

# NU blows past Cyclones Gdowski's touchdowns set record

By Chuck Green  
Senior Reporter

What began as a quarterback duel Saturday turned into a record-breaking, one-man show as No. 4-ranked Nebraska blew past the Iowa State Cyclones 49-17 in Memorial Stadium.

Cornhusker quarterback Gerry Gdowski led all rushers with 176 yards and four touchdowns on 17 carries, and completed 3 of 6 passes for 62 yards and two more touchdowns to lead Nebraska past Iowa State—the final tune-up for the Huskers' showdown with No. 3-ranked Colorado Saturday in Boulder, Colo.

Gdowski's four touchdowns set a Nebraska single-game record for rushing touchdowns by a quarterback. He said he wasn't thinking about setting a record against Iowa State, or in any other game.

"It's nice, but in anything I do, a lot of the credit has to go to the blocking of the line up front, and the blocking of the receivers down field," Gdowski said.

Gdowski wasted little time getting his record-setting performance roll-

ing. On the game's third play from scrimmage, he ran an option play to the right. Gdowski turned the corner and saw running room.

Gdowski cut to the inside, tucked the ball away and rambled 74 yards into the end zone. The extra point by Gregg Barrios gave the Huskers a 7-0 lead with 13:32 left in the first quarter.

But then it was Iowa State's turn to show off its quarterback.

Bret Oberg, who passed for 411 yards and four touchdowns last week against Oklahoma, engineered a 10-play, 66-yard Cyclone drive which was capped by a 3-yard touchdown run by tailback Blaise Bryant.

Oberg completed 14 of 23 passes for 158 yards and rushed for 57 yards.

"Iowa State has a very good, well-conceived offense," Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said. "They have a good offensive line, a fine running back and a good quarterback. That's all it takes."

But against the Huskers Saturday, it wasn't enough.

After Nebraska was unable to move the ball on its next possession, the Cyclones had a scoring opportu-

nity. Iowa State placekicker Jeff Shudak lined up to attempt a 58-yard field goal. But the holder, punter Judge Johnson, received the snap, stood up and tried a quick kick to pin Nebraska deep in its own territory.

But the punt hit an Iowa State lineman in the back, giving the Huskers the ball at the Cyclone 38-yard line. Four plays later, Gdowski scored on a 26-yard option keeper.

Gdowski added touchdown runs of 3 and 4 yards in the third quarter, after throwing 16- and 25-yard scoring strikes to wingback Tyrone Hughes in the first half's final five minutes.

"He was really on today," Osborne said of his senior signal caller. "That's why he's No. 1. I can't understand why people are so surprised at how well Gerry's performing. I saw him all spring and fall, and I wouldn't have him starting if I didn't think he deserved to."

Shudak booted a 46-yard field goal in the second quarter, and Bryant added an 11-yard run in the third quarter for Iowa State.

Bryant led the Cyclones' rushing attack with 89 yards and two touch-

downs on 24 carries. Reserve quarterback Jerry Dunlap closed Nebraska's scoring with a 1-yard touchdown run with 24 seconds left in the game.

The only major injury suffered by the Huskers was a separated shoulder by quarterback Mike Grant, who may be out for three weeks or more.

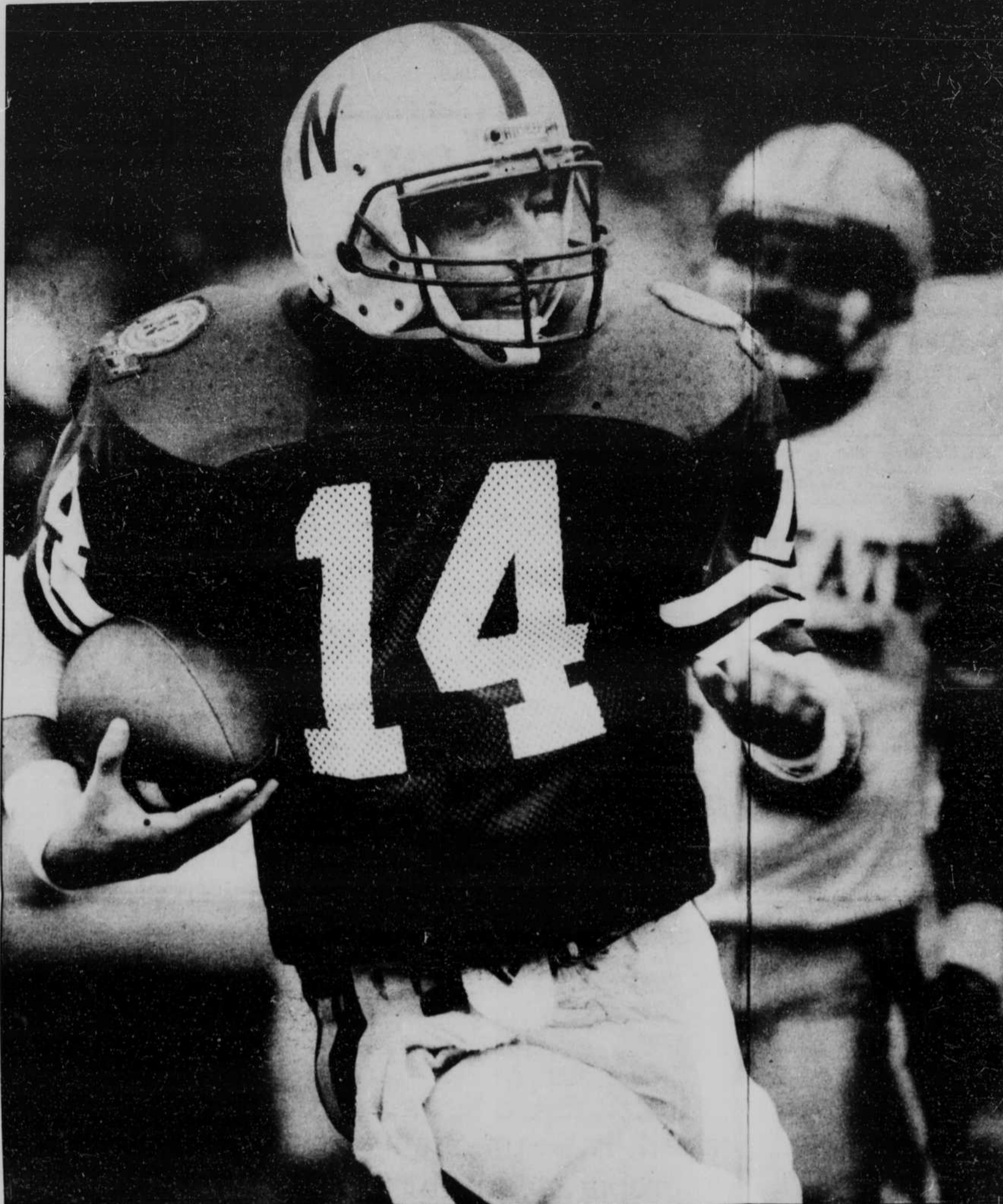
Cornerback Bruce Pickens suffered a shin bruise when his leg was sandwiched between two players, and wingback Nate Turner, who has been slowed by a thigh bruise for much of the season, re-aggravated it, Osborne said.

