

# COLLEGE FOOTBALL

SECTION  
CF

On Omaha.com

Husker photo gallery,  
expanded Big 12 and  
Big Ten coverage

Omaha World-Herald

NEBRASKA 25, MAINE 7

# ONE AND UH-OH

Mavs give  
Bearcats  
the boot



UNO kicker Andy Severson follows through on a kick Saturday. The Mavericks beat Northwest Missouri State 28-23 to improve to 2-0. **Page 2.**

**SATURDAY IN THE BIG 12**

Maine	7
Nebraska	25
Texas Christian	17
Oklahoma	10
Missouri	44
Arkansas State	17
Colorado State	28
Colorado	31
Florida International	21
Kansas State	35
Montana State	10
Oklahoma State	15
Louisiana-Lafayette	3
Texas	60
Illinois State	21
Iowa State	32
Florida Atlantic	19
Kansas	30
Texas A&M	24
Clemson	25
Baylor	28
Southern Methodist	23

**UP NEXT**



**Wake Forest at Nebraska**

When: 6 p.m. Saturday  
TV: TBS  
Records:  
WFU 0-1; NU 1-0

**BIG 12 STANDINGS**

<b>NORTH</b>	<b>W-L</b>
Colorado	1-0
Iowa State	1-0
Kansas	1-0
Kansas State	1-0
Missouri	1-0
Nebraska	1-0
<b>SOUTH</b>	<b>W-L</b>
Oklahoma State	0-0
Texas	1-0
Baylor	0-0
Texas A&M	0-0
Texas Tech	0-0
Oklahoma	0-1

**SATURDAY IN THE BIG TEN**



**Frank's debut**  
The Frank Solich era at Ohio opened on a losing note. **Page 6.**

Ball State	0
Iowa	56
Northern Illinois	17
Michigan	33
Miami (Ohio)	14
Ohio State	34
Rutgers	30
Illinois	33
Ohio	14
Northwestern	38
Kent State	14
Michigan State	49
Bowling Green	42
Wisconsin	56
South Florida	13
Penn State	23



Nebraska's Terrence Nunn runs past Maine defenders on his way to a 62-yard punt return in the second quarter on Saturday.

JEFF BEIERMANN/THE WORLD-HERALD

## NU struggles to top Maine

BY RICH KAIPUST  
WORLD-HERALD STAFF WRITER

LINCOLN — Coming off its worst season in four decades, Nebraska came out Saturday night determined to prove that things would be changing in 2005.

This won't exactly do the trick. The Huskers struggled with Maine at Memorial Stadium, never really putting away their NCAA Division I-AA opponent until Bo Ruud's fourth-quarter interception return in a 25-7 victory.

The crowd of 77,469 that showed up with a certain electricity went home rather quietly. The team that wanted to make a statement could only offer promises that it would get better.

Welcome to Bill Callahan's

second season as head coach.

"I feel good about what our team accomplished tonight, but are we there yet? No," Callahan said. "We're not there yet. And we all know that. We're not fooling anybody. We have a long ways to go."

Callahan and his players answered postgame questions in an upbeat fashion. But other than the defensive performance, there was plenty to question.

Nebraska went nearly 20 minutes into the game before scoring. It had two turnovers inside the Maine 10. Its running game managed just 121 yards against a team that ranked 69th among I-AA rushing defenses last year. It missed an extra point and saw a punt ricochet off one of its players.

See Huskers: Page 2

**RED-LETTER DAY: Page 10**

A full-page keepsake from Saturday's game. **Page 10.**



CRAIG CHANDLER/THE WORLD-HERALD  
Maine's Chris Legree is wrapped up by Nebraska's Steve Octavien, No. 15, Blake Tiedtke, No. 25, and Jay Moore, No. 44, during the first quarter.

**More Huskers**

**Red hots:** Find out who earned World-Herald game balls. **Page 3.**  
**First W:** Zac Taylor's family enjoys his first game at NU. **Page 4.**  
**Returns:** Nebraska revives its punt return game. **Page 5.**

## Win is still a win, even for Huskers

LINCOLN — The game was three hours and 40 minutes old. Nebraska had put the game out of reach. There were less than 20 seconds left. But the visitors kept calling time outs.

And who could blame Maine?

They wanted to savor the moment. Soak in the glory. A team photo in front of the scoreboard was probably in order.

Nebraska 25, Maine 7. A moral victory, perhaps, for the Division I-AA Black Bears.

A moral defeat for the Huskers?

No. Not anymore. This was an ugly win, a brutal win in many ways, a win that will produce grumbling and hand wringing and all sorts of high anxiety.

But for this program, a win is a win.

They said Nebraska should not be playing Maine, had no business dipping down into the I-AA

well. They said Nebraska is still above that.

But there are no futile exercises in Memorial Stadium. There are no meaningless games. Maine, yes Maine, can tell you something about yourself.

What it told Nebraska and its Husker Nation on Saturday night is that this program may be on the road back, but it's going to be a long road.

It's not going to happen overnight. Not even going to happen against Maine.

To be sure, the old Nebraska would have disposed of the Black Bears by the end of the first quarter, would have smash-mouthed its way to a 42-0 lead at the half and cruised home with the back-ups.

But the old Nebraska is a faded photo in a scrapbook. The new one?

It scores one offensive touchdown against a I-AA Maine defense devoid of I-A size and speed. It leads by one touchdown in the fourth quarter. Its quarterback, Zac Taylor, plays the entire game.

The north end zone project looming over the stadium is like a See Shatel: Page 2



Tom Shatel

**TEXAS CHRISTIAN 17, OKLAHOMA 10**

## Texas Christian stuns No. 7 Oklahoma

**The Horned Frogs hold OU star Adrian Peterson to 63 yards.**

NORMAN, Okla. (AP) — His ankle injured and his team defeated, Oklahoma running back Adrian Peterson had few words to explain what had just happened.

"Right now, I'm kind of shocked," he said.

He wasn't the only one.

Texas Christian University came up with its biggest upset in 45 years, stifling Peterson and beating No. 7 Oklahoma 17-10 Saturday in the Sooners' first home loss since 2001 and first loss in September under coach Bob Stoops.

The Horned Frogs (1-0) came out with a plan to stop Peterson and make Oklahoma quarterback Paul Thompson beat them in his first career start. It worked.

While Peterson, the Heisman Trophy runner-up as a freshman last year, was held to 63 yards on 22 carries, TCU's Tve Gunn threw for 226 yards

and a touchdown and Robert Merrill scored the decisive touchdown on a 2-yard run with 11:56.

The Horned Frogs took advantage of a fumble by Sooners backup quarterback Rhett Bomar. Bomar, who lost a quarterback competition to Thompson but did well enough to earn playing time, fumbled while retreating and trying to spin away from Jamison Newby. David Hawthorne picked up the ball at the TCU 17, and Merrill took an option pitch from Gunn and scored untouched four plays later. It was one of four turns

See TCU: Page 2



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Texas Christian wide receiver Derek Moore, No. 13, beats Oklahoma defender Clint Ingram for a second-quarter touchdown on Saturday.