

The Top 25:
How they
Fared

The Associated
Press ratings

Florida State (2-0) beat Clemson 51-0	Alabama (2-0) beat Vanderbilt 17-6	Michigan (1-1) lost to Notre Dame 21-23	Miami (1-0) plays Va. Tech Saturday	Texas A&M (1-1) lost to Oklahoma 44-14	Syracuse (2-0) beat E. Carolina 41-22	Florida (2-0) beat Kentucky 24-20	Tennessee (2-0) beat Georgia 38-16	Idaho State (2-0) beat Texas Tech 40-17	Colorado (2-0) beat Baylor 45-21	Notre Dame (2-0) beat Michigan 21-23	Washington (1-1) lost to Ohio State 21-12	Arizona (1-0) played Pacific	N. Carolina (2-0) beat Maryland 59-42	Penn. State (2-0) beat Southern Cal 21-20	Ohio State (2-0) beat Washington 21-12	Oklahoma (2-0) beat Texas A&M 44-14	NC State (2-0) beat Wake Forest 34-16	S. Carolina (1-1) lost to Arkansas 18-17	BYU (2-0) beat Hawaii 41-13	Clemson (1-1) lost to Florida St. 51-0	Georgia (0-2) lost to Tennessee 38-6	Stanford (1-1) beat San Jose St. 31-28	Baylor (1-1) lost to Colorado 45-21	Bos. College (0-1) plays N.western Saturday
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25

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Sunday World-Herald

Sports

SECTION

OMAHA,
NEBRASKA
SEPTEMBER 12, 1993
18 PAGES



Steps to Keep
Tommie Fit

Lincoln
If Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne is smart, he will do the following for quarterback Tommie Frazier and his big red ankle this week:
Hire a bodyguard.
Send over a limo driver to take him to class.
Don't let him change the ice pack. You never know. A cube could pop out, and he could slip and break Nebraska's season.
The tenuous nature of Frazier's right ankle and the Huskers' early-season stature was in clear focus Saturday at Memorial Stadium. For a while, both were on thin ice. The Huskers, who dare dream of an undefeated record and New Year's Day vindication, were down 21-20 in the third quarter of the second game of the season to Texas Tech. That they came back to win 50-27 is a testimony to good breaks, better depth and the will of Frazier.
That they had to play him says even more about their state of affairs.
Faced with a sprained right ankle and nine more games on the schedule, Frazier probably should have sat Saturday with his ankle propped on an Ottoman. Faced with an underrated opponent from the Southwestern Conference and an offense that was depending on three freshman I-backs to carry the weight, Osborne did the only thing he could do.

