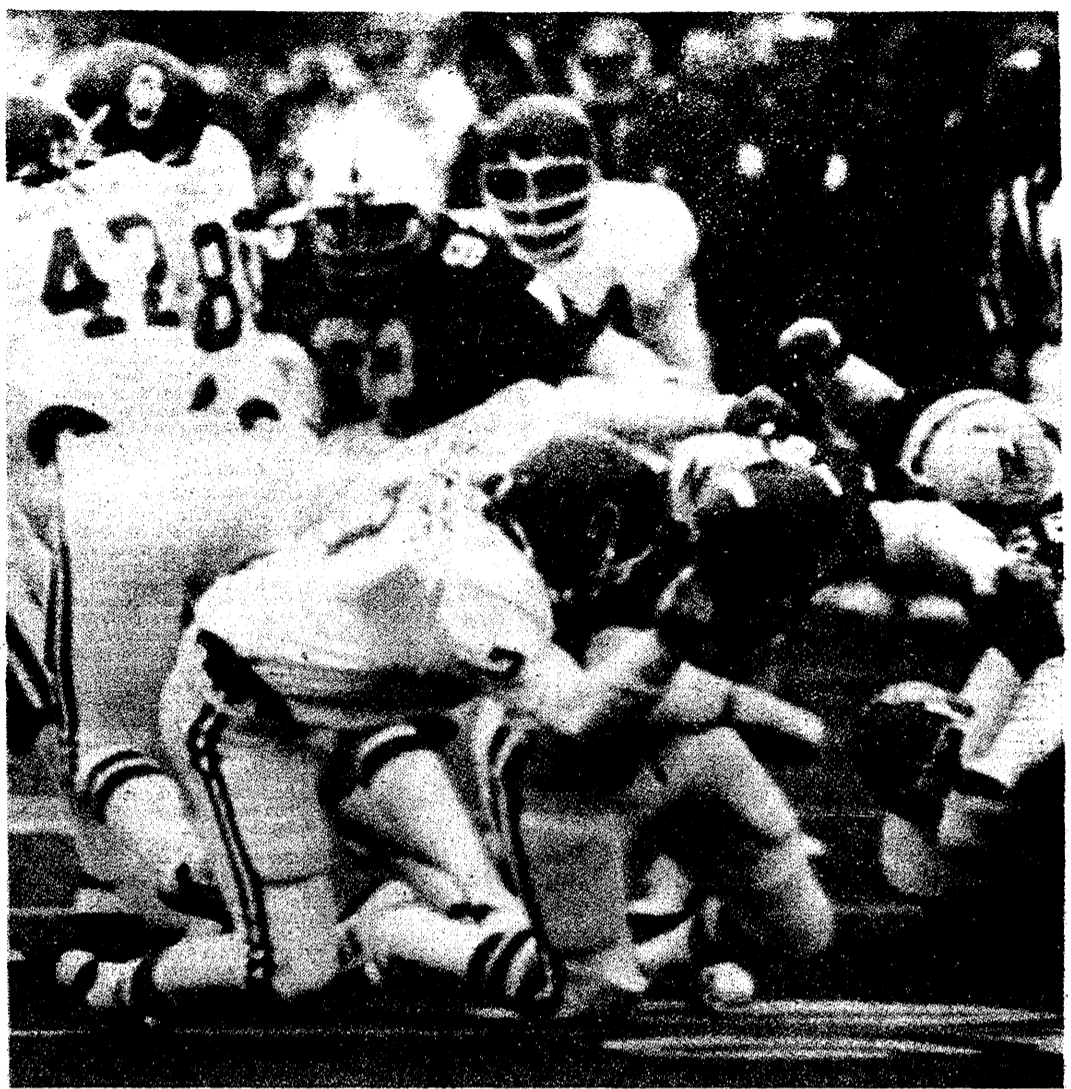
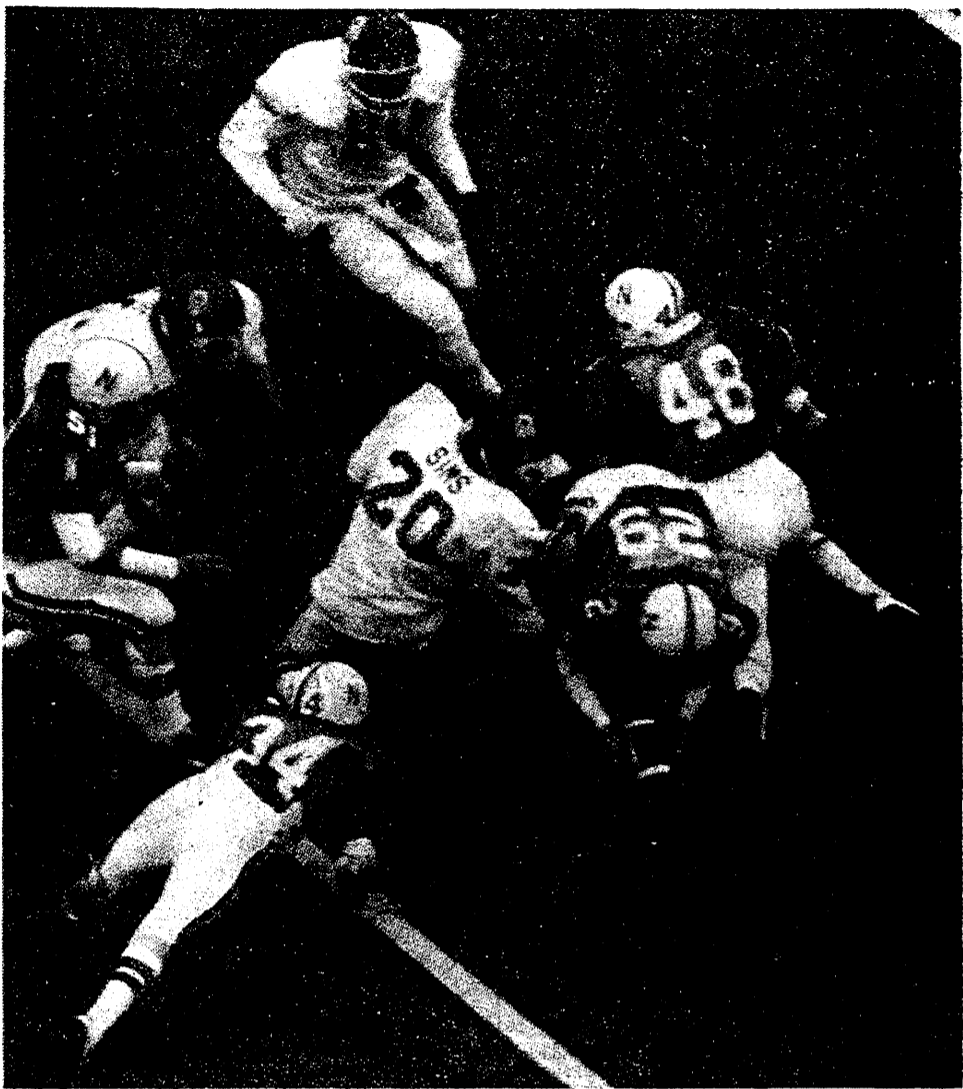


