

# Sports

## Freshman Huskers defeat Swedes

By Mike Kluck  
and  
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Staff Reporters

If a rusty offense caused by a three-week layoff was a worry for Nebraska freshmen coach Shane Thorell, his concerns were put to rest 38 seconds into the first Cornhusker drive.

The Huskers needed only two plays to drive 47 yards and take a 7-0 lead en route to a 55-0 victory over the Bethany (Kan.) College Junior Varsity Monday at Memorial Stadium.

Nebraska I-back George Achola gained 43 of the 47 yards, scoring a touchdown on a pitch play from quarterback Keithen McCant.

Following a Bethany punt, the Huskers advanced to the Bethany 7-yard line but were forced to settle for a 23-yard field goal by Lane Reed.

Nebraska broke the game open with 4:07 left in the quarter when Freeman White scored on a 38-yard punt return. Reed's extra point made the score 17-0.

White said it felt great to score his first touchdown as a Husker.

"With the line blocking, I could have walked it in," White said. "The line really put their hearts into it."

A 32-yard run by fullback Randy Williams capped the Cornhuskers longest touchdown drive of the day. Williams broke four tackles on his scamper into the end zone.

Nebraska then took a 26-0 lead when Bethany College's punter Ted Clark walked out of the end zone.

Nebraska finished off the first half scoring on McCant's first touchdown pass of the year. On the receiving end of the 15-yard pass was tight end Dan Lohmeier, who gave the Huskers a 33-0 halftime lead.

Thorell said although he was pleased with the performance of the

Huskers in the first half, he felt there was room for improvement.

"At halftime we talked about working on our techniques and the little things," Thorell said.

Nebraska opened the second half by driving 71 yards in five plays. McCant set up the touchdown with a 39-yard run and then finished it off with a 11-yard pass to tight end Chris Garrett. Reed's kick put the Huskers up 40-0 with less than two minutes gone in the third quarter.

Nebraska's special team scored its second touchdown of the afternoon with a 44-yard punt return by John Crippen.

Thorell said he was pleased with the performance of the punt return teams, who returned five punts for 94 yards.

"Our goal today was to return every punt for an average of 15 yards and to return one punt for a touchdown," Thorell said.

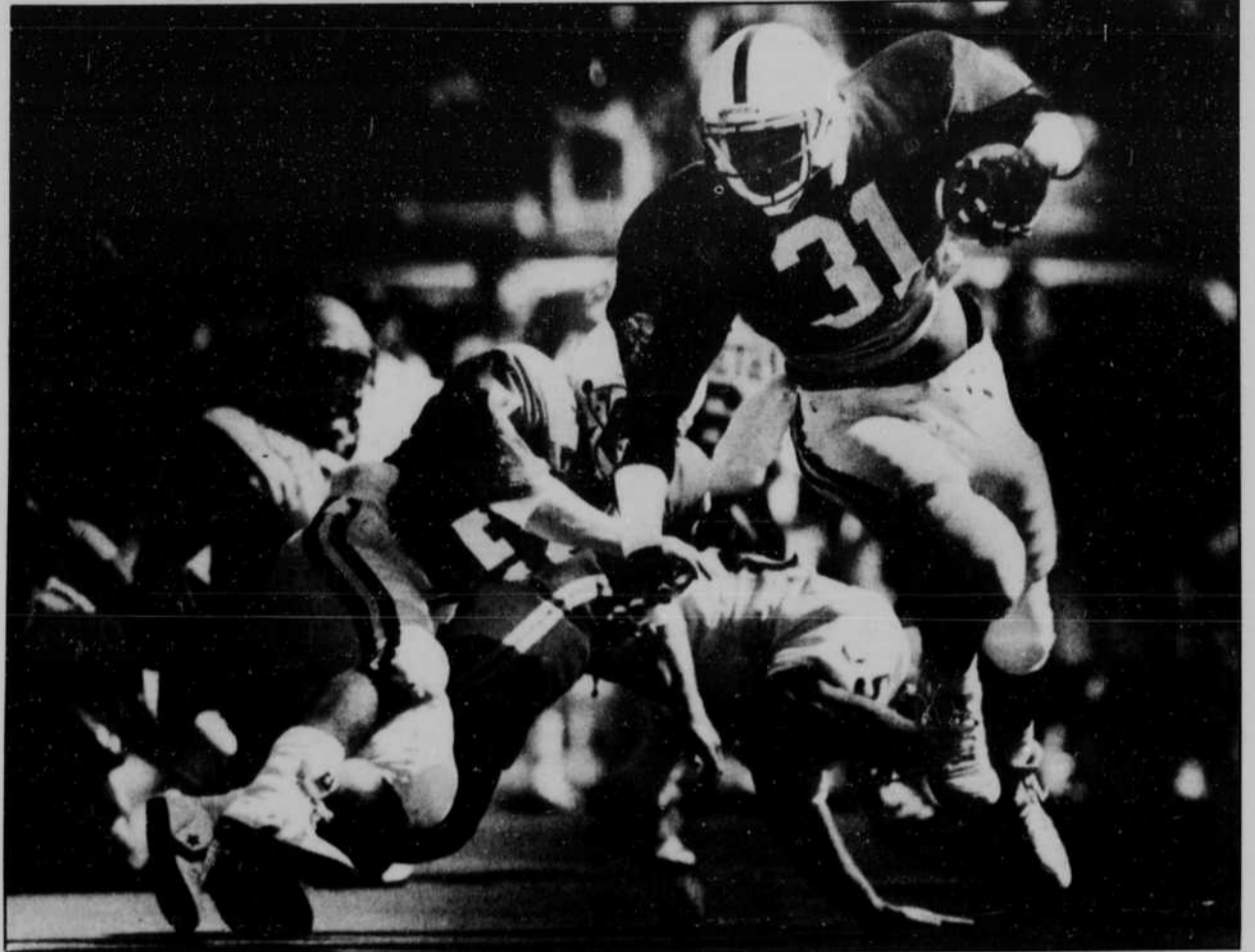
On Bethany's next possession, noseguard Pat Engelbert recorded his second sack of the day, dropping Bethany quarterback Ronald Bollers for a seven-yard loss.

