

Huskers face aggressive Devil defense

By Nick Hytrek
Senior Reporter

On Saturday, the Nebraska football team will be going back for seconds.

By playing Arizona State, it will be the second straight week the No. 15 Cornhuskers will play a team from the Pac 10 Conference.

It will be the second straight week 2-1 Nebraska faces an aggressive, attacking defense.

And, Husker coach Tom Osborne said, if the Huskers don't play well, it could mean their second straight loss.

"If we don't play our best football of the year it'll be very difficult," Osborne said. "We'll have to play better than we probably did against Washington."

Kickoff will be at 1 p.m. at Memorial Stadium.

Last Saturday, the 1-1 Sun Devils limited Louisville to only 13 yards in a 19-0 win. Osborne said that was the first time he had heard of such a defensive performance.

"It was about as total a whipping as I've ever seen a reasonably good football team take," he said. "I thought Arizona State played awfully well."

Linebacker Brett Wallerstedt leads a defense that will look familiar to Husker fans, Osborne said.

"They've got a good defense," he said. "They play a very similar style of defense to Washington. They have a lot of quickness. They've got some defensive backs that can cover. They come at you with eight people a lot."

Against Louisville, the Sun Devil defense had 10 quarterback sacks for 100 yards in losses. That led to a Louisville rushing total of minus 73 yards.

But, Osborne said, Arizona State can get it done on offense, too. Tailback Mario Bates is second in the nation in rushing with an average of 161.5 yards

DN weekend picks

Daily Nebraskan staffers pick the winners of the ten major college football games this weekend, with winners in bold:

- Iowa at **Colorado**
- Tulsa at **Oklahoma St.**
- Missouri at **Indiana**
- Temple at **Kansas St.**
- Arizona at **Miami**
- Clemson at Georgia Tech
- San Diego St. at UCLA
- Houston at **Michigan**
- Mississippi at **Georgia**
- N.C. St. at N. Carolina

Nebraska 31,
Arizona St. 17

Last week: 7-3
Year: 15-5 (.736)



DN graphic

per game. The 6-foot-2, 206-pound Bates rushed for 214 yards against Washington in the Sun Devils' 31-7 season-opening loss.

"Bates is probably the best running back that we've faced," Osborne said. "Bates is a big guy, has great speed and he bounces off a lot of tackles. He has tremendous balance, tremendous strength. He's very hard to bring down."

At quarterback, Garrick McGee will get his first start. McGee was suspended before each of Arizona State's first two games.

Despite losing by 28 points, Arizona State's performance against Washington was not an indication of what to expect Saturday, Osborne said.

"I think (Arizona State) a very fine football team and at this point they're



Travis Haying/DN

Nebraska's Derek Brown carries the ball in the Cornhuskers' win over Middle Tennessee State. After losing 29-14 to Washington last weekend, the Huskers will play Arizona State Saturday.

much different than the team that played Washington three weeks ago," he said. "They had an open date which I think helped them get some things organized."

At the same time, Osborne said he hoped the Huskers would play well after their 29-14 loss to Washington. "I'm really, really anxious to see how we respond to the situation," he

said. "The thing about athletics is you really can't afford to spend very much time in introspection or reflection."

Notes:

• Saturday's game will be the fifth meeting between the teams. Nebraska leads the series 3-1 and won last season's game 18-9.

• Arizona State coach Bruce Snyder is 0-1 against Nebraska. In 1979, the Huskers beat Snyder's Utah State team 35-14 in Lincoln.

• Osborne-coached teams are 36-6-1 in the game after a loss and have lost back-to-back games only once during the regular season. The last time Nebraska lost consecutive non-conference games was 1958.

Sun Devil coach ranks Huskers among top teams

By Jeff Singer
Senior Reporter

It doesn't matter to the Arizona State football team that Nebraska lost to Washington last week.

The Sun Devils still think they will be playing one of the nation's best teams this weekend.

Arizona State will battle the 15th-ranked Cornhuskers at 1 p.m. Saturday at Memorial Stadium.

"We're approaching it like we're playing the best team in the country," said Kent Baer, Arizona State defensive coordinator.

"You're not going to shut their running game down," Baer said. "They run the ball better than anybody in the country."

The Sun Devils evened their record last Saturday by shutting out Louisville 19-0 and limiting the Cardinals to 13 total yards after giving up 460 to Washington two weeks before.

Baer said he thought the Sun Devils were continuing to improve.

Probable Starters

SE 33 Tyrone Hughes	5-10 175 Sr.	LOB 93 Travis Hill	6-2 240 Sr.
LT 77 Lance Lundberg	6-4 300 Jr.	LT 92 John Parrella	6-5 290 Sr.
LG 62 Ken Mehlin	6-0 265 Jr.	NG 70 David Noonan	6-3 275 Jr.
C 51 Jim Scott	6-2 265 Sr.	RT 70 Jamie Liewer	6-4 270 Sr.
RG 75 Will Shields	6-1 305 Sr.	ROLB 34 Trev Alberta	6-4 230 Jr.
TE 90 Bruce Moore	6-6 240 Sr.	SLB 48 Mike Anderson	6-2 235 Jr.
TE 99 William Washington	6-2 260 Sr.	WLB 32 Ed Stewart	6-0 205 So.
QB 1 Mike Grant	6-3 205 Sr.	LCB 19 Kenny Wilhite	5-8 175 Sr.
FB 26 Lance Lewis	5-0 225 Sr.	RCB 6 John Reese	6-0 200 Jr.
IB 44 Calvin Jones	5-11 210 So.	SS 31 Steve Carmer	6-2 210 Sr.
WB 38 Vincent Hawdine	5-8 210 Sr.	FS 8 Tyrone Byrd	6-0 180 Sr.
PK 13 Byron Bennett	5-1 180 Jr.	P 47 Mike Stigge	6-2 190 Sr.

