

Logger Comeback Beats Omaha, 7-6

By **BILL NIXON**
Republic Staff Writer

OMAHA, Nebr.—Alec Walker placekicked the winning point here last night for Northern Arizona University's Lumberjacks, who downed the Omaha University Indians, 7-6, in a stubborn defensive battle that was played entirely in near ankle-deep mud and a drenching rain.

Trailing 6-0 late in the third quarter, the Axers marched 86 yards in 7 plays for the go-ahead points. A Mike Olson to Bob Grey pass for 9 yards started the drive, and then two plays later, Olson tagged tailback Sonny Campbell for 46 yards down to the Omaha 24.

After two passes went incomplete, Olson found Freshman split end Walt Mannon on the 10, and the Portsmouth, Ohio, thin man went in for the score.

WALKER, WHO never tried an extra point kick for NAU until last night, booted the muddy, wet ball through the uprights. Walker, of Garden Grove, Calif., has spent most of the season trying to break into a starting job with the Axer defensive backfield.

The Logger TD came with 52 seconds left in the third quarter.

NAU's only other threat in the game came early in the fourth quarter when defender Bruce Branstrom intercepted an Omaha pass and went from his own 40 to the Omaha three, but a fumble killed the Logger threat.

Omaha got its only TD with four seconds left in the half. It came on quarterback Rocco Gonnella's 23-yard pass to tight end Stan Standifer.

The conversion attempt was blocked

by Branstrom.

The victory squared NAU's season record at 2-2. Omaha is now 0-3.

THE INDIANS played ball control through most of the third period. In fact NAU had only four offensive plays in the first 10 minutes.

But Axer defensive back Pat Byrd supplied the momentum that was badly needed. He intercepted an Omaha pass at the NAU 14 and the Lumberjacks marched all the way for what proved to be the winning points.

Fumbles got the Axers in trouble in the final period, and even killed a major threat early in the fourth. NAU's Branstrom picked off an Indian pass early in the final quarter and went all the way to Omaha's three-yard line.

But on first down, Olson fumbled the slippery ball, and Omaha tackle Mel Washington recovered to halt the threat. Another Olson fumble kept the Axer defense in a hole, but the Logger front

Continued on Page 6-E

SPORTS TODAY

RADIO-TELEVISION

NCAA Highlights—Filmed portions of yesterday's most important college football games, including Arizona State-Wyoming, Ch. 3, 9 a.m.

World Series—St. Louis at Detroit, fourth game, Ch. 12 and KTAR (620), 9:30 a.m. (Game time, 10 a.m.)

Professional Football—Dallas at St. Louis (NFL), Ch. 10, 11 a.m.; Boston at Oakland (AFL), Ch. 12, 1 p.m.; San Francisco at Los Angeles (game in progress), Ch. 10 and KBUZ (1310), 1:30 p.m.

College Football—Notre Dame vs. Iowa (taped from yesterday), Ch. 5, 11 a.m.

Olympic Preview—Look at athletes, Mexico City Olympic site and past Olympic Games, Ch. 3, 1 p.m.