.80 and \$2.45, Somolli \$2.40 and \$2.20 and Briscoe Hanover \$2.40. The payoff for the first heat was \$3.60, \$2.80 and \$2.80 on Somolli, \$3.20 and \$2.60 on Florida Pro and \$3.40 on Briscoe Hanover.

On Eve of Bears' Opener Nine Turnovers
The story of the game was the nine South Dakota turnovers, including six fumbles, some of them forced by the hard-hitting Mayerick defense.

Chicago (UPI) — Walter Payton, the National Football League's leading rusher in 1977, has agreed to a series of one-year contracts with the Chi-

"I'm happy he's signed," Finks said. "Now let's get down to playing football." Payton had been dissatisfied with the Bears' offer of a three-year contract for more than \$1.2 million which would have called

for an option year. The new agreement calls for three separate contracts with no option clause.

It was believed the agreements called for a first-

year salary approaching \$450,-000, with the three-year package worth about \$1.5 million.

His attorney previously recommended he sign the Bears' initial offer, which called for about \$375,000 this year, but Payton rejected the proposal.

#### Sports on TV Sunday

Channel 3 Noon, NFL, Houston at Atianta.
3 p.m., NFL, Oakland at.
Denver.

Channel 6
11:30 a.m., NFL. Los Angelesat Philadelphia.
3 pm, 11 p.m., U.S. Open Tennis.

Channel 10 10:30 p.m., "Tom Osbo