WR 83 Clyde McCoy	6-1 168 So.	ROV20 Jean Boyd	6-0 188 Sr.
LT 76 DeMario Vaughn	6-5 372 So.	DE 12 Gavin Hill	6-2 243 Sr.
LG 56 Farrington Togonal	6-0 329 Jr.	DT 95 Bryan Hooks	6-3 270 Sr.
C 51 Toby Mills	6-2 271 Jr.	DT 9 Israel Stanley	6-3 255 Sr.
RG 79 Craig Ritter	6-4 284 Sr.	DE 98 Shante Carver	6-5 228 Jr.
RT 75 Jeff Kyeer	6-7 326 Sr.	GUN22 Kendall Rhyne	6-3 220 So.
TE 46 Bob Braisher	6-5 241 Sr.	ILB 48 Justin Dragoo	6-3 231 So.
WR 12 Eric Gullford	6-6 170 Sr.	ILB 44 Brett Wallerstedt	6-1 235 Sr.
QB 10 Garrick McGee	6-3 184 Fr.	LC 3 Kevin Minniefeki	5-9 180 Sr.
TB 24 Mario Bates	6-2 206 Sr.	FS 28 Adam Brass	5-9 185 Sr.
FB 23 George Montgomery	6-2 208 Jr.	RC 4 Lenny McGill	6-3 190 Jr.
PK 91 Mike Fitzey	5-10 180 Sr.	P 17 Steve Rauch	6-1 192 Sr.

Scott Maurer/DN

"We've improved tremendously since the first half of the Washington game," Baer said. "We feel like we're getting better."

Baer said it would take a big game from everybody on the Arizona State squad for the Sun Devils to pull off the

upset on Saturday.

"It's going to take three great efforts — on offense, on defense and with the kicking game," Baer said. "We're not as talented as Nebraska, but hopefully we can play at a higher level."

NU defensive effort impresses McBride

By Phil Carter
Staff Reporter

An impressive defensive effort last Saturday against No. 2 ranked Washington was enough to satisfy Husker defensive coordinator Charlie McBride, but McBride said he wasn't impressed with the game's outcome.

"You should never be satisfied when you lose a game," McBride said. "But the way the defense overcame mistakes and crowd noise to play impressively, it was an effort I was satisfied with."

The effort, however, was costly to the Nebraska defense. Defensive tackle Jamie Liewer broke his right fibula early in the first quarter against the Huskies and will miss up to eight weeks following surgery and rehabilitation.

Nebraska safety Tyrone Byrd was also injured. "(Byrd) shouldn't be out very

long. It looks like he's doubtful for this week because he bruised his thigh and pulled his hamstring," McBride says. "Hopefully it's nothing long-term."

This week, the defense will be getting a look at Sun Devil quarterback Garrick McGee as he returns to the ASU offense for the first time since being suspended this summer.

"It's hard to say what they will run because they have no consistency at quarterback," McBride said.

Crowd noise could also affect the Sun Devils' offense and its success against the Husker defense.

"I was really impressed with the Washington fans and the amount of noise they produced," McBride said. "Their fans did a great job, and I don't mean that in a negative sense. That's college football, and it really gives excitement to the players and the game."

NU volleyball begins Big Eight season tonight

By Jeff Singer
Senior Reporter

As the Nebraska volleyball team opens its Big Eight season this weekend against Oklahoma, the Cornhuskers are hoping a good start will launch them toward a 17th straight conference championship.

Nebraska will win every previous Big Eight title and will attempt to get things off on a winning track against the Sooners at 7:30 tonight in Norman, Okla.

Nebraska will conclude the weekend with a non-conference match against defending Southland Confer-

ence champion Southwest Texas State at 1 p.m. Saturday in Norman.

The Huskers have a 219-6-1 all-time record against conference schools and Nebraska has gone 34-4 during the previous 16 seasons against Oklahoma.

Nebraska volleyball coach Terry Pettit said that despite the Huskers' dominance over the Sooners, Oklahoma might test Nebraska tonight.

"They have a lot of personnel returning, and they're probably the biggest team we'll play all year," Pettit said.

The big Sooner lineup, which has produced a 4-4 record so far this sea-

son, includes 6-foot-3-inch outside hitter Gretchen Anderson and middle blockers such as 6-foot-2-inch Laura Rappard, 6-foot-1-inch Sara Biese, 6-foot-1-inch Heidi Luehman and 6-foot Gloria Holcolb.

Nebraska setter Christy Johnson said Oklahoma's talented lineup showed how teams were improving in the conference.

"They're going to be a good team," Johnson said. "The Big Eight is just getting better and better each year."

As for the Huskers, Pettit's lineup for the Big Eight opener includes last year's Big Eight Player-of-the-Year

middle blocker Stephanie Thater and outside hitters Eileen Shannon, Laura Luther, Allison Weston and Kim Tonniges. Johnson and Nikki Stricker will split time at the setting position.

Pettit said he thought the lineup could help increase Nebraska's conference title streak to 17.

"I'm optimistic that we're ready to go do it," Pettit said.

But, he said, the Huskers' past dominance doesn't automatically guarantee Nebraska a Big Eight title again this season.

"The reason we've won 16 is that

we haven't approached it that way," Pettit said. "We approach it like we haven't won it before."

Nebraska has a 5-2 record this year after beating Wyoming twice last weekend, and the Huskers are currently ranked sixth in the national coaches' poll.

Johnson said Nebraska, which finished undefeated in the conference last season and 27-5 overall, might just be better this year.

"It's a different team," Johnson said. "We're a little bit closer than last year and there's more chemistry on the court."