

# sports

## IU defensive line confused Huskers, says Fry

By Bob Asmussen

IOWA CITY, Iowa — After Iowa's 10-7 victory against Nebraska there Saturday, Iowa Coach Hayden Fry apologized to the Nebraska press.

No, Fry didn't apologize for his Hawk-eyes upsetting the sixth ranked Huskers. He apologized for avoiding their calls all week.

"I didn't want to have to lie to you," Fry told Nebraska press members after the game. "You'd have asked me questions that I couldn't answer. I figured it was better not to talk than to lie."

Maybe what Fry didn't want to have to talk about was the Hawks extensive use of an unbalanced line on defense. That unbalanced line caught the Cornhuskers off-guard, Fry said.

"Early on, you could see that Nebraska was confused," Fry said. "It was the first time we've used an unbalanced line at Iowa."

During the first half the Cornhuskers had trouble moving Iowa's defensive front out. The first half statistics reflected this as the Cornhuskers gained only 69 yards on 25 carries, a 2.7 average per attempt. UNL had only six first downs at the half.

Coach Tom Osborne shouldered the blame for the loss saying, "I don't think I had them prepared. If there's anyone to blame for the loss it's me."

"Iowa played well," he said. "They played emotional football. Their front people played extremely well."

Osborne said the Cornhusker's main problem was inexperience at the ball handling positions.

"We didn't execute well," Osborne said. "Inexperience had a lot to do with the poor execution. Iowa played so well we couldn't overcome our mistakes."

Osborne had one major concern and that was how well the Hawks controlled the ball at times.

"Iowa was able to move the ball against us especially in the first quarter," Osborne said.

The quarterback situation appeared unsettled. Nate Mason and Mark Mauer both played extensively while sophomore Turner Gill didn't see any action.

"I didn't want Turner to go into the game with all that pressure," Osborne said. "There wasn't any point in the second half that I wanted to put him in. We'll have to see about next week though."

Osborne said there was no lack of intensity on the part of the Cornhuskers.

Nebraska's only points of the game came with 11:42 left when Roger Craig plunged over the 1-yard line. It appeared as if the Cornhuskers would rally in the fourth quarter as they did two years ago but it was not to be. The Cornhuskers had the ball three times in the last four minutes but were unable to cash in. When Lou King intercepted Mason's pass with 34 seconds left, the upset was sealed.

Fry called the win the greatest in his 18 years of coaching and had nothing but praise for Nebraska.

"I've had big wins before but this is the biggest," Fry said. "This was a great victory for the University of Iowa."

Fry said the Iowa strategy to stop Roger Craig was to "knock him flat on his back."

"Roger Craig's a great back," Fry said.

"The way to stop him is to just get in front of him and expect to get hit. He bruised up some of our defense good but I imagine he's got some bruises himself."

The Hawk's ability to beat UNL had been questioned by the Iowa press which caused Fry to say, "Doubters, now you

know Iowa's speaking the truth. I can't run a successful program with people around who are pessimistic."

Fry said his team would have to continue its improvement.

For Nebraska, it's Florida State next week in Lincoln, a game that center Dave

Rimington said the Cornhuskers have to be ready for.

"If we're like a traditional Nebraska team, we'll do alright," Rimington said. "From now on we'll be looking towards Florida State. If we play like this against Florida State, well..."

### big eight

**Results of games Sept. 12:**

Colorado 45, Texas Tech 27  
Iowa 10, Nebraska 7  
Iowa State 17, West Texas State 13  
Kansas 19, Oregon 10  
Kansas State 31, South Dakota 10  
Missouri 24, Army 10  
Oklahoma 27, Wyoming 20

**Schedule for Sept. 19:**

Florida State . . . . . at Nebraska  
Iowa . . . . . at Iowa State  
Kansas State . . . . . at Washington  
Rice . . . . . at Missouri  
Tulsa . . . . . at Oklahoma State  
Washington State . . . . . at Colorado

## Freshmen defeat Wyoming

By Jeff Goodwin

Nebraska's junior varsity opened its season Friday afternoon by overwhelming Wyoming 62-0 in Memorial Stadium.