The Nebraska defense had six sacks totalling 43 yards in losses and held the Swedes to a negative 25-yard rushing. Bethany managed 73 yards of total offense.

Husker punter Scott Beckler then hit a 60-yard punt which was fumbled by Bethany and recovered by Kelly Prater at the Swede 13-yard line.

Nebraska quarterback Tom Haase scored two apparent touchdowns with runs of 13 and 19 yards, but both were nullified by penalties. On the next play, Haase hit Lohmeier with a 35-yard touchdown pass for the Huskers final touchdown with 6:13 left in the third quarter. The extra point was missed because of a fumbled snap.

The Huskers rushed for 386 yards



Andrea Hoy/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska's Randy Williams carries the ball for a first down as Husker Kelly Prater holds a Bethany defender during first quarter action, Monday. The Huskers defeated the Swedes 55-0.

on 57 carries and completed five of nine passes for 79 yards. Achola led all rushers with 94 yards.

The defense scored Nebraska's final two points when defensive tackle Paul Brungardt sacked Bethany quarterback Jay Knutson in the end zone for a safety.

Bethany coach Jay Meyers said he

was pleased with his team's effort. He said mistakes hurt the 2-1 Swedes.

"I wish we'd have been able to cut out the four or five mental mistakes we made early, because we gave them three touchdowns," Meyers said. "If we had cut those out it might have been closer. We gave it an honest

shot, though."

Nebraska is now 2-0 and has outscored its opponents 117-0, but Thorell said he doesn't expect the Huskers easy games to continue.

Nebraska's next game is Oct. 9, when the Huskers travel to Colorado Springs, Colo. to face the Air Force Junior Varsity.

## NU wingbacks add dimension to offense

By Tim Hartmann  
Senior Reporter

Nebraska's Von Sheppard is listed as a non-returning starter in the Nebraska media guide, but a check of this season's depth chart shows him as the No. 2 wingback.

After Sheppard suffered a knee injury that required reconstructive surgery after last season's Sugar Bowl, it was assumed he would miss the entire season. But when fall practice began, Sheppard said, he caught people off guard by being with the team.

"I think I surprised practically everybody, including the players," said Sheppard, a senior from St. Paul, Minn. "Some of the players have come up to me and said they didn't think I would come back, but all along

I had a desire to come back."

Sheppard said he knew after the first month of rehabilitation that he would return. It took seven months to complete the rehabilitation, he said.

"I worked seven months straight before I came out this summer," Sheppard said. "I worked seven months, every day, doing a variety of things. I just give the credit to God and my faith in him, and my desire to come back."

"Von Sheppard has really used his savvy and experience this year," receivers coach Ron Brown said. "He's still not the same old Von Sheppard because of his knee, but he can do a lot of good things."

Sheppard said his knee is not completely recovered, but he expects it to be before the end of the season.

