



Shaun Sartin/DN

Nebraska I-back Clinton Childs gets ready to take the handoff from quarterback Tommie Frazier. Childs rushed for a career-high 78 yards on Saturday against UCLA.

# Coaches, statistics agree: Childs rushing to success

By Mitch Sherman  
Senior Reporter

Clinton Childs was given a chance in last Saturday's game against UCLA, and the 6-foot, 215-pound junior from Omaha made the most of it.

Childs was the second I-back to see action in the UCLA game. He entered the game on Nebraska's first possession of the second quarter.

On his first carry, Childs ran around the left end for a gain of 25 yards to the Nebraska 45-yard line. His next carry netted two yards. On a second-and-eight play from the 47-yard line, Childs got the call again, running for 22 yards to the UCLA 31-yard line.

"When Lawrence (Phillips) needed a breather," Childs said, "they called on me for the second spot. I guess the feeling is now that we can come in and go out interchangeably, the three of us."

The trio to which Childs is referring consists of himself, Phillips and Damon Benning. Together, they lead a Nebraska rushing attack that is averaging a national-best 458.7 yards per game.

Cornhusker running back coach Frank Solich said Childs had eliminated the mistakes from his game, which allowed him to see more playing time.

"Clinton has really come on," Solich said. "His speed and strength have come through. I think the fact that we can put him and Damon in the game helps Lawrence from getting bumped and bruised. You see some backs getting 30-35 carries in one game. It's pretty tough to stay healthy if you do that."

Childs and Benning both are listed as No. 2 on the depth chart. Competition for the No. 2 spot, Childs said, has helped both backs improve.

Childs finished the UCLA game with a career-high 78 yards on seven carries. He led the team with an average of 11.1 yards per carry, and he scored one touchdown. But he said much of the credit for his success should go to the offensive line.

"I feel like we are pretty much spoiled by the way the line is playing," he said. "They are doing everything they have to do for us to run. They are going to open holes no matter who the defense is we are playing against."

## Husker starters return to practice

### From Staff Reports

Nebraska quarterback Tommie Frazier, linebacker Ed Stewart and free safety Tony Veland all returned to practice Tuesday as the Cornhuskers worked out in full pads at Memorial Stadium.

Redshirt I-back Brian Knuckles re-injured his shoulder during practice. "Knuckles hurt his shoulder again,

but since he redshirted that won't affect us Saturday," Osborne said.

Osborne, who said in Tuesday's press conference that Stewart was questionable for Saturday, said after practice that he saw no reason why the linebacker wouldn't play against Pacific.

### NOTE:

Tickets went on sale Tuesday for

the Nebraska-Kansas State game Oct. 15 in Manhattan, Kan.

The sale will last until Thursday and runs from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. today and Thursday. It is limited to student football season ticket holders only.

Nebraska student basketball tickets went on sale Monday and will be on sale until 5 p.m. Friday.

## Season-opening challenge too much for men's tennis

### From Staff Reports

The Nebraska men's tennis team struggled last weekend in opening its fall season at the Tom Fallon Invitational in South Bend, Ind.

The Cornhuskers were hampered when their touted newcomer Markus Bergerheim was held out because of an illness and Adrian Maizey was held out because of a sore elbow.

None of the Huskers made it to the final round, but three Huskers managed to post victories.

Freshman Chad Van Horn defeated Jordan Faris of Michigan State 6-2, 4-6, 6-2. In his second match Van Horn lost to Kentucky's

Brian Sackman 6-3, 6-4.

Sophomore Henrik Andersson won 6-3, 6-5 over Michigan State's Luke Linder. Andersson then lost to Adam Wager of Michigan 6-4, 6-2.

Sophomore Dino Teppara defeated Wisconsin's Keith Benz 4-6, 6-4, 7-5 and then lost to Marco Magnano of Notre Dame 6-1, 6-0.

Also during the weekend at the Wichita Tournament in Wichita, Kan., Omar Acevedo, Nebraska's sole representative, played in two matches.

Acevedo beat Eric Becker of Wichita State 6-0, 6-0. In the second round, he lost to Oklahoma State's Peter Hancy 1-6, 6-1, 6-1.

## Pacific

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Osborne said he did not blame current Utah State coach Charlie Weatherbie for bailing out on Nebraska.

"Charlie realized that if he didn't want to have happen to him what happened to Chuck, he couldn't keep playing Nebraska and schools like that," Osborne said. "A lot of time when you are hiring a coach, he has a little leverage for a while. I would imagine Charlie probably said, 'This is something I don't want to do.'"

"Probably when Chuck was there, they wouldn't let him do it. They had to play Nebraska."

Although Osborne said he had been guilty of scheduling weak teams in the past, the decision to play Pacific was not his.

"I was responsible for scheduling North Texas State a year ago," he said, referring to the Huskers' 76-14 win to open the 1993 season. "And I got my full share of credit for that. I went into all the reasons, but none of them were good enough."

"I didn't happen to do this one, so I am assigned to play it. That's what I am going to do. I didn't schedule it, and if they had USC there, I would be getting ready to play USC."

Part of the problem surrounding the scheduling of weak teams, Osborne said, has to do with money.

"We are in a situation where a home game to Nebraska means about a million dollars," he said. "What we have to do each year, very frankly, is to schedule a couple of teams that will come in here and play and not expect a return engagement."

I've got a date with Kurt at 7:00, and with Phil at 9:00. After that lets hit the bars!

Remember when we slept around like that, Edna?

Hell, I still do!

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