

The Top 25:
How they
Fared

The Associated
Press ratings

Table with 25 columns (1-25) and 1 row of team names and records. Includes Florida State (4-0) beat North Carolina (3-7), Alabama (2-0) beat Arkansas (4-3), Miami (2-0) beat Virginia Tech (21-2), Notre Dame (2-0) beat Michigan State (2-14), Tennessee (2-1) lost to Florida (41-34), Syracuse (2-0) beat Texas (21-21), Colorado (2-0) played Stanford (tie), Nebraska (2-0) beat UCLA (14-13), Florida (2-0) beat Tennessee (41-34), Michigan (1-1), Ohio State (2-0) beat Pittsburgh (3-23), Oklahoma (2-0) is idle, North Carolina (3-1) lost to Florida State (38-7), Penn State (2-0) beat Iowa (31-0), Arizona (2-0) beat Illinois (15-14), Texas A&M (2-1) beat Missouri (2-0), North Carolina (2-0) is idle, Washington St. (2-0) is idle, BYU (2-0) beat Colorado State (21-22), Stanford (1-1) played Colorado (tie), California (2-0) beat Temple (28-0), Boston College (2-2) lost to Northwestern (22-21), Arizona St. (1-1) lost to Louisville (58-17), Wisconsin (2-0) beat Iowa State (28-7), Virginia (2-0) beat Georgia Tech (35-14).

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Sunday World-Herald

Sports

SECTION

OMAHA,
NEBRASKA
SEPTEMBER 19, 1993

18 PAGES

Tom
Shatel



UCLA Falls
To NU Magic

Pasadena, Calif. Near the town of Tinsel, they appreciate the grand illusion. This is the land of face lifts. What you see is not always what you get. Which is what Hollywood wants. On Saturday, in the Rose Bowl beneath a baby blue sky, what they got was the Great Oz — as in Nebraska's Tom Osborne. Move over, Houdini. Not since entertainer Michael Jackson's likeness appeared in four different spots simultaneously during last winter's Super Bowl halftime show has the Rose Bowl seen such an act. Nebraska won a game it could easily have lost. The Huskers beat UCLA 14-13 with more smoke and mirrors than Paramount Studios uses in a week. The Huskers emerged from the smog 3-0 and feeling smug when they had every right to be 2-1 and doing some September soul-searching. UCLA Coach Terry Donahue was probably up all Saturday night, running the reels back and forth, trying to figure out how Nebraska got away.

Great Escape?

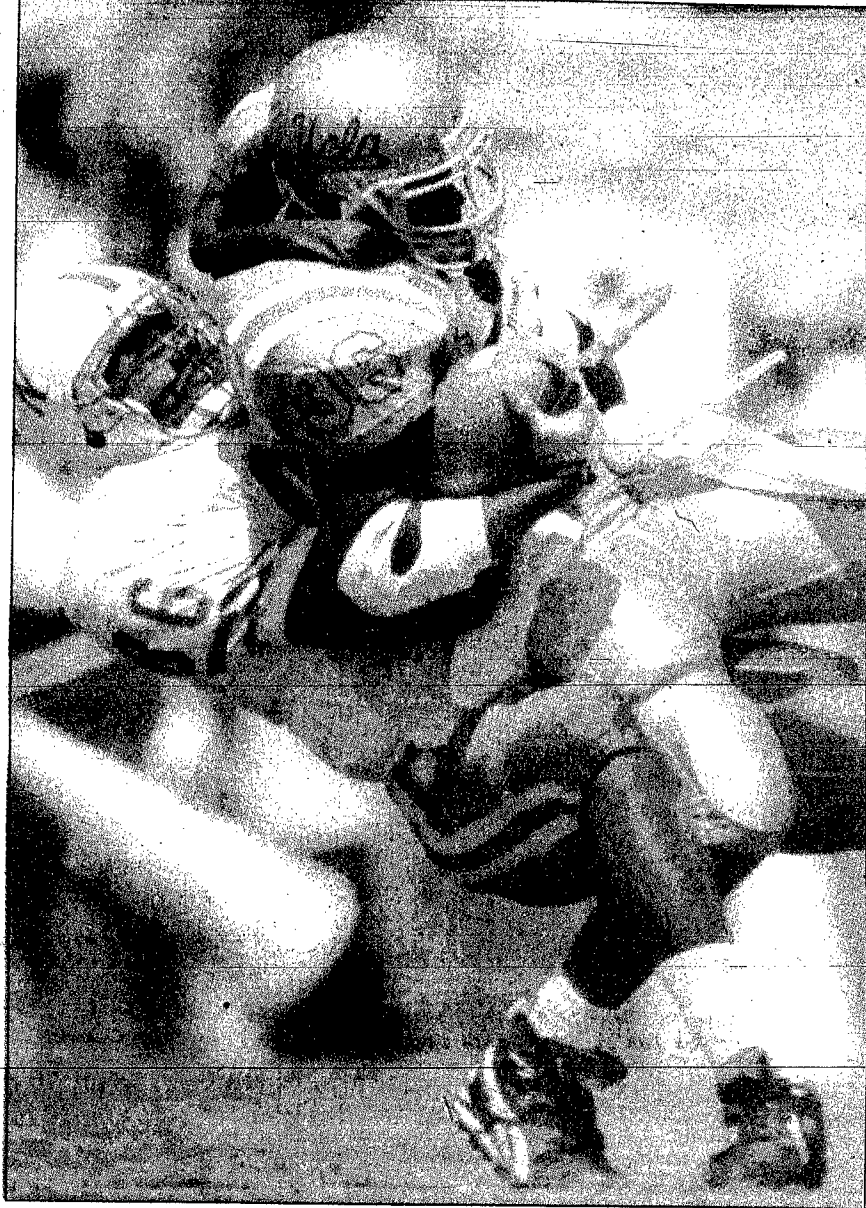
"I hate to use the word 'escape,'" Nebraska senior linebacker Trev Alberts said. What else do you say about a game in which Nebraska gives up four turnovers and gets none on the road and still wins? What else can you say about a Nebraska team, faced with injuries to important limbs, expected to win by 10 points or more but didn't do it? What else can you say about a Nebraska team that, three games into the season, seemingly forgot how to block and tackle? And what else can you say about a Nebraska team that lets its foe off the mat one last time — fumbles inside the UCLA 10 with 4:34 to play — and still wins? The greatest escape.

