

Hurricanes drench Nebraska in Rose Bowl washout

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — Ten years after the Miami Hurricanes last ruled the college football world and a year after being frozen out of the title game, they are No. 1 again.

Miami left no doubt at the Rose Bowl, opening a 34-point lead in the first half against Nebraska on the way to a 37-14 victory Thursday night.

Even the Cornhuskers were impressed.

"I think anyone would have struggled with them the way they played," Nebraska coach Frank Solich said.

Ken Dorsey threw for a career-best 362 yards and three touchdowns, sharing the MVP award with Andre Johnson, who had seven catches for 199 yards.

Clinton Portis ran for 104 yards, including a 39-yarder for a touchdown, and safety James Lewis took an interception 47 yards for a TD as the Hurricanes finished a perfect season with a near-perfect performance.

"If you have any more questions,

we're 12-0," Miami's All-American safety Ed Reed said.

"There's a lot of people saying they should be here. If they were, they would have gotten the same treatment."

In winning its fifth national title — third at the expense of Nebraska — Miami defeated the Huskers more soundly than Colorado did in a 62-36 win on Nov. 23.

The 'Canes, who take a 22-game winning streak into next season, manhandled the Huskers.

They held the nation's leading rushing offense to 197 yards on the ground and just 259 total yards in the game — nearly 200 yards under Nebraska's average.

The Associated Press poll of sports writers and broadcasters voted Miami No. 1 unanimously, giving the Hurricanes their first title since the 1991 season.

Miami picked up the trophy awarded by the USA Today-ESPN coaches' poll

following the game.

Oregon (11-1), a 38-16 winner over Colorado in the Fiesta Bowl on Monday, finished second in both polls.

Nebraska (11-2) dropped four places and ended up finishing No. 8 in the final AP poll, and seventh in the coaches poll.

"The only thing I'd be disappointed in is that we didn't get a shot," Oregon quarterback Joey Harrington said after watching the game in Phoenix.

"You can speculate all you want, but I know we have a very good football team."

Before the season started, Miami players vowed they wouldn't allow the computer-driven BCS standings to determine their bowl fate.

In 2000, Florida State was chosen over Miami to play Oklahoma in the BCS title game at the Orange Bowl even though the Hurricanes beat the Seminoles.

So Miami went out and finished as the nation's only major unbeaten team.

"The entire team deserves to be MVP," Dorsey said. "Our defense stepped up to the challenge and did a great job. Our offensive line, receivers, everybody did a great job against a great team."

Johnson added: "I felt like I had something to prove, so I brought my 'A' game."

The stunned Huskers, beaten 62-36 by Colorado in their previous game, had no answer for Miami's speed and ferocious defense.

The lopsided score raised even more questions about whether the beleaguered Nebraska team belonged in the BCS title game.

"We didn't play well enough to make it a competitive game in the end or in the first half," Solich said.

From that end of it, it certainly wasn't the matchup everybody dreamed of."

Nebraska and its Heisman Trophy-winning quarterback, Eric Crouch, promised there would not be a repeat

of the pitiful performance against Colorado.

They were wrong, unable to do much against the Miami defense until the game was already out of reach.

"We talk about talent all along, but the thing that set this team apart is character," Miami coach Larry Coker said. "They refused to give in, refused to flinch, and they got the job done week in and week out."

Dorsey, now 26-1 as a starter, opened the scoring with a 49-yard TD pass to Johnson, then found him for an 8-yard TD with about 3 1/2 minutes left in the half.

Between those TD passes, Portis had his TD run, Lewis returned his interception and Dorsey hit tight end Jeremy Shockey on a 21-yard TD pass — all in 3:53.

And just like that, Miami made the 53-year-old Coker only the second coach to win a national title in his rookie season.

Michigan's Bennie Oosterbaan did

it in 1948.

Crouch ran 22 times for 114 yards and lost a fumble, and completed five of 15 passes for 62 yards with an interception.

The Huskers finally scored on Judd Davies' 16-yard run with 2:39 left in the third quarter, and DeJuan Groce added a 71-yard punt return for a TD early in the fourth period.

Although Huskers fans made up most of the crowd of 93,781, it was the 20,000 or so orange-clad Miami fans who did most of the cheering.

Crouch picked a bad time for one of the worst games of his record-setting career.

Miami's defense swarmed the option and rarely gave him room to run as Nebraska lost two games in a row for the first time since 1990.

"We turned the ball over, and that's what killed us," Crouch said. "We knew Miami was that type of defense, they live off turnovers. We got down too far."

Wrestlers face double match, win tourney before break

The Goodland Cowboys beat Quinter, 72-16, and Oberlin, 37-28, at a double dual wrestling tournament in Quinter last month.

The tournament, which was held on Thursday, Dec. 20, was the Cowboys last meet before winter break.

The wrestlers are traveling to Liberal today for a tough two-day tournament. Junior varsity wrestlers will attend a tournament in WaKeeney this weekend. The double dual was the Cowboys' fifth event this season.

The varsity wrestlers placed second at tournaments in St. Francis and Burlington, beat Atwood in a dual match and tied with Hoxie at a home tournament.