Wyoming was unable to generate any offense, gaining only two first downs all day. One of those came on a forward fumble that went out of bounds.

The Huskers, in contrast, were able to move the ball almost at will, gaining a total of 442 yards.

After being stopped on its first two possessions, Nebraska got on the board when quarterback Todd Zart hit tight end Todd Frain with a 7-yard touchdown pass.

The Huskers scored again moments later after linebacker Stanley Wade recovered a fumble at the Wyoming 7-yard line. Zart kept the ball and scored on a 3-yard run.

Zart also figured in Nebraska's third touchdown as he again found Frain open and connected with him for a 47-yard touchdown. After that the rout was on. The Huskers scored another touchdown

before the end of the first half and added four more in the second half.

The Huskers' scoring in the second half was led by walk-on I-back Will Curtis who scored on runs of 15 and 5 yards.

The Cowboys were their own worst enemies as they fumbled eight times, losing four of them. They also had 62 yards in penalties and threw one interception.

If there were any doubts about whose day this was they were alleviated by a play in the third quarter.

Punter Lane Bates dropped a high snap from center, picked it up and carried it 46 yards to the Wyoming 2-yard line.

Nebraska Coach Frank Solich was pleased with the performance of his team.

"We played well on offense and defense," he said. "In general we made relatively few mistakes for all the people we played."

The next game for the junior varsity is Friday afternoon at Memorial Stadium against Ellsworth Junior College. Kickoff is set for 1:30 p.m.