Tease Opponent

Houdini would have been proud. The Huskers had gagged and bound themselves and jumped into the water tank. No curtains, please. Now watch as the rope is untied and they swim to the top. Just like magic. Just like somebody else we know. Maybe it is their turn to do the "Colorado" — tease the opponent and then walk off with a smile and the "W" like some carnival con artist. Maybe how they won is not a matter for alarm. Maybe the smile and the "W" are the thing. Maybe it's a good thing they weren't playing Colorado. Nebraska linebacker Trev Alberts said a close game will help the Huskers. Perhaps comparing the benefits of blowing out a North Texas 76-14 to edging UCLA, Alberts said: "If you think we're going to do Colorado and score 70 points, you're crazy. "They (the Bruins) probably had a lot of yards. They ran up and down the field to the 20, but the bottom line is, they just scored 13 points. We won the game. We have to get used to playing like this. That's fine with us. As long as we win."

Defense Hobbles

They have to get used to playing like this because of the injuries. This is not the same team without junior I-back Calvin Jones, though freshman Lawrence Phillips ran wonderfully before the home folks Saturday. Quarterback Tommie Frazier still isn't himself, and the defense — with linebacker Donta Jones remaining out — was hobbling a bit. But there was a cause for alarm Saturday, and it wasn't about injuries. It wasn't even about play-calling or formations or Husker cornerbacks turning their backs to the ball. It was about fundamentals. When all else fails, you figure Osborne's team is going to beat you with quiet precision. By not beating itself. By wearing you down with the size and girth that is more famous than Nebraska corn. Even Donahue had said that a game with Nebraska affects you for the next month. Move over, Houdini. The Huskers almost affected UCLA's entire season. By missing blocks and tackles, Nebraska threatened to revive a sleeping giant. UCLA led 10-0, and the dormant Californians had put down their Please turn to Page 10, Col. 1

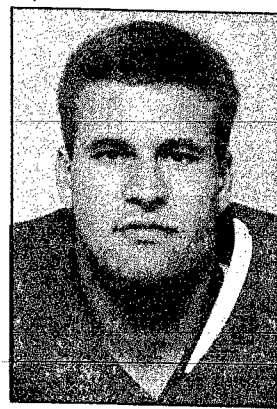


HUSKER TAKEDOWN: Nebraska linebacker Dwayne Harris wraps up UCLA halfback James Milliner after a 2-yard gain Saturday in the Rose Bowl. The Husker defenders made 10 tackles for losses in the 14-13 victory, including six quarterback sacks.