In the match against Quinter, eight Cowboys won by forfeit including Dexter Deeds, 103; Ray Brigham, 112; Korey Schulte, 119; Malcolm White, 125; Dusty King, 130; Blake Saint, 135; Michael Middleton, 145; and Allan Briney, 275.

In other individual results, Cowboy Brandon Cowen, 152, pinned Ben Keller; Brandon Linden, 160, was pinned by Landon Beesley; Chris Zimmerman, 171, lost 15-4 to Adam Riedel; Thomas Tompkins, 189, pinned Jordan Blackwill; and Jordan Bedore, 215, pinned Josh Keller.

In the match against Oberlin, Deeds pinned David Barth; Blayze Bahe, 112, pinned John Diederich; Mathias Goodley, 119, lost 5-2 to Brent Olsen; Kyle Schulte, 125, was pinned by Matt Coleman; Bryce Bahe, 130, lost 4-2 to Kenyon Badsky; Nick Gray, 135, lost 11-3 to Chance Harmon; Dustin Klinge, 140, lost 11-9 to Jason Gallentine; Max Saint, 145, lost 8-2 to Logan Glaze; Taylor Brack, 152, pinned Chris Barth; L.J. VonLintel, 160, was pinned by Grant Reichert; Chris Zimmerman, 171, beat Tyler Cook 12-2; Tompkins, 189, pinned Ryan Nichols; Jordan Bedore, 215, beat Scott Harmon 5-0; and Briney, 275, won by forfeit.

The junior varsity also participated in the meet, but there were no team scores. The only individual result for the Quinter match was for David Russell, 189, who pinned Adam Smith.

In the match against Oberlin, Blake Saint, 135, pinned Rodney Marshall; Middleton, 145, lost 12-4 to Gannon Reichert; Brett Jarmin, 145, was pinned by Adam Steinmetz; Cowen, 152, was pinned by Dustin Ketterl; and Brandon Nemechek, 189, pinned Jake Pedgett.

Darvin Ham offered counseling

MILWAUKEE (AP) — Milwaukee Bucks forward Darvin Ham will not face criminal charges stemming from his New Year's Eve arrest if he participates in counseling, according to the district attorney's office.

Ham was arrested at midnight Monday on what police said was suspicion of violence against his wife.

Is Kansas State's golden age coming to an end?

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Is Kansas State's golden age over?

If so, what a splendid run it was.

Nine-win seasons four years straight. A Heisman Trophy runner-up. Big 12 contenders. Bowl games, national prestige, annual predictions flying in from all directions that the Wildcats would be the team to beat.

Nobody is predicting a return to the bad old days of 1-10 and 0-11. And nobody is dredging up those old jokes about "Mildcats."

But Bill Snyder's Kansas State program has clearly come to a crossroads. Depending on what happens next year, this season's 6-6 record and 26-3 loss to Syracuse in the Insight.com Bowl was either a bump in the road or the end of an era.

As architect of what Kansas State fans proudly call the greatest turn-

around in college football history, Snyder seems confident that repairs can be made.

"This is a program that's done some very special things and a program that's taken its lumps before," Snyder said after Syracuse held his offense without a touchdown for the first time all season.

"I don't think this ballgame by itself will make it any less hard during the out-of-season program. We've identified where we needed a great deal of work."

The most urgent need is evident to all — improved quarterback play from either Eli Roberson or Marc Dunn, who both had an inconsistent year.

But if the Wildcats are about to take a tumble, it won't be a result of what Snyder is doing wrong. It'll be a matter of what other Big 12 schools are

doing right.

When Snyder arrived in the late 1980s and began what many considered an impossible task, his timing was perfect. Long-dominant Oklahoma was entering a period of sharp decline.

Kansas and Missouri were about to hit the skids. And thanks to an extraordinary commitment by Kansas State president Jon Wefald, Snyder had more money to spend on staff and recruiting than most of his Big Eight rivals.

Then, in his most telling gamble of all, Snyder resolved to take on all comers and go after the bluest of the blue chip recruits. Not content to make do with second-rate high school and junior college talent, he butted heads with Oklahoma and Texas for such top-rated players as Chris Canty, who became a star cornerback.

But now Oklahoma is back in gear

and churning along just like it did in Barry Switzer's heyday. In addition, adding the four Texas schools to turn the Big Eight into the Big 12 has also made victories tougher to come by.

With the entire Big 12 conference engaged in a furious gridiron arms race, it's just a tougher neighborhood. In the Big 12's six seasons, there have been five different champions.

In one sense, however, this could work in favor of the Wildcats' making a championship breakthrough.

"Maybe Kansas State has a better opportunity to win the Big 12 championship than it had 6 or 7 years ago," said Stan Weber, a television and radio commentator who played quarterback for the Wildcats in the early 1980s.

"Kansas State, with improved quarterback play, could stand toe-to-toe with any team in the nation."

Brocos make Pro Bowl team

DENVER (AP) — A disappointing season turned a little brighter Wednesday for five members of the Denver Broncos.

