

Huskers must win for bowl bid

Only one yard and a goal line fumble away from being 4-3, Nebraska heads west to Boulder with their ninth place rating intact.

The Huskers still have hopes of securing a major bowl bid if they can keep winning until the Oklahoma showdown. Colorado would have to win the remainder of their games in order to be considered for any postseason action.

Hopefully that dream will evaporate this Saturday. The predictions for this week's game:

Nebraska 27, Colorado 14

Husker fans might start throwing a few oranges if Nebraska wins big in this regionally televised game. Buff partisans won't be able to hurl their traditional greetings unless it snows before Saturday.

Oklahoma 59, Iowa State 10

Iowa State officials would be wise to bring in a fire truck late Friday night and water down their football field for about three hours. Otherwise they'll be just another humiliated victim in the Sooners' drive to the top.

Oklahoma State 31, Kansas 20

The Jayhawks have gone into a prolonged nosedive since their upset win over Texas A&M and their once enthusiastic fans have gone back to cheering for the Kansas City Chiefs. The Cowboys have suffered some disheartening losses this year but this won't be another one.

Missouri 17, Kansas State 7

Fans in Manhattan should be treated to a low-scoring defensive battle Satur-

day. That is, if anyone comes to the game.

Ohio State 37, Illinois 13

The Buckeyes are playing a better than average team in Illinois but won't be sidetracked on their way to the Michigan game.

Florida 14, Auburn 10

Most people can't name one player from this year's Auburn team, which is peculiar since they are the fourth rated team in the country. Florida will upset the Tigers and knock them back to 14th, where they belong.

steve taylor taylored sports

Texas A&M, 24, Arkansas 7

This game could result in an upset but probably not since the Razorbacks' offense seems to desert them whenever they play Southwest Conference teams.

Alabama 40, Mississippi State 7

The Crimson Tide keeps plugging along, waiting for Oklahoma and Ohio State to falter. Chances are, however, Bear Bryant's boys will lose before the Sooners or Buckeyes do. But not this one.

OSU match an attitude booster

Husker coach Tom Osborne said Monday Nebraska's too-close-for-comfort, 7-3 win over Oklahoma State Saturday was an attitude booster for the Cornhusker team.

He said although Nebraska's win could not be considered an artistic success it was good for player character and attitude to "win a close one."

"Defense was the dominant game factor," Osborne told the Extra Point Club. He praised the Nebraska black-shirts for their performance.

"I'm not totally satisfied with their efforts, however," Osborne said. He said the defense had trouble getting the ball until early in the second quarter.

Osborne credited Ardell Johnson for a fine defensive performance.

"In fact, he had one (big play) more than he got credit for," he said, referring to Johnson's simultaneous sideline interception attempt with an OSU receiver.

Mike Fultz, interior lineman, had his best game of the season, Osborne said.

"Along with fine performances by Bob Nelson and Bob Martin, the whole defensive unit had a good game."

Osborne said he was disappointed with the Husker offense.

"We actually averaged more yards per play against OSU than we did against Kansas," Osborne said. "However, we only had the ball for 58 snaps."

Osborne said people tend to forget that Oklahoma State has the third-strongest defense in the nation.

Osborne stressed the uncertainty of this week's game with Colorado.

Sophomore halfback Billy Waddy will be tough to contain," he said. Dave Logan, probably one of the Big 8's best football players, may not play because of an injury, he went on.

The Nebraska-Colorado contest will be televised regionally. Kick-off time is noon, mountain standard time, 1 p.m. Lincoln time.

Gymnasts lose to ISU

By Larry Stunkel

Defending national gymnastics champion Iowa State University (ISU) captured five of seven events Saturday, en route to a 214.15 to 212.5 decision over the UNL gymnastics team at the Coliseum.

Freshman Larry Gerard and Sophomore Gary Juerink won the high bar and vaulting events, respectively, for the Huskers' only firsts.

Husker coach Francis Allen said his best men performed well, but the team's showing in the floor exercise and still rings events hurt the effort.

West injured

An injury of Duane West early in the week made what Allen called "a big difference in the floor exercise event."

Both junior Gene Mackie and senior Pete Studenski fell during their still rings routines, Allen said, but they got scores of 8.8 and 9.05, respectively.

"They both came back after they fell," Allen said. "They reacted fast without having to think about it, which is what we want them to do."

Saturday's meet was Mackie's first appearance since an injury sidelined him last fall.

'Coaching error'

"Gene had a lot of pressure on him," Allen said. "There was a coaching error on my part in the pommel horse for letting Gene do the routine he did. It was a hard routine, I should have given him something easier."

Mackie was competing with ISU standout Mark Graham for the all-around title. Graham captured the title despite falls in the pommel horse and high bar events.

ISU coach Ed Gagnier said he wasn't pleased with some of the errors his team made, but noted he had to be satisfied with beating "a team as good as Nebraska."

"Neither team was in midseason form," Gagnier said. "Every man on my team had some pressure on him, especially the three freshmen athletes I used."

Freshmen used

Gagnier added that Saturday was one of the first times he had used freshmen extensively.

In addition to Gerard, Allen said he was pleased with the performances of two other first-year Husker performers. Junior transfer Dave Schulte placed second in the parallel bars with a score of 9.1 and freshman Mike Cosgrove took third in the pommel horse with an 8.95 mark.

Gary Duff's 9.15 score won second place in the parallel bars. Steve Dickey placed second in the pommel horse with a score of 9.3.

The Husker gymnasts travel to Lawrence, Ks. for the Big 8 invitational Saturday.


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