

# Injuries sum up Iowa State season

By Gary Sawyer, sports editor,  
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The Iowa State 1975 football season could be summed up in one word: injuries. The Cyclones have been hurt throughout the year by injuries to key players.

The Cyclones, sporting a 4-5 record, suffered the first major injury when defensive tackle Mike Stensrud broke his foot in the season opener at UCLA. Stensrud was lost for the season.

Then quarterback Buddy Hardeman broke his left wrist against Kansas State. Hardeman returned to the Cyclone lineup two weeks ago but has played in a cast.

## Torn ligaments

In the Oklahoma game, the Cyclones best pass receiver and kicker return specialist, Luther Blue, tore ligaments in his knee and is out for the season. Last year, Blue was second in the nation in kickoff returns.

## FIRST DOWN

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Maynard Stensrud (Mike's brother) broke his hand in the Kansas University game and only returned to his middle guard spot against Colorado.

Despite the Cyclones' injuries, replacements have played well. Defensive tackle Tom Randall was named defensive player of the game against Oklahoma and knocked down two passes in the Colorado game.

## Freshman replacement

Blue was replaced by freshman Ray Hardee. In the Colorado game Hardee returned a kickoff 100 yards but the run was called back because of holding.

Another prospective freshman for the Cyclones has been tailback Dexter Green. After Green's performance against Colorado, Head Football Coach Earle Bruce called Green an exciting football player.

On offense, the Cyclones depend on the "W-W Express", Jim Wingender and Mike Williams, to lead the rushing attack. Wingender is close to becoming the third player in ISU history to rush for 1,000 yards in one season.

## Pass defense

Defending against the pass, the Cyclones lead the Big 8 and rank 10th nationally. However, the team's rushing defense is last in the Big 8.

Bruce said would he like to see Hardeman healthy for the Nebraska game.

"Buddy does a lot for us when he's in there," Bruce said. "He is especially dangerous when he drops back to pass because he also can run well."

Tom Mason will substitute if Hardeman is unable to play. Mason, a good passer, has engineered scoring drives when needed.

The receiver to watch, besides Hardee, is Forry Smith, the Cyclone's leading pass receiver this season. Smith has caught 21 passes for 356 yards and two touchdowns. Another receiver is Glover Rogers, who has

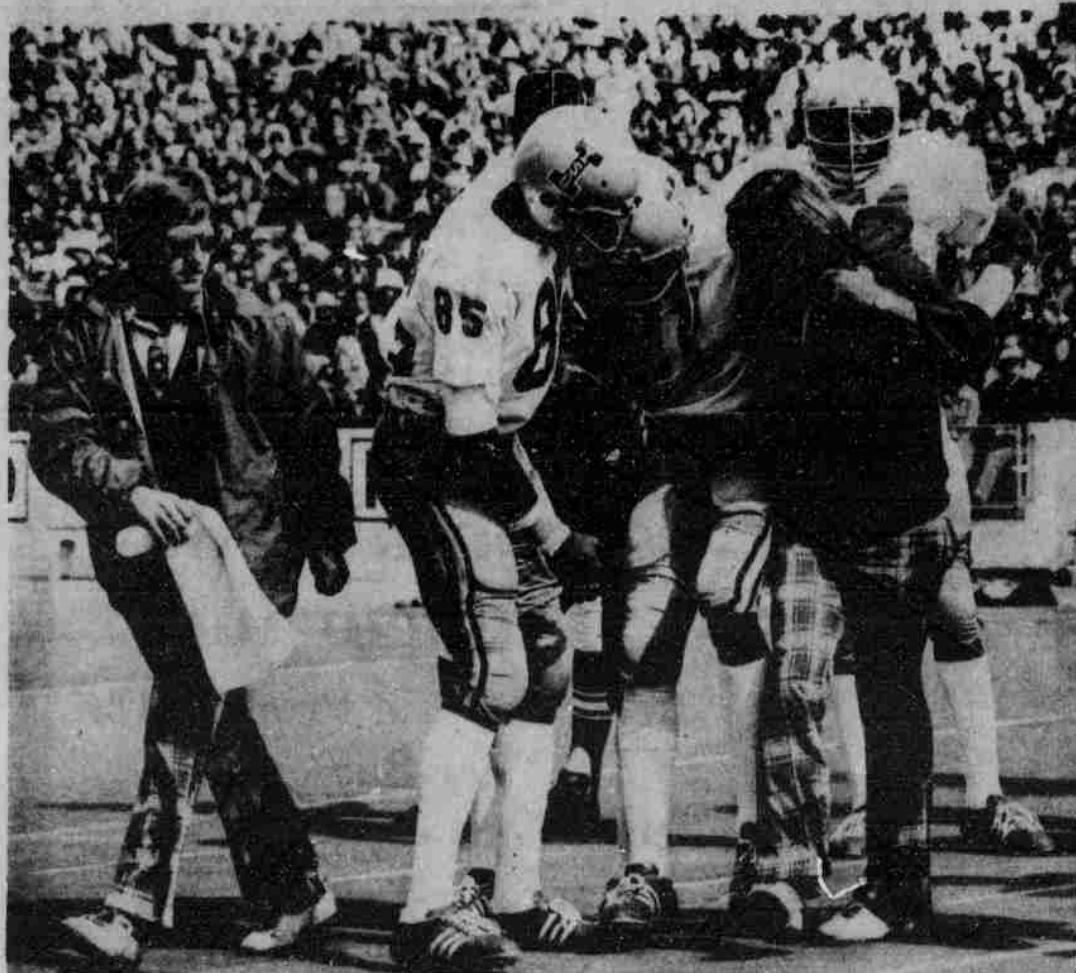


Photo by Gary Richards

Iowa State's most serious injury came to Luther Blue (91) in the Oklahoma game.

caught five passes, two for touchdowns.

The Cyclone kicking is handled by Doug Lenth. Lenth is 8-8 on extra points and 4-8 on field goals for 20 total points.

Punter Rick Blabolil currently carries a 40.5 yard punting average. Blabolil's long-

est punt was for 60 yards. He has not had a kick blocked this season.

Bruce said the Cyclones must stop the Husker offense and generate some big plays to win. ISU also must avoid its deadly habit of fumbling inside the five yard line.



Photo by Ted Kirk

Omahan Jim Wingender (34), is the Cyclones leading rusher, nearing 1,000 yards running this season.



Photo courtesy ISU Daily

Cyclone coach Earl Bruce is in his third year at Iowa State.