Wide receiver Rod Smith, defensive tackle Trevor Pryce, cornerback Deltha O'Neal and kicker Jason Elam were named to the AFC Pro Bowl roster. Linebacker Ian Gold was chosen for special teams.

Smith, hampered by sprained ankles the last several games, will make his second straight appearance in Honolulu. He said the honor is difficult to savor because Denver (8-7) won't be in the playoffs.

"It feels good, but at the same time, I'm just every disappointed at how our football season went," the seventh-

year receiver said. "I really feel like if we had won more games, we would have had more guys on the list."

With Ed McCaffrey sidelined by a fractured leg since the first game of the season, Smith has carried Denver's receiving corps, catching a franchise-record 106 passes. That ties him with Tampa Bay's Keyshawn Johnson for the league lead.

Heading into the final game of the season Sunday at Indianapolis, Smith is the third-leading receiver in the AFC with 1,251 yards. He is the first Bronco with consecutive 100-catch seasons and is the first with five straight 1,000-year years.

His 11 touchdown receptions this season rank third in the conference.

Pro coach criticizes college referee

DENVER (AP) — Broncos coach Mike Shanahan has always tried to be diplomatic when it comes to criticizing officials, out of fear of being fined. He found it easier to make a harsh comment about an official's call in the Fiesta Bowl between Oregon and Colorado, won by Oregon 38-16.

The play in question came in the third quarter when Colorado quarterback Bobby Pesavento scrambled before throwing an apparent touchdown pass to Derek McCoy that would have cut the Oregon lead to 28-14.

However, referee Al Ford threw a flag, ruling that Pesavento had crossed the line of scrimmage before throwing the ball. An NFL replay challenge probably would have reversed the call.

"You don't realize how big that play was," Shanahan said. "It should have been a touchdown. It's 28-14, the momentum changes and they're right in the thick of things."

Shanahan said the official "wasn't in position to make the call. A referee would never make that call at the NFL level. At the collegiate level, he made a mistake.

"It's sure nice to get on the officials when I won't get fined for it."

bowling results

Wednesday Morning Coffee League
Brady Bunch split with Mr. Jims 2-2
Lonny's Quality Auto Body split with BEM's 2-2
McClung's Appliance over WOF 3-1

Individual high game: Nancy Kear, -236 Lonny's Quality Auto Body.

Individual high series: Nancy Kear-575 Lonny's Quality Auto Body.

Team high game: McClung's Appliance- 539.

Team high series: McClung's Appliance- 1502.

Final League Standings: McClung's Appliance

38 1/2, 29 1/2; Brady Bunch 38, 30; Lonny's Quality Auto Body 36 1/2, 31 1/2; BEM's 35, 33; Mr. Jim's 31, 37; WOF 25; 43.

Wednesday Night Men's Scratch Classic League

Sigco over Western Kansas Valley 11-9
L and M Steel split with Basgall Construction 10-

10

Weber Kennels over Fitzgibbon's Inc. 17-3
Pro Line over Bowladium Lanes 10 1/2- 9 1/2

Individual high game: John Fixen-256

Individual high series: John Fixen-818

Team high game: L & M Steel-590

Team high series: Weber Kennels-2141

League Standings: Weber Kennels 28, 12; Sigco

25, 15; Pro Line 23 1/2, 16 1/2; L & M Steel 23, 17;

Bowladium Lanes 18 1/2, 22 1/2; Western Kansas

Valley 16, 24; Basgall Construction 16, 24;

Fitzgibbon's Inc 10, 30.

Wednesday Night Mixed League

Kanorado Coop over Muddslingers 4-0
Phillips Brothers over Mueller Grain 4-0

Guzzlin Socializers over Kickers 3-1
D & G Clan over Goodland Sheet Metal 3-1

Phantoms split with Shear Dimensions 2-2
Blossom Shoppe split with The Gamblers 2-

2

Men's high game: Phil Helzer-221

Men's high series: Travis Gillihan-592

Women's high game: Laura McClung-212

Women's high series: Laura McClung-511

Team high game: Kanorado Coop-

887

Team high series: Kanorado Coop-2413

League Standings: Kanorado Coop 49, 23;

Gamblers 48, 24; Guzzlin Socializers 47, 25; Mueller

Grain 44 1/2, 27 1/2; D & G Clan 41 1/2, 30 1/2.

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student of the week



Name: Mandi Bellamy
Parents: Brian & Shelly Bellamy
Grade: Senior
Age: 17
We've nominated this student because: Mandi is an excellent student in the classroom and in extra curricular activities. She is very out going, hard working, and a joy to teach.

Student Comment: My two favorite subjects are

band and visual communications, and I will always remember how well everyone brought me in when I started school at GHS last year.

Activities involved in at school: Jazz Band, NHS, Scholars' Bowl, Science Olympiad.

My choice of movies, books, and games : Movie: Return To Me; Music: Anything but Rap; Games: All card games.

After I leave Goodland High School I intend to ...: Go to K-State at Salina and become a commercial pilot.

And 10 years from now, I think I'll be ...: Flying for a major airline.

Favorite Quote: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it" George Santayana

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