

**BIG 8**  
CONFERENCE

**Round-up**

	Conference Games				All Games			
	W	L	T	Pct.	W	L	T	Pct.
Nebraska	5	0	0	1.000	9	0	0	1.000
Colorado	3	1	1	.700	5	3	1	.688
Oklahoma	3	2	0	.600	7	2	0	.778
Kansas St.	2	2	1	.500	6	2	1	.722
Kansas	2	3	0	.400	4	6	0	.400
Missouri	2	3	0	.400	3	5	1	.389
Iowa St.	2	3	0	.400	3	6	0	.333
Oklahoma St.	0	5	0	.000	3	6	0	.333

**Saturday's Results**

Colorado 31, Oklahoma State 14  
Oklahoma 42, Missouri 23  
Iowa State 27, Kansas State 23  
Nebraska 21, Kansas 20



# Coaches object to Husker's slip

By Jeff Griesch  
Senior Reporter

Although Nebraska continues to win football games, the Cornhuskers still aren't getting the respect they deserve in the national rankings, Big Eight coaches said Monday.

Miami, 7-1, leaped ahead of the 9-0 Cornhuskers to the No. 3 spot in the bowl coalition poll this week.

Kansas coach Glen Mason, who watched the Huskers' hold onto a 21-20 win against his Jayhawks, said Nebraska's 9-0 record should speak for itself.

"Nebraska is a very fine football team, and if you're unbeaten and untied, you deserve to be up there," Mason said.

But the coalition poll — a composite of the Associated Press writers' and the USA Today/CNN coaches' poll — didn't reflect Mason's opinion.

Last week, the Huskers were ranked ahead of Miami in the coalition poll, which is designed to determine bowl pairings and a national title game between the No. 1 and No. 2 teams. But Nebraska's narrow 21-20 win over unranked Kansas, coupled with Miami's 35-7 win over Pittsburgh, moved the Hurricanes 44 points ahead of Nebraska.

Miami has 2,747 points to the Huskers 2,703. Florida State leads the voting with 3,098 and Notre Dame is No. 2 with 2,956.

The Omaha World-Herald reported Sunday that a group of AP writers had called Fiesta Bowl officials and said they wanted to move Miami ahead of Nebraska in the polls to set up a national championship game between this weekend's Florida State-Notre Dame winner and Miami in the Fiesta Bowl.

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said during the Big Eight coaches' weekly teleconference on Monday that the

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I am pulling for Nebraska.  
— McCartney  
Colorado football coach

rumors of a conspiracy among writers concerned him.

"I'm not comfortable with us dropping, but there really isn't anything I can do about it," Osborne said. "One thing that does bother me some is the lobbying and people saying who should do what and play whom for the national championship."

Osborne questioned the objectivity of the writers and said the AP voters may not be as well qualified to vote as the coaches.

"Our evaluation process is very different than the writers," Osborne said. "They just can't see as many teams as we see through our film exchange."

"We see between 40 and 50 teams a year through the film exchange, and we run it back and forth. You don't just look at it, you study it and see what is really going on."

Oklahoma coach Gary Gibbs agreed.

"I don't know how many people vote and pass judgment on teams without getting a chance to really see them," Gibbs said. "They just vote by looking at the scores instead of watching the game and really seeing what happens."

Colorado is the only team that has played both Miami and Nebraska. The Buffaloes lost to Miami, 35-29, and lost to the Huskers, 21-17.

"It is hard to say which team is better or what is going to happen," Colorado coach Bill McCartney said, "but I am pulling for Nebraska."



Kiley Timperley/DN

Kansas wide receiver Ashaundai Smith is tossed to the ground by Cornhusker left cornerback Barron Miles in the third quarter of Nebraska's 21-20 win Saturday. The Huskers held onto the win after a pass from Jayhawk quarterback Asheiki Preston to Smith fell incomplete on Kansas' two-point conversion attempt with a minute left in the game.

# Husker performance proves two wrongs can make a right

By Mitch Sherman  
Staff Reporter

During perhaps the most important seconds of the season thus far, the Nebraska football team was in a mess.

Cornhusker assistant coach Dan Young told the Extra Point Club on Monday that Nebraska's defense was in mayhem while lining up before Kansas' two-point conversion attempt with less than one minute left in the game Saturday.

Kansas coach Glen Mason decided to go for two points and the win after true freshman June Henley, who ran for 148 yards on 37 carries, cut Nebraska's lead to 21-20 with 52 seconds left.