Fumbles Tell the Story as Husker Frustration Ends...



World-Herald Photos by Robert Paskach and Jim Burnett

At left, it looked like Billy Sims (20) was running for the Sooner game-winner; instead his fumble saved the day for the Huskers with 3:27 left in the game. Jeff Hansen (48) made the hit, and Jim Pillen (29) recovered on the NU 3. Others in the picture are Sooner Victor Hicks (80), and Huskers Kerry Weinmaster (51) and Andy Means (34). At right is the hotly disputed play when OU's Kelly Phelps (7), foreground, fielded the kickoff following the NU field goal and was knocked cold by NU's John Ruud. In the picture the ball is loose, but Phelps's knee has not touched the ground. However, the officials ruled the play over before the fumble, and Oklahoma retained possession.

After 6 Years, NU Is Free at Last; Step Toward Oranges Called 'Biggest Ever'

By Tom Ash World-Herald Staff Writer

Lincoln — Six years' worth of frustration gushed forth in Memorial Stadium when the bright lights on the scoreboards flashed the long-awaited final message on a raw, gray Saturday afternoon: Nebraska 17, Oklahoma 14.

Finally... "I would say this was the biggest game we've ever had because of what it means," Cornhusker Coach Tom Osborne said as the locker room rocked to the chant: "To the beach, to the beach, to the beach."

"As far as I'm concerned, I'm going to be pretty mad if they wait another week to decide a formula," he said. An Orange Bowl official told him Friday, however, that "It would be very unusual if they didn't take the winner of this game. But that was unofficial."

But they were awfully loud blanks. While clinging to the precarious 17-14 lead, the Huskers were backtracking rapidly toward their goal line twice in the final nine minutes. Only fumbles, it appeared, could slow down the fleet of Sooner quick-steppers.

Stopping LSU's Alexander Is Key in Alabama's Victory

Birmingham, Ala. (AP) — Two Alabama linebackers said the key to the Crimson Tide's 31-10 conquest of Louisiana State Saturday was the ability to stop Tiger runner Charles Alexander.

to have a good game if 11 people are keying on him. Alabama held Alexander to only 46 yards running, his lowest total since the Tide limited him to 43 yards in his sophomore year.

The Tigers. It was Alexander's first scoreless game this season. "The key was the aggressiveness of our defense," said Barry Krauss, picked as the top defensive player of the Southeastern Conference contest.

Sports on TV Sunday Channel 3 8 a.m., "Notre Dame Highlights..."

Paterno Won't Say Lions Will Be No. 1

State College, Pa. (AP) — "Now that you're No. 1," someone started to ask Penn State coach Joe Paterno on Saturday, when Paterno interrupted.

The assumption was that Penn State would jump into the No. 1 spot. But Paterno indicated there was still Nebraska and Alabama to consider.

How AP's Top 20 Fared

Table with 2 columns: Rank, Team, Opponent, Next Week. Includes Oklahoma, Penn State, Alabama, Nebraska, etc.

Inside Football...

Table with 2 columns: Team, Score. Includes Oregon State, UCLA, Kansas State, etc.

Huskers' Hero Berns Adds Girdle, Subtracts Mustache

By Larry Porter World-Herald Staff Writer Lincoln — "Don't laugh," Richard Berns said, glancing furtively around the nearly empty Nebraska locker room.

Big 3 in Fourth Oklahoma Nebraska Oklahoma 7 9 7 8-14 Nebraska 8 7 7 3-17

had. Six years of frustration ended before a packed Memorial Stadium house and a national television audience. The scoreboard message of 17-14 was etched into their minds.

Davis 'Thinks of Cotton' As Houston Whips Texas

Austin, Texas (AP) — Danny Davis, the quarterback who taught Houston "to think Cotton," had a lecture for his teammates in the decisive moments of the Cougars' 10-7 Southwest Conference football victory over Texas Saturday.

on a time-consuming drive that preserved the victory which gives the Cougars a big step toward their second Cotton Bowl appearance in three years.

Berns preferred to credit his line, and not his foundation. "The line showed what they are, who they are and who they play for," he said.