NU Escapes
Thorny Trap
At Rose Bowl

BY LEE BARFKNECHT
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Pasadena, Calif. — Nebraska's one-point victory Saturday over UCLA elicited a one-word response from the Husker locker room. Whew! "We're really fortunate to get out of here with a win," NU Coach Tom Osborne said after his team rallied from a 10-point deficit to nip the Bruins 14-13 before 50,299 fans — including about 15,000 dressed in red — at the Rose Bowl. "If you go a minus-four in turnovers against a good football team on their field, you're very fortunate to win." Add in unranked UCLA's 53-yard touchdown run nullified by penalty in the first quarter and two missed field-goal attempts in the second quarter, and you get a better idea of how close sixth- and eighth-ranked Nebraska came to going home 2-1 instead of 3-0. "We escaped," said quarterback Tommie Frazier, who threw for 145 yards and a go-ahead third-quarter touchdown despite limping much of the game on his sore right ankle. "But I'm proud of this team. Even though we have injuries to key players, we can still win." Besides the hobbled Frazier, the Huskers played for the second straight week without preseason All-America I-back Calvin Jones, sidelined with a knee strain. But true freshman Lawrence Phillips, whose home is 30 minutes from the Rose Bowl, ran for 137 yards in 28 carries and scored on a 5-yard run. And the Husker defense, staggered by UCLA's surprising running game for three quarters, held the Bruins to 40 yards in a quiet fourth quarter to help the Huskers stay undefeated. "It wasn't pretty at all," said outside linebacker Trev Alberts, whose 10 solo tackles earned him ABC-TV's Nebraska player of the game honors. "But I'm going back to Lincoln with a smile on my face.



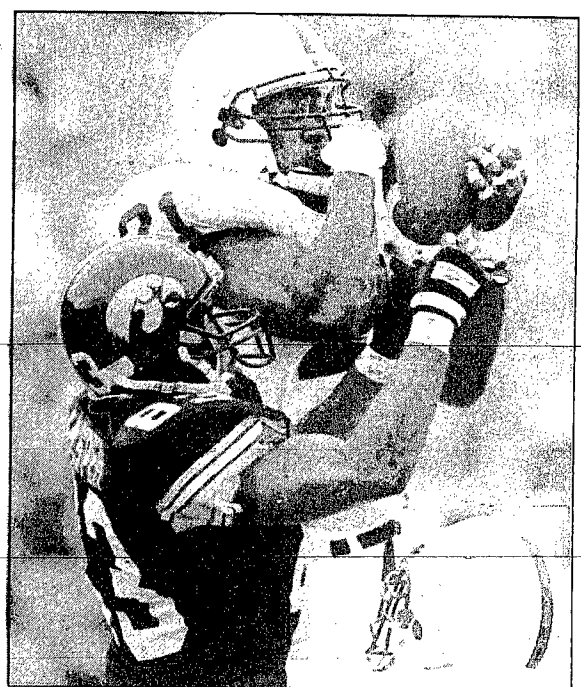
TREV ALBERTS: The senior outside linebacker had 12 tackles, including two quarterback sacks, and ABC announcers named him as Nebraska's player of the game.

"We beat a very tough team in a hostile situation. This will pay big dividends." Some UCLA players felt cheated out of a big payoff by not beating Nebraska after building a 10-0 lead in the second quarter. "I feel we were the better team," said true freshman halfback Skip Hicks, who ran for 148 yards in 19 carries and a 6-yard touchdown in his first career start. "Our defense played great. Nebraska was averaging 63 points a game, and it only got 14 today. We just didn't do our part on offense even though they got us the ball in good position." UCLA recovered Nebraska fumbles in the first, third and fourth quarters, and picked off a Husker pass in the second quarter. But the Bruins failed to score on the possession following any of those Please turn to Page 11, Col. 1

Ranked Lions
Bounce Iowa,
Look to Roses

BY STEVEN PIVOVAR
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Iowa City, Iowa — Penn State is now in Iowa's conference but the Hawkeyes showed Saturday they aren't in the Nittany Lions' league. Relying on a suffocating defense that recorded nine quarterback sacks, the 12th- and 14th-ranked Nittany Lions passed their first Big Ten Conference road test with a convincing 31-0 victory before 70,397 at Kinnick Stadium. The dominating performance enabled the Penn State players to present Coach Joe Paterno with his 250th career victory, while handing Iowa Coach Hayden Fry his first shutout loss at home in 15 seasons. And if there were any doubts beforehand, the win also showed the other members of the Big Ten that the 3-0 Nittany Lions are strong contenders in the run for the Rose Bowl. "I hope this sends a message to the other teams," said Penn State running back Ki-Jana Carter, who ripped Iowa's defense for 144 yards and a touchdown. "We're the new kids on the block, and we have things to prove. "I think today shows the league, and the nation, that we're ready to play in the Please turn to Page 6, Col. 1



PICKED OFF: Penn State defensive back Shelly Hammonds intercepts a pass intended for Iowa's Harold Jasper during Saturday's game at Iowa City, Iowa.

