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(Neb.)-Thomas' 22 Helps No. 8 Ohio State Roll, 70-44



By: Dennis and Kathi Brown Posted at: 01/02/2013 08:38 PM

By RUSTY MILLER

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COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) - Deshaun Thomas outscored Nebraska in the first half 18-17 and finished with 22 points to lead No. 8 Ohio State past the Cornhuskers 70-44 on Wednesday night in the Big Ten opener for both teams.

Lenzelle Smith Jr. added 17 points for Ohio State (11-2, 1-0), which won its 15th consecutive Big Ten home opener. The Buckeyes have a tough test on Saturday at No. 11 Illinois.

The Buckeyes led by at least 20 points for almost all of the second half.

How bad was it for the Cornhuskers (9-5, 0-1)? Only 8:27 remained when they finally exceeded the 31 points that their football counterparts scored in a 14-point loss to Georgia in the Capital One Bowl a day earlier.

Ray Gallegos had 14 points to lead Nebraska, which shot 29 percent from the field.