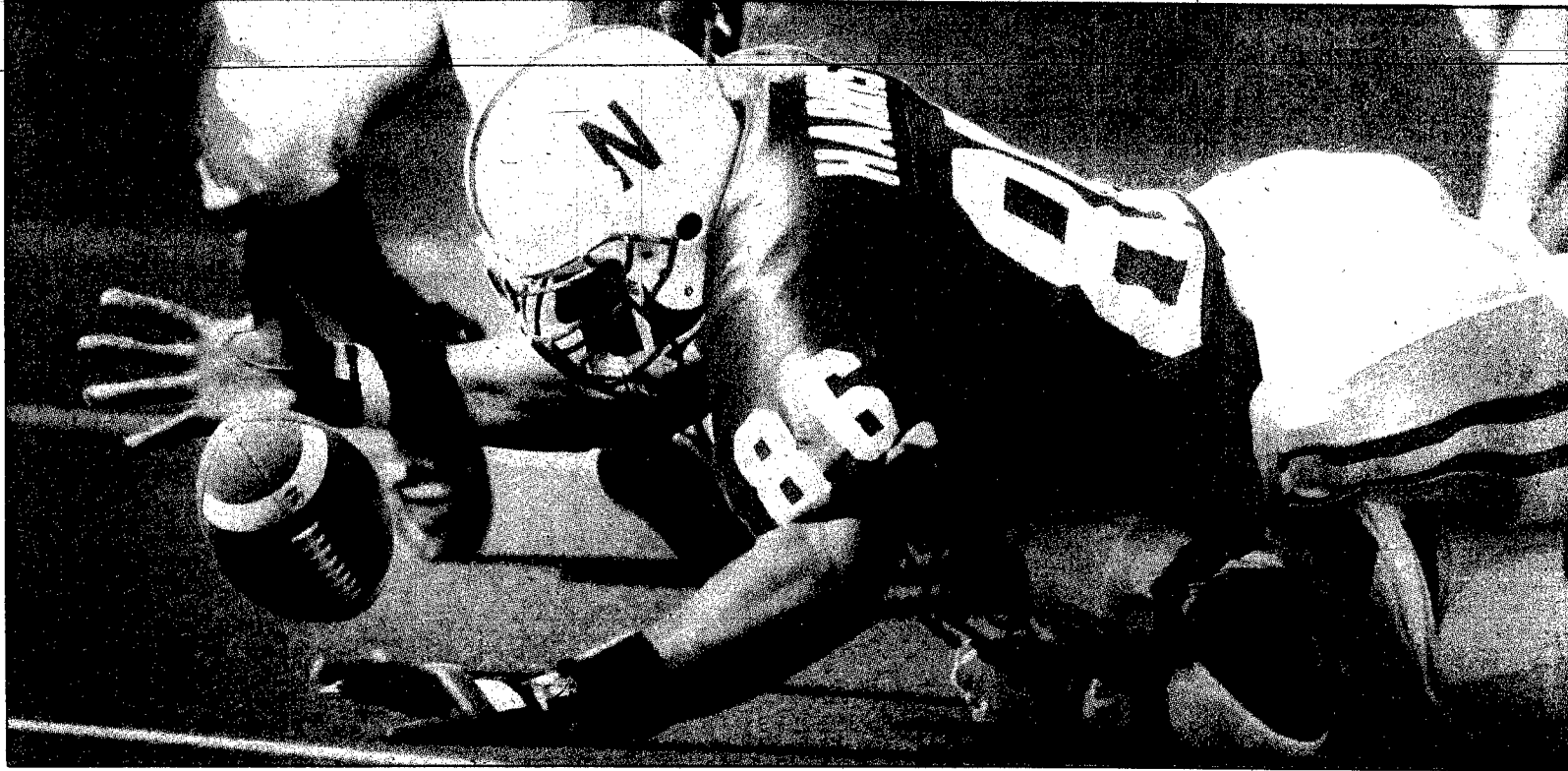
Osborne's Gut Feeling

He listened to Frazier. And he went with his gut feeling.
Not to mention Frazier's guts.
After hemming, then hawing, all week as Frazier saw minimal practice time, Osborne made Frazier the last-second starter. Thus ended a week with more mystery than "Murder, She Wrote." Frazier had basically one full day of practice — Thursday — and Osborne kept putting off the starting quarterback decision. It probably will be backup Brook Berringer, he said, unless Frazier improves by Thursday. Then Friday. Then game time. It was almost as if Osborne wanted Frazier to start.

Now we know why.
Now, we were told, Berringer was iffy, too, with a sore elbow. It flared up in his only series, in the first quarter, and he never returned. Then third-team quarterback Tony Veland went down with a knee injury in his only series. Thus ended the quarterback-by-committee plan Osborne had devised to ease the weight on Frazier's ankle.
Didn't matter. Frazier showed why he still is chairman of the board. He had the gimpy ankle. He had the injured star I-back, Calvin Jones, on the sideline in jean shorts. He had a defense determined to stop the option and an ankle that wouldn't let him run it anyway. And he had an ankle that limited his accuracy in the alternative — passing.

NU Avoids Upset

All he did was win. That is Frazier's forte. In your basic 50-27 victory built on courage, most of it belonged to No. 15.
"Toward the end of the game, I was like 'whoa,'" Frazier said, referring to the pain in his right ankle. "But the game was close. You're the guy. You have to suck it up."
As Frazier brought the cliché to life, he prevented the unthinkable — the first loss to an unranked non-conference opponent since Syracuse in 1984 — from becoming thinkable.
"Tommie's a competitor," said senior tackle Lance Lundberg.
Said Jones: "He showed courage. Tommie's a real go-getter."
Now we know. Frazier didn't back down last year when Osborne asked him to be the school's first true freshman starting quarterback since World War II. He sure wasn't going to blink when Osborne asked his status at Saturday's pregame warmup.
"It was tender," Frazier said. "But it wasn't enough to stop me from playing."
Start chiseling his Nebraska epitaph. Ah, that Tommie. He was a real go-getter.
He passed (12 of 27) for a career-high 206 yards and one touchdown, but several of his bounce passes belonged to the Bob Devaney Center. His fumbled pitch led to Texas Tech's



PHIL JOHNSON/THE WORLD-HERALD

SECOND FUMBLE: Two Texas Tech fumbles less than two minutes apart in the third quarter led to two Nebraska touchdowns and changed the game's momentum. Here, Husker linebacker Dwayne Harris grabs for the ball after knocking it loose from kickoff returner Derrell Mitchell. Tyrone Williams recovered, and two plays later Damon Benning's 2-yard TD run gave NU a 36-21 lead with 34 seconds left in the period.

