

WEEK Three  
**TROY AT NEBRAKA**

Huskers 0-2 for 1st time since 1957 after 24-19 loss to Troy

The Trojans of the Sun Belt Conference stunned Nebraska 24-19 on Saturday, denying Scott Frost his first win as the Cornhuskers' coach, and earned a \$1.15 million guarantee in the process.

A year ago, the Trojans pocketed just under a million dollars while beating then-No. 25 LSU on the road. And that was after giving Clemson a four-quarter game in a close loss in 2016.

"We've got a good football team," Troy coach Neal Brown said. "Our guys fully expected to come in here and compete and have a chance to win in the fourth quarter, and that's what we did."

B.J. Smith scored untouched on a 26-yard run midway through the fourth to make it a two-score game and Will Sunderland made an interception in the final 3 minutes to lock up the second win in two years over a power-five conference opponent for Troy (2-1).

For Nebraska (0-2), the frustrating start to the Frost era continued. The Huskers (0-2) have lost their first two games for the first time since 1957 and have dropped six straight home games since beating Rutgers Sept. 23, 2017.

"I think we're a better team than what the results say we are, but that doesn't matter," Frost said. "I just got done telling the team that when things get tough like this, you got two choices: you fight back and work even harder or you give up. I told them if anybody doesn't want to stay on for this ride, let me know and get off, because I know where this is going. We just haven't had the results early that we need."

As he ran off the field at Memorial Stadium, a jubilant quarterback Kaleb Barker had a game ball tucked under his arm.

"They said, 'It's yours,'" he said. "I'll take it."

Actually, a host of Trojans could lay claim to that ball. Cedarius Rookard ran back a punt 58 yards for a touchdown, Smith scored two touchdowns and ran for a team-high 70 yards and linebacker Tron Folsom had 14 tackles, a sack and another tackle for loss.

"We didn't play great football as we went through the game," Brown said. "But I thought our kids played really at a high level special teams-wise. I thought our defense bent but they didn't break. I thought we flew to the ball and tackled better than we have at any point this season. Offensively, we just found some ways to make some key plays."

Sophomore walk-on Andrew Bunch, starting at quarterback for Nebraska in place of the injured Adrian Martinez, converted a fourth-and-8 while leading the Huskers on a 75-yard drive to pull Nebraska to 24-19 with 2:55 left.

But Sunderland stepped in front of his pass along the sideline intended for JD Spielman, starting the celebration on the Troy bench.

The Huskers face their Big Ten opener on the road against Michigan next Saturday.

"We have a tough game next week, so this could get worse before it gets better," Frost said. "It's always darkest before the dawn, and I know where this is going, so I want every guy in that locker room to be on board."

**THE TAKEAWAY**

Troy: This is mostly a new cast of Trojans, but once again they showed they aren't intimidated playing a blue blood opponent on the road. It's the lift they needed after losing to Boise State in their opener and beating an FCS opponent last week.

Nebraska: The Huskers couldn't get out of their own way. They had two turnovers and a missed field goal among their first five possessions, gave up the long punt return and had costly personal fouls on a Troy touchdown drive. Mohamed Barry was ejected for his head-on-head hit at the end of a run by backup quarterback Sawyer Smith.

"I want to say this to the Nebraska fans: you guys are going to be fine," Brown said. "They're going to get it done here. They're going to win and they're going to win big. But I don't want the narrative to be about that."

**AWAY HE GOES**

Rookard had the Trojans' first punt return for a touchdown in two years.

"I was kind of nervous being back there because it was Nebraska, standing back there by myself," Rookard said. "Once I'd caught the ball, a dude missed a tackle. I ran around to the left side, then cut it back to our sideline."

**MARTINEZ COULDN'T PLAY**

Frost didn't say whether Martinez would be ready for Michigan. He just knew he didn't want to risk Martinez, recovering from a right knee injury, against Troy.

"Look, he's going to be here a long time," Frost said, "and our decision will be made based on his long-term health more than anything. That wasn't an option."

