

## Cyclone game to decide NU's bowl future

By Mark Derowitsch  
Senior Reporter

A post-New Year's Day puzzle is developing in early November, and the secret to fitting all the pieces in may not be unveiled until later this month.

In three weeks, post-season bowl bids will go out to the country's best teams, and it might take all 21 days to decide which team goes where.

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne, speaking at his weekly press luncheon Tuesday in the South Stadium Lounge, said the Cornhuskers' drop to No. 7 in The Associated Press college football poll this week could

have an adverse impact on their bowl picture.

"If we would have been rated 5th or 6th, and if we win our next three games, we'd probably go into the bowl game either 4th or 3rd, and maybe as high as 2nd," Osborne said. "But if we have to come from 7th at this point, we may be 4th or 3rd. And that makes a lot of difference on who we'll play."

Osborne said the drop may not only hinder who the Huskers, 8-1 overall and 4-0 in the Big Eight, play in the bowl game, but also whether they'll play for the national championship.

Nebraska, rated No. 5 last week by AP, slipped behind West Virginia, which defeated Penn State 51-30, and Florida State, which was idle. The Huskers downed Missouri 26-18 in Lincoln.

Osborne said the Huskers shouldn't be unfairly penalized after an eight-point win. He said other teams, including No. 1 Notre Dame and No. 2 Southern California, also have won close games, but have not dropped in the polls.

"I watched USC on the coast and their score was 23-21 over Stanford," Osborne said. "They haven't been penalized for that. Most teams have had a close game somewhere. You

just don't win big every week."

Osborne said the rest of the country greeted Notre Dame's ascension to No. 1.

"I think our fans would have been very upset if we beat Navy 22-7," Osborne said. "There would have been no joy in Mudville over that one."

Osborne said the Huskers' primary concern is to win their first Big Eight title since 1983. Oklahoma has won the conference championship each of the last four seasons.

"Our main concern right now this year is the Big Eight," he said. "We can control that. We don't have to rely on any ballots to win."

"I'd like to see our players win a Big Eight championship. It's been four years since we won it."

But Osborne said the Huskers' post-season possibilities could be decided if they don't defeat Iowa State Saturday in Ames, Iowa. Kick-off is scheduled for 1 p.m. in Cyclone Stadium-Jack Trice Field.

The Cyclones, 4-4 overall and 2-2 in the Big Eight, lost to Colorado 24-12 last Saturday in Boulder, Colo. They defeated Missouri earlier this season 21-3.

"If we don't beat Iowa State, we may not even go to a bowl," Osborne said. "This is a big game for us."

## Cornhuskers gain first commitment for 88-89 basketball recruiting class

By Steve Sipple  
Senior Editor

Nebraska basketball coach Danny Nee's running style of offense paid big dividends Monday when Atkinson West Holt senior Bruce Chubick announced his plans to become a Cornhusker next fall.

Chubick, a 6-foot-7 senior who led the Huskies to the Class C-1 state championship last season, said the Huskers' fast-paced offense figured prominently in his decision to become the first player to verbally commit to Nebraska.

"I love the way (Nee) runs his offense," Chubick said Tuesday in a telephone interview from Atkinson West Holt High School. "That's definitely one of the big reasons I came to Nebraska."

Chubick said he was also attracted to Nebraska because of Nee's 1987-88 recruiting class, which has been touted as one of the nation's best by more than one publication.

"When he's got guys who are really good and really young, you know the program is going to keep going up,

even after the juniors and seniors are gone."

Chubick, who averaged 33 points and 14 rebounds per game last season during the Huskies' 24-0 season, made his decision before the National Collegiate Athletic Association early signing period, which runs from Nov.

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—Chubick

9 through Nov. 16 this season. Coaches aren't allowed to visit players at this time.

Chubick said he will sign with the Huskers via the mail during the early signing period.

Avoiding a recruiting process that was becoming more and more intense — and bothersome — is another rea-

son for his early decision to sign, Chubick said.

"Oh, definitely. That was getting hectic," he said. "Sometimes it was really bad. There was one school that had one person call me once a night, and then a couple of others from that school would call, too."

Chubick's father, Bruce Chubick, Sr., who is the basketball coach at West Holt, said he was pleased with his son's early decision.

"I tell you what, with that phone ringing, I couldn't sit still and watch television," Chubick Sr. said. "Bruce's mom and I would tell (the recruiters) that Bruce wasn't here (when he really was). It was pretty tempting sometimes, though."

Chubick Sr. said his son was contacted by more than 70 schools. The decision came down to Nebraska and Wisconsin.

"Bruce is a real Big Ten fan," he said. "But he chose Nebraska because he felt that Nebraska's program is ready to hit the top level."

Chubick Sr. said his family moved to Nebraska from Iowa in 1982. Iowa was one of the schools who showed a lot of interest in his son, he said.

W L T			W L T			Football
CONFERENCE					SEASON	
4	0	0	Nebraska	8	1	Big Eight Standings
4	0	0	Oklahoma	7	1	
3	1	0	Oklahoma St	6	1	
2	1	0	Iowa St	4	3	
1	2	0	Colorado	5	2	
1	3	0	Missouri	2	5	
0	4	0	Kansas	0	8	
0	4	0	Kansas St	0	8	

John Bruce/Daily Nebraskan

## Injury may sideline Brinson

A neck injury may keep Nebraska wingback Dana Brinson from playing in the Cornhuskers' game against Iowa State Saturday in Ames, Iowa.

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said Tuesday that Brinson rejammed his neck during the Husker's 26-18 victory against Missouri on Saturday. He said Brinson, who originally hurt his neck during Nebraska's 41-28 loss to UCLA earlier this season in Los Angeles, suffered the injury after being hit on a kickoff return.

Osborne said Brinson would have to "improve drastically" in order to make the trip to Ames. If Brinson isn't included on the 60-man travel roster, first-string wingback Richard Bell would be backed up by senior Jamie Worden.

Osborne said he "doesn't know

what to think about Brinson" because it took the senior from Valdosta, Ga., three-to-four weeks to recover the first time he suffered the injury. He said the injury is troublesome because it includes a muscle spasm that hinders Brinson's blocking ability.

The players who missed Tuesday's workout which was conducted in full pads included running back Ken Clark, fullback Brian Harchelroad, left guard Andy Keeler and Worden. Clark has been hampered by an arch injury which hampered his performance against Missouri, while Harchelroad suffered a knee injury against the Tigers. Keeler is being bothered by an ankle injury while Worden has the flu.

"Hopefully, Worden will feel better by (today)," Osborne said.

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