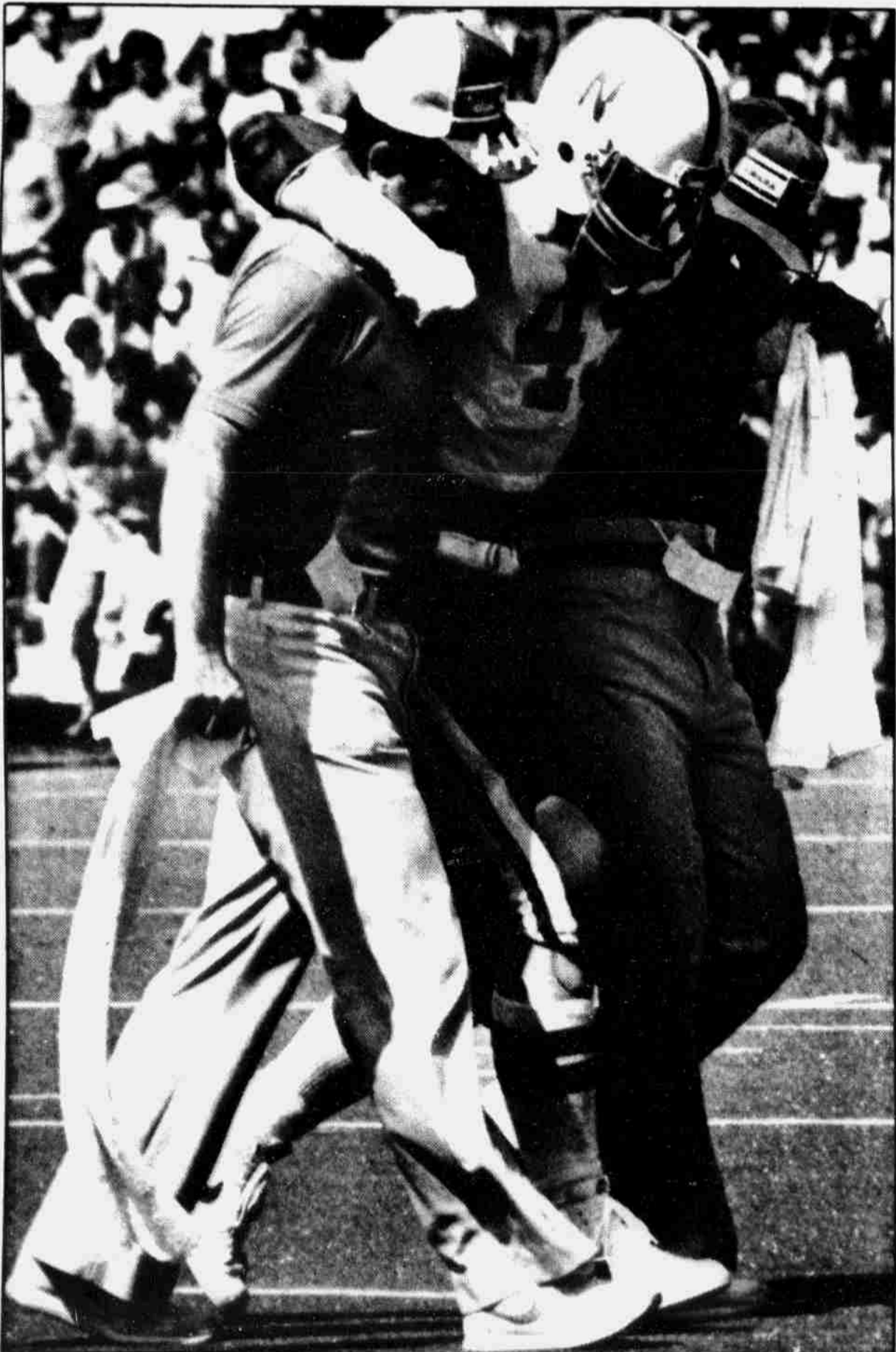


Photo by Dave Bentz

Nebraska junior linebacker Steve McWhirter (45) goes out of the game late in the first quarter with a knee injury. Things went from bad to worse for the Huskers as they dropped the season opener to Iowa 10-7.

## Rugby club captures trophy in Michelob Husker Classic

By Kevin Warneke

The UNL rugby club took home all the chips when they captured first place in the 1st Annual Michelob Husker Rugby Classic.

The club earned the first place trophy by defeating the Great Omaha Area Touring Side (Goats) in the finals 27-14.

\* UNL started the tournament on the right track by crushing the Creighton rugby club 43-0 and the River City rugby club 27-14. The Goats earned the right to play UNL in the finals by defeating the Killer B's, UNL's second team, 18-14 and then the Columbus rugby club 32-0.

The Lincoln City rugby club captured the fifth place trophy after losing to River City 8-4, then defeating Creighton 13-3 and the Grand Island rugby club 8-6 in the consolation finals.

The final game started off to be an even match as the Goats tied the score at 4-4 midway through the first half. UNL pulled ahead 14-4, until the Goats came storming back to cut the deficit to 14-10. But the UNL club resumed control of the match and went on to win by 14 points.

"John McCann and Rob Martin were instrumental in our victory in the finals. The Goats had gained the momentum in the match and had cut our lead to four points, but McCann scored and Martin did the same shortly after," said Vince Powers, coach of the Nebraska club.

Also turning in fine performances, Powers said, were captains Dan McGuire and Bill Swearingen.

"Youth, hard workouts and a lot of

enthusiasm contributed greatly to our success in the tournament," Swearingen said. "But mostly we just had a lot of fun."

"We proved that rugby is a true 15-man sport, everyone contributed in the victory over the Goats, which were an excellent team, and in the other matches," Powers said.

### sports shorts

Southwest Missouri State defeated UNL 15-12, 8-15, 15-3, 15-11 Saturday in the championship match of the Mean Green Volleyball Tournament, in Denton, Texas.

Earlier in the day, Nebraska defeated 13th ranked Texas-Arlington and North Texas State to gain entry into the finals. The Huskers had defeated Southwest Missouri State in pool play Friday but were unable to repeat the performance Saturday. \*\*\*

Sara Stricker and Janice Ohrt finished first and second to lead the UNL women's cross country team to a win against Southwest Missouri State, Nebraska Wesleyan and UNO in a quadrangular meet at Wilderness Park Friday.

Stricker finished the 5,000-meter course in 18:48 and Ohrt finished the course in 18:52. UNL placed six runners in the top 10 finishers.