**Daily Nebraskan** 

Wednesday, November 13, 1991





Kiley Timperley/DN

lowa State linebacker Matt Nitchie misses a tackle against Oklahoma's Cale Gundy earlier this season. Nitchie is a former All-State performer from Lincoln Southeast.

## Cyclone to have homecoming

## **By Jeff Singer** Staff Reporter

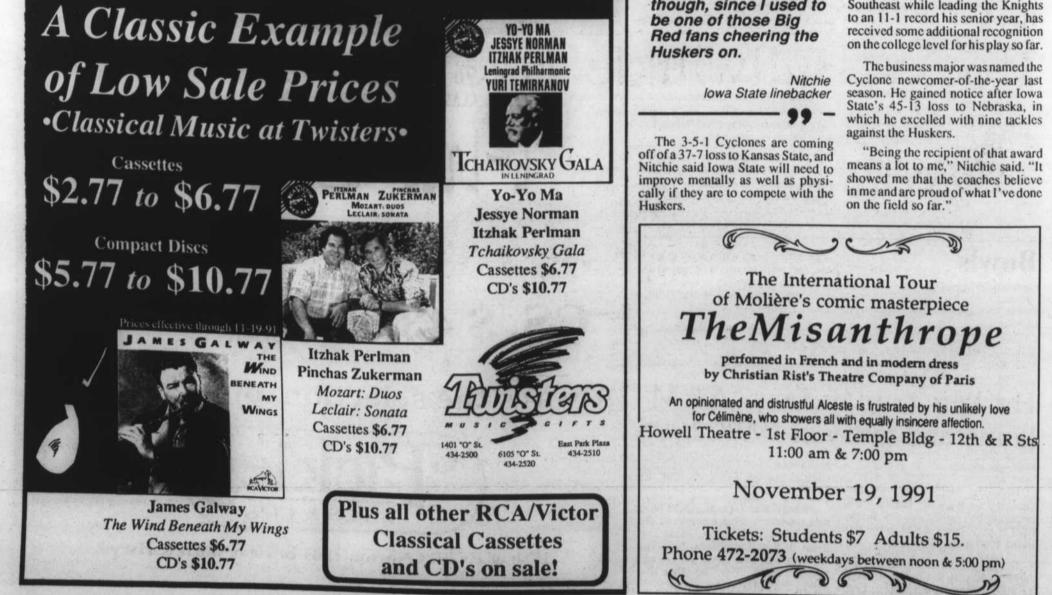
Home is where the heart is for Iowa State linebacker Matt Nitchie, and the Lincoln native is hoping home. is where a win is for his Cyclones as they prepare to battle Nebraska Saturday at Memorial Stadium.

Nitchie, a 1990 graduate from Lincoln Southeast, will be playing in Nebraska for the first time since leading his team to the Class A state championship game two years ago against Omaha Creighton Prep. Nitchie said he has been looking

forward to this week's contest against the Cornhuskers

"I think it'll be fun this weekend, because it's going to be like a hometown crowd for me with all my friends and relatives there," Nitchie said. "It will be a little different though, since I used to be one of those Big Red fans cheering the Huskers on.

Nitchie said he wanted to attend Nebraska after graduating from Southeast, but Iowa State's offer was too



good for him to turn down.

"I originally wanted to play for Nebraska, but they wanted me to be a walk-on," Nitchie said. "Iowa State offered me a full scholarship, so my choice was easy, because I wanted to go where the money was.'

The 6-foot-2, 206-pound sophomore said he would rate this year's version of the Huskers as one of the better teams he can remember.

This year's team is typical Nebraska: a good, solid, all-around foot-ball team," Nitchie said. "I'm looking forward to playing one of the nation's best.

I think it'll be fun this weekend, because it's going to be like a hometown crowd for me with all my friends and relatives there. It will be a little different though, since I used to

We've got to compete really hard and get back some of the enthusiasm we lost against Kansas State," Nitchie said. "Our offense has got to hit some big plays, and our defense will need to bend and not break."

Iowa State is ending its season against Big Eight co-leaders Nebraska and Colorado, but the Cyclones will battle their upcoming opponents as hard as anyone, according to Nitchie.

"We're going to go out and compete hard against the Big Eight lead-ers," Nitchie said. "We're not going to lie down for either team."

Nitchie said his individual goals go along with the rest of his team's objectives for this season.

"I want to go out and play every down like it's for the national championship," Nitchie said. "Hopefully, this will help me to become a team leader and help us to win some more games.

Nitchie, an all-state performer at Southeast while leading the Knights