Meanwhile, Nebraska coaches opted to call a wide blitz in which the outside linebackers rush the quarterback.

"The old saying that two wrongs make a right really came out to be true," Young said. "We called a wide blitz, and instead of both linebackers covering the outsides, they both lined up on the

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The old saying that two wrongs make a right really came out to be true.  
— Young  
Nebraska assistant coach

same side. So we were short on one side."

And on the other side, Young said, Nebraska's right cornerback mistakenly lined up on the left side with the strong safety and the left cornerback.

The pass from quarterback Asheiki Preston to Ashaundi Smith fell incomplete in the end zone, and Nebraska ran out the clock to escape with a 21-20 victory.

Young said Saturday's game reminded the Huskers of the Iowa State matchup last year in which Nebraska was upset 19-10 by the Cyclones in Ames, Iowa.

"We didn't have a lot of chances," Young said. "(Kansas) did a

good job of holding the ball. That's similar to what Iowa State is going to try to do. That's what Iowa State did to us last year in Ames."

The Huskers will not have any problems getting up for the Iowa State game this year, Young said.

"I think there is a lot of motivation to come back and play well against Iowa State," Young said. "I certainly know our players will be motivated to do well, especially after what happened last year."

"I know they've looked forward to settling the score for a long time," he said. "I don't think there is going to be any problem getting up to play Iowa State."

# ESPN's James off target with comments about Huskers

Lee Corso for president?  
As much as Nebraskans would like to see it, the most likely public office the ESPN college football analyst would probably win in this state would be governor.

Time after time, Corso — much to Nebraska fans' pleasure — defends the Huskers on the ESPN Gameday college football show, despite the constant ridicule Nebraska receives from Craig "I'm still in love with the Southwest Conference" James.

After Nebraska squeaked by Kansas Saturday, James said he considered the win the same as a tie and said the Huskers should drop out of at least the Top 5.

Corso shook his head in disagreement, interrupting James with a somewhat obvious statement: "Florida State No. 1, Notre Dame is two and Nebraska is No. 3."

Thank you, Lee.

At least somebody at the ESPN studios realizes what it means to be unbeaten, untied and have a legitimate chance at the national title.

James argued that the Husker schedule proves Nebraska is not as qualified for the national championship as Tennessee or Miami.

True, the Nebraska schedule does not size up with that of Florida State, which has six teams on its schedule that were ranked before Saturday's games.

Notre Dame, America's and NBC's favorite bandwagon team, has only two ranked teams on its season schedule. But apparently, that's OK because they have the movie "Rudy," and I'm sure James has seen it more than 20 times.

Miami did play Florida State and proved the two teams weren't worthy of being on the same field at the same time. Other than the Seminoles, Miami's schedule is highlighted by



Derek Samson

West Virginia and Boston College.

Nebraska has played some weak opponents along the way but also has four teams that are currently ranked on its schedule. Count 'em, Craig James — that's two more than the Fighting Irish.

Even if the Cornhuskers' schedule is weaker than others, Nebraska is still unbeaten and untied, which is no small feat.

After Corso proclaimed Nebraska as a clear-cut No. 3, James named Florida State, Notre Dame, Miami, Tennessee and Auburn as his Top 5.

I would think he would be aware that Auburn is on probation, some-

thing James should be able to relate to since he attended SMU.

James also criticized Nebraska for just squeezing by its opponents. If that is a reason to drop in the polls, then Alabama should have dropped out of the Top 50 last season instead of winning the national championship.

James also warned that Texas A&M would be in a good position for one of the top spots after New Year's Day.

C'mon Craig, the Daily Nebraskan could put together a team and play within two touchdowns of the Aggies. If James gives the Southwest — excuse me, the Southwest — conference one more compliment on the air, ESPN's Gameday should be canceled.

Corso said when the season began that Nebraska would be in the national championship game and when it's a one-game situation, anything

can happen.

So far Corso has been right on target with his prediction.

James has picked a number of teams to win the national championship but as each drops out of the "others receiving votes" section of the polls, he picks a new favorite team.

So far, James has proven that he was not forced to attend classes when he went to SMU.

If James continues to insult Nebraska week after week, then he better not plan on his annual family vacation to Wymore or wherever he takes his family. A mob will probably be waiting.

As for Corso, you'll always have friends in Nebraska. And whenever you have time to run for a public office in this state, come see us.

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