NU Recovers in Time to Stop Tech

BY LEE BARFKNECHT
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Lincoln — It was the type of situation that could make or break a football season.
With 8 minutes, 37 seconds left in the third quarter Saturday, Nebraska gave up its third big-play touchdown to Texas Tech and fell behind by one point.
In trying to marshal a comeback in front of a hushed sellout crowd of 75,771 at Memorial Stadium, NU Coach Tom Osborne knew that:
■ Preseason All-America I-back Calvin Jones was on the sidelines in street

clothes with an injured knee.
■ No. 1 quarterback Tommie Frazier was limping back onto the field with a sprained right ankle.
■ No. 2 quarterback Brook Berringer was nursing a sore throwing elbow.
■ No. 3 quarterback Tony Veland was getting treatment for a potential season-ending knee injury suffered in the second quarter.
■ And a wind howling out of the south at 20 to 30 mph was blowing into the Huskers' faces.
So how did the seventh- and ninth-ranked team in the country respond?
By driving 68 yards into that wind for

a go-ahead field goal, then turning two fumble recoveries into two touchdowns just three minutes later before rolling on to a 50-27 victory over the Red Raiders.
"We had to dig down and see what we were made of in the third quarter," said NU outside linebacker Trev Alberts, who forced the first of those game-turning fumbles. "Three games from now, we might look back and see this as a really key game."
"Beating teams by 70 points every week doesn't do us any good. This will make us a lot better down the road."
Osborne said he hopes the 2-0 Huskers get some credit for beating 1-1 Texas

Tech, considered a dark-horse contender for the Southwest Conference title.
"There are a lot of fans who understand the situation," he told reporters after the game. "And a lot of you guys understand football."
"But I'm getting just a little bit irritable about complaints about our schedule and who we are playing. This was a GOOD football team we played today."
Much better, Osborne said, than the 21½-point line listed by oddsmakers.
"I'd have taken a two- or three-point win going into the game," he said. "The point spread that I heard was unbeliev-

able. I couldn't even imagine that kind of spread.
"We thought we were in for a dogfight with the injuries we had and the team we were playing, and we got it."
Osborne said he knew late last week that Nebraska's task might be even more difficult than he originally had thought.
Frazier, who hit 12 of 27 passes for a career-high 206 yards and a touchdown, had little significant practice work before Thursday.
And Berringer's elbow, which he first injured as a high school baseball pitcher, got sore again toward the end of the

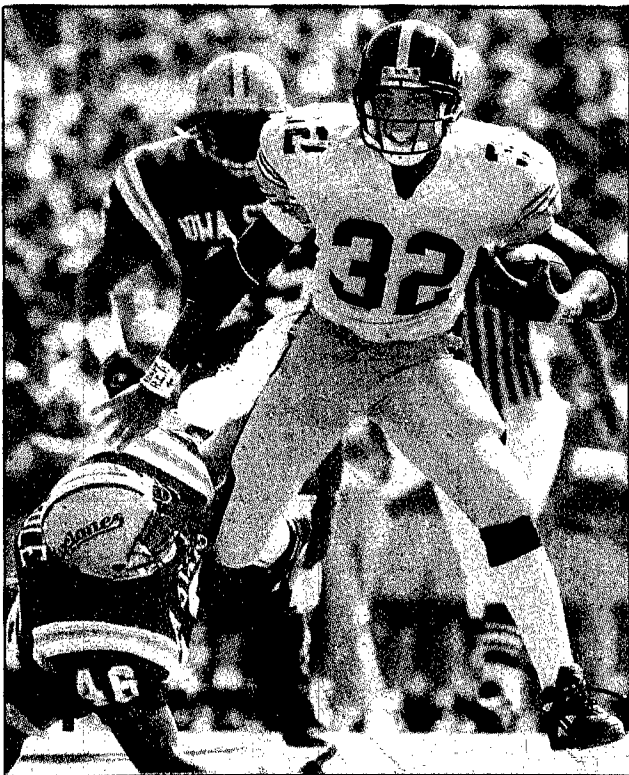
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ISU's Fumble
Helps Hawks
Hold On 31-28

