

# 'Flawless' San Francisco clobbers Denver

## Nebraska connection helps 49ers close in on history

NEW ORLEANS (AP) -- Joe Montana and the San Francisco 49ers proved Sunday that they have just one competitor -- history.

And history may have to rally to catch them.

In the most one-sided Super Bowl ever, the 49ers routed the Denver Broncos 55-10 to become the first repeat NFL champions in a decade and tie the Pittsburgh Steelers as the epitome of Super Bowl perfection with four wins in four tries.

"We need to do something no team has ever done and that's to three-peat," said offensive tackle Bubba Paris, singing "Re-re-re-pa-pe-repeat."

"If they want to go for another one, that's fine with me," said George Seifert, the rookie coach, after his team raced into the locker room yelling "Repeat! Repeat! Repeat!"

"Certainly, this is one of the finest teams ever to play."

"Flawless," is the way Denver quarterback John Elway described San Francisco after being held to just 108 yards, throwing two interceptions and fumbling once.

Montana, 22 of 29 for 297 yards, had five touchdown passes, three to Jerry Rice, breaking a Super Bowl record for TD passes. He also set a record with 13-straight completions and sent Denver to its third Super Bowl loss in four years and fourth overall, tying Minnesota for futility.

He also set five Super Bowl career records, including his third MVP award, and San Francisco's point total and victory margin were the most ever. Of 14 Super Bowl passing records, Montana now holds eight.

"Joe's the best," said Rice, who had seven catches for 148 yards.

It's perhaps the understatement of the year.

"He's perhaps the greatest quarterback who's ever played the game," Seifert said.

Montana, typically, praised the offensive line that didn't allow a sack in three playoff games and a defense that picked off two passes, forced two

fumbles and held Elway to one completion in his first 10 attempts, a shovel pass to Bobby Humphrey. Denver gained just 167 yards in the game.

"At this rate, heck, I can play until I'm 40," said the 33-year-old Montana, who has a completion rate of 78 percent in three postseason wins by a total of 126-26.

At that rate, he will own the NFL record book just as the 49ers owned Sunday's game from the opening gun. And gave the NFC its sixth-straight Super Bowl victory.

By halftime it was 27-3 with San Francisco playing against the record book rather than the Broncos, who have now been outscored 136-40 in their four Super Bowls.

San Francisco was boringly perfect. The 49ers did even more than expected by the experts who made them favorites by nearly two touchdowns after a 14-2 season and a waltz through the playoffs.

"We made brilliant forecasters of a lot of experts," Denver coach Dan Reeves said. "The way the 49ers are reeling right now, it's hard for any team to keep up with them."

Along with the records came a personal achievement for Seifert, who took over when Bill Walsh retired after last season. Seifert became only the second rookie coach to win a Super Bowl; Baltimore's Don McCafferty was the first in 1971.

Seconds after winning their second straight Super Bowl, the 49ers talked about making it three in a row.

"I think we can," Rice said. "We're a great team and a great organization. I'm just looking forward to next year."

"Now we can be mentioned in the same breath with the Pittsburgh Steelers, Miami Dolphins and Green Bay Packers," said running back Roger Craig, a former Nebraska player.

Linebacker Matt Millen, who played on two Super Bowl winners with the Raiders before joining the 49ers in September, was awed by being a part of this championship team.

"It was almost a flawless game,"



he said. "The only flaw was us defensively in the third quarter, and even then it was out of reach."

"This is the best offensive team I have ever seen -- bar none."

Rice and John Taylor, who also caught a 35-yard touchdown pass, made a mockery of Denver's secondary, which included three first-year starters. They were as open as they've been all season.

"They left a lot of open areas in the middle of the field, and Joe read me every time," Rice said.

Fullback Tom Rathman, meanwhile, kept the defense off-balance by breaking loose over the middle for passes when he wasn't bulling for short yardage. His TD runs of 1 and 2 yards were an unexpected bonus.

"I really don't thrive on scoring touchdowns," the former Nebraska player said. "I'd rather throw a great block for Roger."