Bison Stampede Past Mavs in 2nd Half

BY MIKE PATTERSON
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Fargo, N.D. — Even though the football game was played indoors Saturday night, North Dakota State still managed to take the wind out of UNO's sails. The Bison, ranked No. 1 in NCAA Division II, scored 21 straight points in the second half to post a 28-7 victory over the University of Nebraska at Omaha. The win before 19,944 in the Fargodome lifted North Dakota State to 2-0 overall and 1-0 in the North Central

Conference, while the Mavericks dropped to 1-2 overall and 0-1 in the NCC. The key drive came at the start of the second half. With the score tied 7-7, the Bison put together an 18-play scoring drive that chewed 9½ minutes off the clock. "That drive really killed us," UNO Coach Tom Mueller said. "It's hard to get anything going when you don't have the ball." The march, capped by an 8-yard run by halfback Jason Miller, was part of a dominant second half by the Bison. North Dakota State scored on two other long drives and maintained possession for over 23 minutes of the 30-minute half. It was the kind of power football that the Bison, who have won five national championships in the past 10 years, have become famous for. But the Mavs had their moments, and most came in the first half when they played North Dakota State to a draw. The Mavs moved to the Bison 35 on their second possession, but two motion penalties helped stall that drive. A punt Please turn to Page 7, Col. 1

Kruk, Phillies Pad
Lead Over Montreal

Baseball Inside

Montreal (AP) — Just when memories of their 1964 collapse started coming back, the Philadelphia Phillies got the win they needed Saturday night against the Montreal Expos. Tommy Greene scattered five hits in seven-plus innings and John Kruk drove in two runs as the Phillies held off Montreal 5-4 and increased their National League East lead to five games over the Expos. "We take it one game at a time and it's worked or we wouldn't be here today," Greene said. "All we can do is give 100 percent and if it doesn't work out, then fine, we'll try again the next day." Philadelphia won for just the ninth time in 25 games, while Montreal lost for just the fourth time in 25 games. The Expos, whose 11-game home winning streak was stopped, trailed Philadelphia by 14½ games on Aug. 21. The Phillies keep getting reminded of 1964, when they blew a 6½-game lead with 12 games left. "There isn't anything in the world that's going to stop that until we win it," said Phillies reliever Mitch Williams, who almost allowed the tying run in the ninth. "And when we win it, they'll find something else to (complain) about." Greene, 15-3, helped chase those ghosts of '64 by allowing four runs, striking out two and walking none. He is 3-0 in nine starts since July 16. "We've been fighting back from day one," Expos Manager Felipe Alou said. "I don't think tomorrow is a must-win situation. We never thought like that." Greene retired 15 straight batters from the third until the eighth, when Wil Cordero hit a three-run homer. Cordero's ninth home run came after Sean Berry and John Vander Wal opened the inning with consecutive singles. David West relieved after the homer and retired the side. Williams pitched the ninth for his 39th save in 45 chances. Larry Walker walked with one out and took second when Williams threw a pickoff attempt in the dirt for an error. Walker then stole third and pinch-hitter Mike Lansing struck

out. Berry flied to right for the final out. "I'm numb to it on the outside. On the inside, I'm still hurting," Phillies Manager Jim Fregosi said. "There's no quit to this team. "Whatever has been said or done, this club has won 90 games and I'm proud of every one of them. This club has had its back to the wall before and we came through every time." Loser Denis Boucher, 1-1, the first Quebec native on the Expos since Claude Raymond in 1971, allowed three runs — two earned — and five hits in five innings. Len Dykstra's leadoff double and Kruk's sacrifice fly put the Phillies ahead in the first. Montreal tied the score in the second when Walker doubled, took third on an error by Dykstra in center and scored on Berry's groundout. Philadelphia went ahead for good in the second when Greene reached on an error by Cordero at shortstop. Dykstra walked, Mariano Duncan hit an RBI double and Kruk hit a run-scoring groundout. Greene's second hit of the game, a two-out, RBI single off Gil Heredia in the sixth, made it 4-1. Kruk tripled in the seventh against Butch Henry and scored on Dave Hollins' sacrifice fly. "As good as their pitching and defense is, we thought there was no way they could keep this up," Kruk said. "We're not choking, we're not nervous. We've played 300 this month and lost what, eight games? They just haven't lost much."

S E P T E M B E R 1 9 9 3