BY STEVEN PIVOVAR
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Ames, Iowa — Iowa State dropped the ball Saturday afternoon just when it appeared the Cyclones were on the verge of breaking Iowa's stranglehold on victory.
Nose guard Maurea Crain preserved Iowa's 11th straight victory over the Cyclones, and 29th overall, when he separated Iowa State quarterback Bob Uter from the football with 65 seconds to play. Linebacker Mike Dailey recovered Uter's third and final fumble at midfield, and the Hawkeyes ran out the clock to complete a 31-28 victory.
"Maybe we just can't beat those guys," a dejected Iowa State Coach Jim Walden said after seeing his team rally from a 31-7, third-quarter deficit. "It's the same old merry-go-round. We got the game close enough to tighten them up, then we turned it over."
"The bottom line is that they did a better job of coaching their kids than we did ours. They were ready to play from the start and we weren't. That's my fault."
Relying on a ground-gobbling game plan, Iowa ran to a 24-point lead with 7:55 remaining in the third quarter. But just when Iowa fans in the crowd of 53,317 — seventh-largest crowd in Cy-

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JEFF BUNDY/THE WORLD-HERALD

HAWKEYES TAKE LEAD: Iowa's Ryan Terry, No. 32, breaks away on a 7-yard run to score the game's first touchdown at 4:58 of the first quarter. Iowa State players are Jeff Cole, No. 46, and Matt Nitchie, trailing Terry.

Atlanta Hurdles Past Giants
In National League West Race

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Ron Gant hit a three-run home run, his 33rd, and matched his career high with six RBIs as torrid Atlanta beat the San Diego Padres 13-1 Saturday night for a one-game lead over San Francisco in the National League West.
San Francisco earlier Saturday fell 3-1 to visiting St. Louis, dropping the Giants out of first place for the first time since May 11.
The visiting Braves, who trailed San Francisco by 10 games on July 22, have won five straight and 26 of 31 games. They've also won six straight against the Padres.
Gant hit a sacrifice fly in the fifth and

a two-run, bases-loaded single in the eighth. Gant homered to center with two outs in the ninth on a 3-2 pitch from Rudy Seanez, the sixth Padres pitcher. Greg Olson singled to open the ninth, his third hit of the game, and scored on Sid Bream's grounder.
Fred McGriff also hit his 33rd homer, a three-run shot, and John Smoltz allowed three hits in seven innings. McGriff capped a five-run eighth by hitting his 33rd homer, off Tim Lincecum.
Smoltz, 14-10, beat Andy Benes, 15-12, for his sixth win in his last seven decisions. Smoltz allowed three hits in seven innings, struck out eight and

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Sooners Rip A&M
And 'Turn Corner'

BY DENNIS DODD
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

Norman, Okla. — It was a victory so special that even normally calm Oklahoma Coach Gary Gibbs was caught up in the moment.
Gibbs entered his post-game press conference Saturday after a 44-14 victory over No. 5 Texas A&M with a hoarse voice, sweat-drenched untucked shirt and an emotional announcement.
"We've turned the corner," Gibbs said after his No. 17 Sooners dealt the Aggies their worst loss in five years. "This is what we needed. Nobody believed in this football team today. They might have picked us but they were just being nice. We believed it all week."
Few would have believed Oklahoma's dismantling of the slightly-favored Aggies which, Gibbs said, might have finally removed the last effects of an NCAA probation that led to a 5-4-2 bottoming out last year. The victory stopped A&M's 22-game regular-season winning streak and dealt the Aggies their worst loss since 1988.
"OU stopped us" — dramatically I would say, A&M Coach R.C. Slocum said.
That was evident before 68,211 at Owen Field. The OU defense forced six

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Irish Upset
Wolverines

THE NEW YORK DAILY NEWS

Ann Arbor, Mich. — Nobody bothered to ask Notre Dame Coach Lou Holtz Saturday whether he had read any good books lately.
The controversy that bubbled over in South Bend last week after the release of "Under the Tarnished Dome: How Notre Dame Betrayed Its Ideals for Football Glory," has died down, replaced by the euphoria of a 27-23 victory over third-ranked Michigan.
The 11th-ranked Irish made believers of them all again, accomplishing their latest miracle before an NCAA record crowd of 106,851 at Michigan Stadium.
Just before the final gun sounded, hulking defensive linemen Brian Hamilton and Oliver Gibson hoisted Holtz onto their

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THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

THE CHAMP: Steffi Graf signals No. 1 after beating Helena Sukova.

Graf Wins U.S. Open,
Hopes for Seles Return

New York — Steffi Graf played against herself at this U.S. Open. Not one other woman in the field offered her a challenge.
Graf, the top seed, beat No. 12 Helena Sukova 6-3, 6-3 Saturday in the final. She won her third Grand Slam title of 1993 and the third U.S. Open title of her career. Her tennis was passionate and exciting.
She created new shots for herself, found new angles, made new deci-

sions. There were no truly tense moments for her during the two-week tournament. She lost a set to Manuela Maleeva-Fragniere in the semifinals, but that was because she wasn't concentrating on the wind.
The wind gave her trouble. No

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