"But I tell you what. It's awful sweet to score a touchdown in the Super Bowl."

## Super Bowl bookies cover all possible betting angles

Every year, the Super Bowl is anxiously awaited and cherished by football fans as the game of the year.

The big one. Super Sunday. The last game of the season. A real whiz-banger of a time.

The sentiment also runs high among



Chuck Green

people who stand to make a buck or two off the game. Namely, bookmakers.

Mark (not his real name) is a student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a "runner" for a Lincoln bookie. He accepts bets from clients and passes them on to the bookie in return for a percentage of the bet.

Mark said his bookie planned on dealing in the "tens of thousands of dollars" for yesterday's game alone. The game, he said, was special in that the gambling isn't limited to the point spread and over/unders (betting on whether the game's final score will add up to be more or less than a designated number).

Mark's sheet listed San Francisco as a 12 1/2-point favorite, with the over/under at 49.

But the sheet contained a few other things for gamblers to mull over. Other things to bet on during Super Bowl XXIV included:

- Point spreads by quarters.
- Over/under by quarters.
- Which team wins the pregame coin toss.
- Odds on 49ers running back Roger Craig outrushing all Denver running backs combined (Craig was an 8-5 favorite).
- Which team would get the most penalties, pass receptions, rushing yards, passing yards, etc.
- Over/under on field goals (3).
- Which team would kick the first field goal.
- Over/under on receptions by 49er wide receiver Jerry Rice (5).

● Over/under on combined interceptions (3).

● Odds on a shutout by San Francisco, a 2-0 score by either team and whether the game would go into overtime.

● Which team and player would make the first first down, and whether the play would be a pass or run.

● Which player would score first, catch the first pass, rush for the first first down (there were odds on individual players).

The list went on and on. There was a total of 64 aspects of the game to bet, and various bets could be accepted throughout the game.

A gambler could even bet on San Francisco to win (just by one point) at 5-1 odds. In other words, betting \$100 on the 49ers and losing would mean paying the bookie \$500.

Mark said the 64 betting possibilities are commonly accepted by Las Vegas casinos for most regular-season professional games, but don't usually show up on Lincoln sheets.

But this game was different. It was the Super Bowl.

I remember a time when the Super Bowl was something to watch on a late-January Sunday and look forward to throughout the season.

But now, it's big business -- like nearly everything else in the world. It's a blurring collage of three-dimensional commercials and Bud Bows, filled with dancing, screaming, clipboard-throwing beer bottles. It's endorsements from current and former athletes whose bank accounts are running lower than they'd like.

And it's gambling on coin tosses.

But most significant of all, the Super Bowl is the signal of the end of another football season, for players, fans and bookies alike. On to full-time betting for basketball season ...

I wonder what the over/unders are on missed free throws by the Cornhuskers against Oklahoma Wednesday night.

Green is a senior news-editorial major, a Daily Nebraskan senior sports reporter and sports columnist.

# Smallest conference player leads Iowa State to best NU

By Cory Golden  
Staff Reporter

David met Goliath Saturday night in the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

At a listed height of 5-foot-9 and weighing 150 pounds, Terry Woods is the smallest basketball player in the Big Eight Conference.

Nebraska center Rich King -- at 7-2 and 242 pounds -- is the tallest. Chalk one up for the little guy.

Woods scored 25 points on nine of 13 shooting -- including 2 of 4 from three-point range. He also dished out seven assists and chalked up four rebounds despite being bothered by a hand injury.

His efforts led Iowa State to a 91-83 victory over the Cornhuskers.

As for his two one-on-one meetings with King, the Cyclones' point guard scored both times.

With two minutes left in the first half, King took the ball at the high post, wheeled at the top of the key, then had his pass picked off in the corner by Woods. Just two minutes into the second period, Woods drove the lane against the Huskers' center.

Both times, the same result: Woods scored and Nebraska's all-time leading shot blocker swatted nothing but air.