"It's doing pretty good," he said. "Last week it wasn't feeling so well. I

was doing a lot of limping, but this week it seems to be coming along pretty well."

Besides Sheppard, Brown has the luxury of calling on two other experienced wingbacks — senior Hendley Hawkins and junior Dana Brinson. Sophomore Richard Bell also has performed well, Brown said.

Brinson is listed as the No. 1 wingback on the depth chart. Brown said that's because of his athletic ability.

"Dana Brinson has performed very well," he said. "He has great athletic ability, and he uses that to our advantage. On counter sweeps, catching the ball and special teams, he has been outstanding. But I'm most pleased with the fact that he has blocked very well."

Brinson said he's also pleased with his play, but he's still looking to get

better.

"I really don't want to critique myself, but I'm satisfied with it," he said. "The only thing I hope is that I can maintain it and then get better, for there's always room for improvement."

Hawkins has quietly done a good job, Brown said.

"Hendley Hawkins is a very consistent player," Brown said. "He's versatile and very intelligent. He hasn't got the same type of publicity as Dana, but he has performed well."

Brown said because of the quality depth at the wingback position, he has been able to rotate players throughout the game.

"I want to get all those guys in the there because of their ability," he said.

Brown said he thought the players performed better when they were

rested, so the rotation system helped. Brinson agreed.

"I think we play better when we're rested," he said. "With the rotation, everyone is pretty rested and they can go in and play at 100 percent, and they're not winded when they get in. It's really benefiting us."

Hawkins and Sheppard said they have gotten used to rotating.

"It's all right; you kind of get use to it going through the system," Hawkins said. "I don't think we've had as many in the past, we've always had two, but now we have three, so I guess you get accustomed to it."

"It's hard to get into the game when you rotate like that," Sheppard said. "But when you have a lot of guys hurt, you need that depth back there. I think

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## Season ends with tournament title for NU

By Lori Griffin  
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska softball team finished the fall season on a high note last weekend by winning all four games in the Iowa State Invitational in Ames, Iowa.

Nebraska softball coach Ron Wolforth said the Cornhuskers played much better at the Iowa State Invitational than they did at the Kansas Jayhawk Invitational two weeks ago. The Huskers finished in a three-way tie for first place at Lawrence, Kan.

"We came miles from last weekend," Wolforth said.

He said Nebraska played with more intensity in Ames.

Nebraska began the Iowa State

Invitational Saturday by defeating Creighton 6-3 and Iowa State 5-0, and finished with wins over Southwest Missouri State (9-0) and Kansas (7-0). Wolforth said Nebraska hit very well throughout the invitational. The Huskers tallied 48 hits in their four games.

Wolforth said Nebraska lead-off hitter Jill Rishel was the surprise player of the tournament. The sophomore slap-bunter from North Platte went 7-for-12 at the plate.

"It's not a surprise how well she played," Wolforth said. "The surprise is how quickly she has performed to the level that we knew she could."

Wolforth said he was also pleased by the play of Donna Dear-

dorff, who hit a grand slam and pitched three shutouts. He said Ruth Chatwin and Katie Wolda showed signs of ending batting slumps.

Wolforth said the Huskers will need to improve if they want to contend for the national championship next spring. He said Nebraska needs to continue to be aggressive.

"That (being aggressive) is the reason that the NU softball team has been in the top 10 for the last five years," Wolforth said.

Wolforth said the Huskers need to keep their "killer instinct" throughout the off-season if they are to remain in contention for the national title.

"We have to actually play

against ourselves," he said.

Wolforth said the Huskers will spend the off-season working on weight training. He said Nebraska also will try to get "rock solid" on its fundamentals.

The Huskers also will work on attacking the bases and improving their hitting, he said.

Wolforth said the Huskers will be at full strength in the spring because they will have the luxury of two additional players: Lisa Winchester and Ann Halsne.

Winchester will be returning after undergoing surgery last summer. Halsne, who is on a basketball scholarship at Nebraska, will join the team during its second tournament of the season. Halsne led the

country in home runs as a high-school senior last year.

Wolforth said Nebraska's first goal for the spring is to win the Big Eight.

"The whole season is aimed in that direction," Wolforth said. "(The other titles) are just icing on the cake."

Wolforth said the Huskers also hope to win the NCAA regional title and participate in the College World Series.

"Our ultimate goal is to be one of the two teams playing in the last day of the season," Wolforth said. "(But) our season is a success if we accomplish the first goal."

"The rest of the season will take care of itself."