

Loggers Rout Omaha, 41-13

By BILL NIXON
Northern Arizona Bureau

FLAGSTAFF—Northern Arizona University's Lumberjacks, their confidence restored by the return of Thunder Thornton, thrilled a record homecoming crowd of 3,300 fans and chilled the bulky Omaha University Indians here yesterday, 41-13.

Thunder, the hard-socking sophomore from the Ohio River country where most kids grow up with several molars missing, jarred the teeth out of the Nebraska team's defense.

The 19-year-old Thornton, who missed the Whittier game because of a poor attitude in practice, broke Omaha's back with three touchdowns that opened the gate for a rout of the shocked invaders.

THORNTON SCORED on runs of 1, 11, and 51 yards as he rolled up 163 yards in 10 carries.

Of course he had plenty of help. Throwing key blocks too numerous to mention were fullback Gary Barnes, sophomore tight end Sonny Campbell, guard Larry Small, split end Jim Fuller and flanker Rich O'Hara.

The 546 yards' total offense by the Lumberjacks was a new game high under coach Andy MacDonald.

ANDY APPRECIATED the offensive strength of his Axers, now 3-2, but he positively gloried in the defense that caused the worst offensive display in three years by Omaha quarterback Marlin Briscoe. The flashy QB had "only" 152 yards in the air, and 88 of that total came on two plays.

Omaha, which had scored 33 points against the No. 3 ranked North Dakota State, was shackled when it counted by a tremendous pass rush from seniors Terry Keeton and Bill Hanna. Seven times Briscoe was trapped behind the scrimmage line.

He must have thought the 1,200 high school bandmen still were on the field. He ran the ball 15 times for a net of minus 9. The prep music makers paraded before the game.

OMAHA WAS supposed to have the explosive offense. But it was just the reverse. NAU scored 20 points in the third quarter and made a rout of it when

the Axers marched 99 yards in the fourth quarter for a 34-6 lead.

The Indians got their second touchdown on a screen pass, Briscoe to halfback Ron Sayers, that went 47 yards. But the tally was tainted somewhat. It came midway in the final quarter when NAU's first-string cornerbacks, Craig Ballew and Chick Harris, were being rested.

NAU senior fullback Barnes and flanker O'Hara, whose parents came all the way from Iowa for the game, had great days. Barnes got two touchdowns, one of them going 67 yards for the longest draw play Barnes can remember. O'Hara helped open up Omaha's defense with some early pass receiving.

HIS GAME total was five for 66 yards, but his best effort was a block thrown on the Omaha safety man that got Barnes home on that long run.

While NAU rejoiced in the big victory, there was sorrow, though, in the dressing room. Tackle Mike Bomar suffered a broken left leg in the first quarter. The Axers autographed the game ball and gave it to

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Axers Breeze

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the huge Riverside, Calif., senior.

NAU scored first after quarterback Jim Velasquez hit sophomore Campbell with a 40-yard pass. Thornton went home from three yards out, and Campbell kicked the first of his five conversions.

THE HALF ENDED NAU, 7-6, after Rick Davis blew up the middle for 51 yards and an Omaha touchdown.

There was no scoring in the second period, but Omaha threatened to NAU's 13. Axer linebacker Ernie Redmond saved the day when he made a brilliant open-field tackle on Briscoe on fourth down with five seconds to go.

Then, as far as Omaha was concerned, the Indian defense suddenly hit the fan and scattered. After Thornton's 51-yard TD run, Axer guard Ozzie Slade recovered an Omaha bobble on the Indian 18.

O'HARA GRABBED a Velasquez pass and then Thornton scored again for a 20-6 lead with 10:50 left in the third quarter. Four minutes later Barnes rambled 67 for another score.

As the third quarter ended, NAU was in the midst of that 99 yard push that Barnes capped from a yard out.

Reserve Joe Warner was the gunner for NAU in a 66-yard drive that ended with 54 seconds to play. Frosh Lamb Cole got the final NAU TD from five yards out.

One other enemy fumble was covered by the Axers. It came in the early moments of the game. Omaha took the opening kickoff and went to the Axer 3. But Keeton belted an Omaha ball carrier and co-captain Bob Smith recovered for the Loggers.

The recovery suddenly turned the game around.

The Axers play Western Illinois here next Saturday.

NAU—Thornton, run 11 (kick wide).
NAU—Barnes, run 67 (Campbell kick).
NAU—Barnes, run 1 (Campbell kick).
Omaha—Sayers, pass 47 from Briscoe (Haas Kick).
NAU—Cole, run 5 (Campbell kick).

TEAM STATISTICS

	NAU	OMAHA
First Downs	22	12
Net Rushing	408	145
Passing Yardage	138	152
Passing	8-15-1	7-19-0
Return Yardage	50	55
Punts, Avg.	3-39.6	6-41.1
Fumbles Lost	0	2
Yards Penalized	46	50

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

	Att	Net	Avg.
Rushing			
Thornton (NAU)	20	163	8.1
Barnes (NAU)	10	94	9.4
Warner (NAU)	7	72	10.2
Davis (Om)	12	95	7.9
Sayers (Om)	14	64	4.6
Briscoe (Om)	15	-6	0.6
Passing			
Velasquez (NAU)	13	8	0
James (NAU)	2	0	1
Briscoe (Om)	19	1	0
Pass Receiving			
O'Hara (NAU)	5	66	0
Campbell (NAU)	2	50	0
Fuller (NAU)	1	12	0
Haas (Om)	3	61	0
Sayers (Om)	1	47	1
McKernan (Om)	2	41	0

Seeds Gain In Tropicana

The Tropicana Tennis Tournament began its Mixed B Doubles event yesterday at Arizona Country Club with 25 matches being played. All the seeded teams advanced.

Best match of the day saw the No. 4 seeds, Dell Trailor and Vangie Livingood, nip Don and Helen Woods, 4-6, 6-1, 6-2.

In another tight battle Roger Wright and Betty Pickrell downed Ormond and Nancy Parke, 6-2, 5-7, 10-8.

Today's action at ACC will see three second round matches at 9 a.m., quarterfinals at 2 p.m. and semis at 5.

Finals will be held Oct. 29 at Phoenix Country Club.

Butterfly Mark Beaten by Spitz

BERLIN (AP) — Mark Spitz of Santa Clara, Calif. smashed the world's record for the 100-meter butterfly last night, churning the distance in 55.68 seconds in a swimming meet between West Germany and the United States.

The listed world record of :56.3 was held jointly by Spitz and Douglas Russell of Midland, Tex.

The 17-year-old swimming ace set his record all alone, finishing 2½ lengths ahead.

OMAHA	6	0	0	7-13
NAU	7	0	20	14-41

NAU—Thornton, run 3 (Campbell kick).
Omaha—Davis, run 51 (kick failed).
NAU — Thornton, run 51 (Campbell kick).