After the victory, Woods said he's used to being shorter than everyone, including coaches, team doctors, trainers, and even public address announcers.

But the senior from Waterloo, Iowa, said he didn't let his height -- or lack of it -- bother him against Nebraska, which sports the tallest team in the Big Eight.

"Naw. Not really," he said laughing. "No."

Woods wasn't impressed with his performance, but both coaches were.

"When I looked at Iowa State," Nebraska coach Danny Nee said, "Terry Woods kept them in control, kept them moving the ball around the basket."

"Woods reminded me a lot of (Kansas guard Kevin) Pritchard. The guys that wanted (the ball) were (Victor) Alexander and Woods."

Cyclone coach Johnny Orr, who watched the diminutive, three-year starter finish fifth in the Big Eight in assists his sophomore year and second only to Oklahoma all-American Mookie Blaylock last year, was pleased with his floor leader, he said.

"Terry had a great game for us," Orr said. "I though he was really dynamic . . . He made some great passes."

King tied the game at 64-64 with 9:46 left in the game, then David struck back at Goliath.

Woods ignited a 14-5 run for Iowa State, pouring in 10 points -- including a 28-foot three-pointer and three-point play that resulted from a foul he drew from fellow sub-six-footer Keith Moody.

It was his job to take over, he said.

"I'm the only senior out there on the court," said Woods, who played all but a minute and a half of the contest. "Other players sometimes don't realize the lead's in jeopardy. The next shot may be a big one and you've got to score that bucket."

"I knew what to expect."

Woods also anticipated the Husker's final kick, which pulled the game within four with less than a minute left.

"You expect that when a team's at home they're going to make a run at you," he said. "It was good we had the 10-point lead. We just held them off and went from there."

Woods lobbed up a pair of ill-advised, alley-oop passes to junior forward Kirk Baker that missed, Orr said, but did everything else right.

Woods grabbed a long rebound and picked up a foul that sent him to the line, where he swished both ends of a one and one to put the game out of reach with 28 seconds left.

The giant killer, who nearly upset rival Iowa with a career-high 36 points earlier this season, is ready for the biggest challenge for the 7-9 Cyclones, who are now 2-2 in league play. He said that challenge will come in the form of No. 1-ranked Missouri, Iowa State's next opponent.

Looking a bit down the road, Woods said he sees another tight game with the Huskers in Ames, Iowa on February.

See WOODS on 8

## Inconsistency problems contribute to NU loss

By Chris Hopfensperger  
Staff Reporter

A lack of execution spelled death for the Nebraska men's basketball team during its game against Iowa State.

Nebraska coach Danny Nee said after his team's 93-81 loss to Iowa State on Saturday at the Bob Devaney Sports Center that execution problems kept the Cornhuskers winless in the Big Eight. He said the problems surfaced during the game's most critical time -- the end.

"Those couple of minutes right there at the end, it was very disappointing that there was no execution," Nee said. "It got pretty crazy and that's just inconsistency."

Nee said that inconsistency has him concerned about the rest of the season.

"I don't think we're going to be doing anything until we just get some consistency in our game, both offensively and defensively," he said. "I felt we played in spurts, but we didn't have any kind of consistency at either end of the floor."

"We're growing up. These experiences help us, but we're digging ourselves such a hole to have any kind of a successful season."

Nebraska tried to start building towards a successful season against Iowa State, as it twice battled back from deficits that reached as many as 11 points. But Iowa State, now 7-9 overall and 2-2 in the Big Eight, put together an 11-3 run in the final three minutes of the first half to take a 48-38 halftime advantage.

The Huskers came out running in the second half, as they capped a 10-point run with a dunk by Ray Richardson that gave them a 59-58 lead with 11:35 remaining. The glory of that lead was short-lived as it was the last time Nebraska held an advantage in the contest.

Nee said he thought Nebraska could win when the game got close.

"Once we got within five I felt we were going to get the crowd back into the ball game," Nee said. "I felt now we're just going to play and just execute and try to take control of the game at some point."

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