With the win, the Huskers turned their attention to Saturday's game against Colorado—a game that likely will decide the Big Eight championship and possibly the national title.

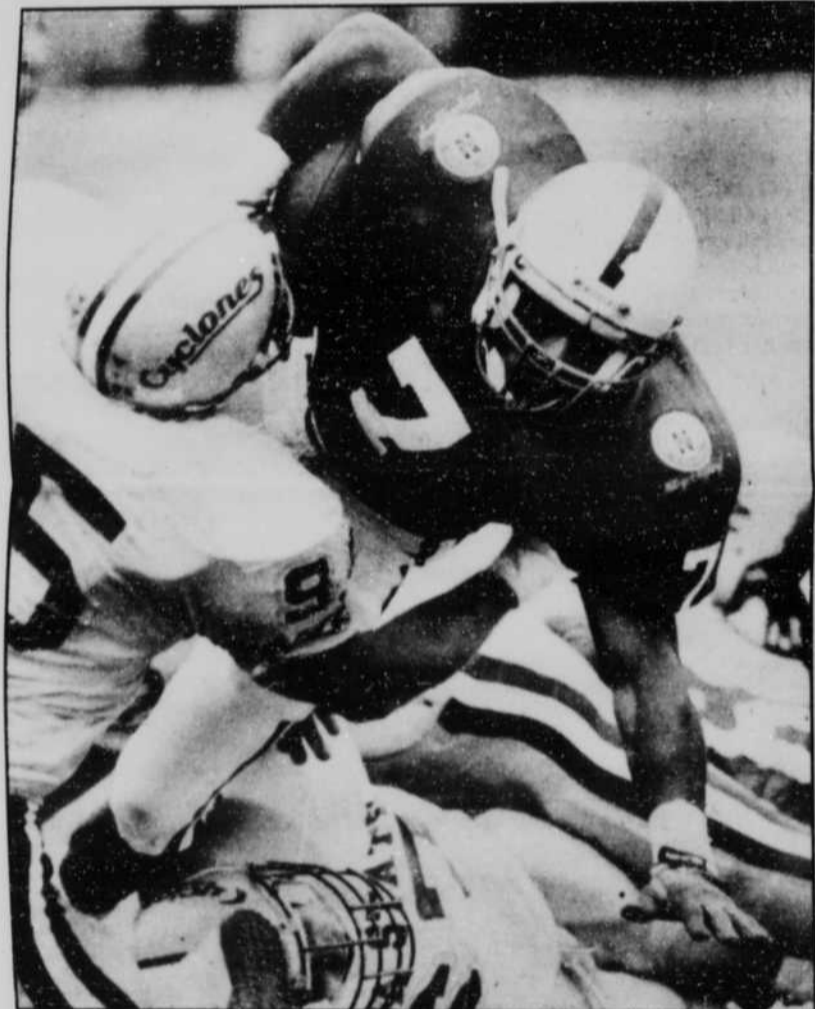
Gdowski said he's relieved that the Colorado game is now only a week away.

"It'll be nice to finally stop talking about the game and play it."

Osborne agreed. "It'll be good to be writing, talking and practicing on the same game for a change," he said.



David Hansen/Daily Nebraskan



David Hansen/Daily Nebraskan



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Clockwise from top left: Nebraska's Andre McDuffy dives for extra yardage, setting up the Cornhuskers' final touchdown from 1 yard out. Starting quarterback Gerry Gdowski on his way to breaking the single game rushing touchdown record for a Nebraska quarterback. Gdowski rushed for four touchdowns and passed for two more. Inside linebacker Pat Tyrance and outside linebacker Jeff Mills bring down Cyclone running back Blaise Bryant. Bob Frost, an accounting and finance major from Omaha, and Tiffany SeEVERS, a business administration major from Lincoln, were elected Homecoming Royalty during halftime. Nebraska fullback Bryan Carpenter evades Iowa State defenders.



Melissa McReynolds/Daily Nebraskan