



Runty . . . overcomes the odds. photo by Bill Ganzel

## Mop-up man Runty— 'natural crowd pleaser'

by Jim Johnston

Steve Runty is a natural as a crowd pleaser. He's the stubby kid from a small Nebraska town who played against the odds and made it as a walk-on at the University.

His name hasn't appeared much in the headlines. He has always been a steady quarterback, but he was just regarded as the mop-up man for Jerry Tagge and Van Brownson last season.

Runty had fallen into that category again this year, serving behind sophomore starter David Humm. He had compiled some brilliant fourth quarter statistics, but his ability to direct the No. 1 unit still was questioned.

But there's no question anymore. Runty replaced the injured Humm during the final series of the third quarter and directed the Huskers to two fourth quarter touchdowns in a 34-0 win over Oklahoma State at Memorial Stadium Saturday.

The junior from Ogallala completed three of eight passes for 67 yards and one touchdown. But the most outstanding part of his performance was his scrambling. Runty scrambled for 41 yards in four carries.

His showings also was pleasing, but not surprising, to head coach Bob Devaney.

"We've always had complete confidence in Runty," Devaney said. "We have the same situation this year as we did with Tagge and Brownson."

Humm suffered a bruised shoulder in the first quarter, but still passed for 271 yards. The injury to his right

shoulder is not believed to be serious.

Humm's was not the only injury Saturday. I-back Dave Goeller, who has started in the last two games, suffered a broken forearm late in the second quarter. It is unknown how long he will be out of action. Linebacker Johnny Pitts suffered a knee injury.

But those injuries had to be one of the few disappointing things for the Huskers Saturday. The Oklahoma State team, which Nebraska held to 134 yards rushing, was the third leading rushing team in the nation coming into the game against Nebraska.

"I guess we just expect our defense to be good," Devaney said. "It sometimes goes unnoticed by a lot of people, but those guys are doing a great job out there."

It was the fourth straight shutout for the Huskers, who have outscored their last six opponents 315-14.

Oklahoma State managed only six first downs and couldn't get any closer to the goal line than the 29-yard line. And this was the same team which had handed Colorado a 31-6 loss.

But Colorado, Nebraska's opponent at Boulder next Saturday, is a rather mysterious team. The Buffs lost to Missouri (20-17) just one week after defeating previously unbeaten Oklahoma.

"We still have a great deal of respect for Colorado," Devaney said. "They're always capable of being as good as they were against Oklahoma."

## Intramural 'Super Bowl' set Tuesday

by Kim Ball

Phi Delta Phi, the Independent champions, will meet Phi Delta Theta, the fraternity champions, for the All-University championship in the 'Super Bowl' of flag football at 6:30 p.m. Tuesday on the Gather field.

Phi Delta Phi, a team of law students, defeated B Division champion Sigma Phi Epsilon C 18-0 Friday night to move into the championship game.

Phi Delta Theta squeaked by dorm champion Gus II, 18-13, on a fourth quarter touchdown pass. With only

three plays remaining in the game and the Phi Delta trailing 12-13, Curt Bloom hit John Long in the end zone for the winning score.

Leading the Phi Delta Phi offense is quarterback Tom Hayes. He has capable receivers in ex-Husker linebacker Adrian Fiala, ex-Hastings College star George Watson and Mike Riordan.

The Phi Delta Phi defense, however, is more impressive than their offense. Ex-Husker guard Joe Armstrong and Fiala are especially intimidating on defense.

Defense also is a strong point for Phi Delta Theta. The Phi Deltas haven't allowed more than two touchdowns in any game. Their pass defense, led by Mike Peetz, has several interceptions.

Watson, the Phi Delta Phi speedster, thinks defense will decide the game. "The key is playing good defense," said Watson. "We're going to have to take away their big play."

## Facing Cowboy defense

photo by Bill Ganzel

There were times during Nebraska's 34-0 win over Oklahoma State that Husker coach Bob Devaney wasn't pleased with the officiating. He felt there was some unnecessary hitting after Johnny Rodgers received a pass.