<b>Final</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>T</b>
<b>TROY</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>NEB</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>19</b>

**Scoring Summary -----**

	<b>TROY</b>	<b>NEB</b>
<b>FIRST QUARTER</b>		
<b>TROY FG 7:24 Tyler Sumpter 37 Yd Field Goal</b>	3	0
6 plays, 43 yards, 3:00		
<b>second Quarter</b>	<b>TROY</b>	<b>NEB</b>
<b>TROY TD 12:17 Cedarius Rookard 58 Yd Punt Return (Tyler Sumpter Kick)</b>	10	0
3 plays, 3 yards, 1:56		
<b>TROY TD 5:12 B.J. Smith 9 Yd Run (Tyler Sumpter Kick)</b>	17	0
5 plays, 80 yards, 3:21		
<b>NEB TD 3:02 Stanley Morgan Jr. 9 Yd pass from Andrew Bunch (Barret Pickering Kick)</b>	17	7
5 plays, 65 yards, 2:02		
<b>third Quarter</b>	<b>TROY</b>	<b>NEB</b>
<b>NEB FG 10:25 Barret Pickering 23 Yd Field Goal</b>	17	10
4 plays, 2 yards, 1:18		
<b>NEB FG 3:02 Barret Pickering 32 Yd Field Goal</b>	17	13
11 plays, 47 yards, 4:06		
<b>fourth Quarter</b>	<b>TROY</b>	<b>NEB</b>
<b>TROY TD 6:45 B.J. Smith 26 Yd Run (Tyler Sumpter Kick)</b>	24	13
10 plays, 62 yards, 4:34		
<b>NEB TD 2:55 JD Spielman 7 Yd pass from Andrew Bunch (Two-Point Pass Conversion Failed)</b>	24	19
11 plays, 75 yards, 3:50		

<b>Team Stats</b>	<b>TROY</b>	<b>NEB</b>
First Downs	8	19
Total Yards	253	347
Total Plays	55	72
Avg Gain Per Play	4.6	4.8
Net Yards Rushing	143	178
Rushes	34	46
Yards Per Rush	4.2	3.9
Net Yards Passing	110	169
Comp-Att	14-21	18-26
Yards Per Pass	5.2	6.5
Times Sacked	3	3
Yds Lost To Sacks	-23	-19
Interceptions	1	2
Punts	5	5
Punt Average	0.0	0.0
Penalties	10	9
Penalty Yards	84	66
Fumbles	3	3
Fumbles Lost	1	1
<b>Possession</b>	<b>27:06</b>	<b>32:54</b>

**Individual Stats**

**RUSHING**

<b>TROY</b>	<b>Rush</b>	<b>Yds</b>	<b>Avg</b>	<b>Long</b>	<b>TD</b>
B.J. Smith	11	70	6.4	26	2
Sawyer Smith	4	60	15.0	57	0
Jabir Daughtry-Frye	6	15	2.5	13	0
Kaleb Barker	8	12	1.5	17	0
Deondre Douglas	1	-2	-2.0	0	0
<b>NEB</b>	<b>Rush</b>	<b>Yds</b>	<b>Avg</b>	<b>Long</b>	<b>TD</b>
Maurice Washington	14	92	6.6	29	0
Greg Bell	14	64	4.6	14	0
Devine Ozigbo	9	25	2.8	11	0
Andrew Bunch	10	5	0.5	11	0
JD Spielman	1	1	1.0	1	0

**PASSING**

<b>TROY</b>	<b>Comp</b>	<b>Att</b>	<b>Yds</b>	<b>Y/A</b>	<b>TD</b>	<b>Int</b>	<b>QBRat</b>
Kaleb Barker	14	21	110	5.2	0	1	101.1
Sawyer Smith	0	0	0	-	0	0	-x.x
<b>NEB</b>	<b>Comp</b>	<b>Att</b>	<b>Yds</b>	<b>Y/A</b>	<b>TD</b>	<b>Int</b>	<b>QBRat</b>
Andrew Bunch	19	27	177	6.6	2	2	135.1

**RECEIVING**

<b>TROY</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Yds</b>	<b>Avg</b>	<b>Long</b>	<b>TD</b>
Damion Willis	1	39	39.0	39	0
Tray Eafford	4	33	8.3	17	0
Sidney Davis	3	21	7.0	13	0
Jabir Daughtry-Frye	2	11	5.5	6	0
Deondre Douglas	4	6	1.5	7	0
<b>NEB</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Yds</b>	<b>Avg</b>	<b>Long</b>	<b>TD</b>
Stanley Morgan Jr.	5	64	12.8	33	1
JD Spielman	6	45	7.5	16	1
Kurt Rafdal	1	26	26.0	26	0
Maurice Washington	3	14	4.7	9	0
Jack Stoll	1	9	9.0	9	0
Devine Ozigbo	1	7	7.0	7	0
Greg Bell	1	6	6.0	6	0
Tyjon Lindsey	1	6	6.0	6	0