

Huskers 'Tag' ISU, 54-29

Nebraska gridgers reduce Cyclones to minor breeze



Watch that mask, buddy . . . Nebraska's Johnny Rodgers (20) tries to avoid the grasp of Iowa State's Bradd Steckmesser (47) on a punt return in the first half. Rodgers was hauled down after an eight-yard gain.

by JIM JOHNSTON
Associate Sports Editor
Ames, Ia. — Nebraska, the pace setter in the Big Eight, visited Ames, Ia., Saturday, to play the conference "dogs".

And the Cornhuskers quickly learned that the Cyclones bark is much worse than their bite.

Iowa State, after a game delayed by cheap shots and name calling, went a notch farther back in the dog house with a 54-29 setback. The Cyclones now stand 0-5 in loop play while the front running Huskers own a 5-0 mark.

But ISU coach Johnny Majors still found things to smile about after the game. "I'm not smiling on account of Nebraska," Majors told reporters. "They have a great

football team. I'm smiling about my team's effort."

Majors was pleased with his Cyclones for "sticking in there all the way and not giving up." And the Cyclones didn't give up as reserve quarterback George Amundson fired two touchdown strikes in the final two minutes of the game.

But that was against the Nebraska reserve defenses. "When we get our second team defense in there we just don't stop people," offered Nebraska coach Bob Devaney. "But we're still gonna play them when we get the chance."

When the Huskers first team was in action, it was obvious why they are ranked in the nation's top five.

Quarterback Jerry Tagge, taking over for Van Brownson who had a sore elbow, directed

a Nebraska offense that racked up 565 total yards from scrimmage. The Huskers marched 342 yards on the ground and collected 223 yards through the air.

Tagge found plenty to compliment Nebraska's offensive line about. "They played a tremendous game," said Tagge. "They were opening big holes and giving our backs plenty of room to run."

One of the backs who took advantage of the holes was fullback Jeff Kinney. Kinney rushed for 116 yards in 19 carries.

Husker fullback Dan Schneiss, who usually spends his Saturday afternoons blocking instead of carrying the football, tallied 92 yards on the ground.

But were either Kinney or Schneiss surprised by the big holes the offensive line provided? "No," quipped Kinney, "they do a great job every game."

Nebraska jumped out to an early 12-0 advantage as Joe Orduna, who became the leading rusher in the Devaney era Saturday, scored on runs of three and eight yards.

The Huskers built a solid 47-17 cushion before Devaney went to his bench.

★ ★ ★ Big Eight

	W	L	T
Nebraska	5	0	0
Kansas State	5	1	0
Oklahoma	3	1	0
Kansas	2	3	0
Missouri	2	3	0
Colorado	2	4	0
Oklahoma State	1	3	0
Iowa State	0	5	0

Saturday's Results

Nebraska 54, Iowa St. 29
Kansas St. 28, Oklahoma St. 15
Oklahoma 28, Missouri 13
Colorado 45, Kansas 29

This Week

Kansas St. at Nebraska
Oklahoma at Kansas
Iowa St. at Missouri
Colorado at Oklahoma St.

Big Red post game thoughts are purple

by JIM JOHNSTON
Associate Sports Editor

Ames Ia. — Nebraska's post game thoughts of Iowa State quickly turned purple in the dressing room Saturday.

Purple (as if you didn't know) is the color prided by Kansas State, the Cornhuskers' next foe. And a win by the Wildcats Saturday would guarantee them of at least a tie for the Big Eight championship.

Vince Gibson's purple boys own a 5-1 league mark and will finish their conference schedule at Memorial Stadium Saturday.

How important is the next game for Nebraska? It's like starting the season over again.

"We're gonna have to get ready for this one," quipped Husker offensive tackle Bob

Newton. "Our first nine games won't mean too much if we don't win this one."

The Huskers are in sole possession of the league lead, but back to back losses to K-State and Oklahoma could put the Big Red in third.

"We're not even thinking

about third place," continued Newton. "We're just thinking about finishing first."

Husker co-captain Dan Schneiss says "we'll have to be pretty high next week."

Schneiss noted that "Kansas State is just starting to jell, but we just feel we can beat everybody if we play well. We're champions and we're a good pressure team."

Defensive captain Jerry Murtaugh echoed the feeling by saying "it could be our toughest game of the year."

At least two Cornhuskers, I-backs Joe Orduna and Jeff Kinney, will be glad to be back at Memorial Stadium in Lincoln.

"I'll be glad to be back on the AstroTurf and play a good game for a change," noted

Orduna. "It will seem nice to play in front of the home crowd again."

Kinney also expressed his desire to get back on the mod sod. "You can cut a lot better on the AstroTurf," said Kinney, "and I've become used to running on it."

So there will be a big showdown in Lincoln Saturday. The only discouraging thing is that it won't be on national television.

The game would have been selected as one of four "Wild Card" games, but K-State's probation prohibits any national television appearances.

"It might be quite a show," mentioned Husker coach Bob Devaney. "It's too bad that it won't be on television."



Schneiss clears way . . . Nebraska fullback Dan Schneiss (22) had his best day of the year rushing 92 yards, but he didn't forget about his blocking duties as he clears the way for Joe Orduna (31).