

NU cautious as it enters Cyclone game

By Derek Samson

Senior Reporter

Despite an 0-8-1 record, Nebraska coach Tom Osborne thinks Iowa State is a much better team now than the Cyclone team that opened its season with a 28-14 loss to Northern Iowa.

And Osborne has the facts to back it up.

The Cyclones have been averaging 422.5 yards a game, including 453 yards last week in a 38-20 loss at Kansas State. Nebraska gained 262 against Kansas State on Oct. 15 in Manhattan.

The No. 1 Cornhuskers will try to stop the Iowa State offense on Saturday in Ames, Iowa, at 1 p.m.

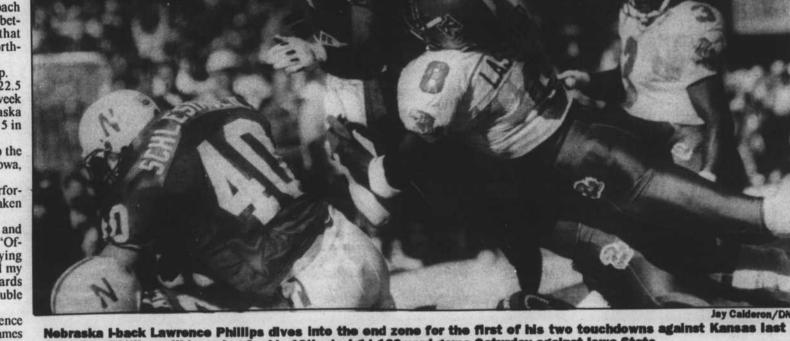
Osborne said Iowa State's offensive performance against the Wildcats shouldn't be taken lightly.

"Iowa State has a good football team, and that may sound strange to say," he said. "Of-fensively, right now, I think they are playing very well. The thing that kind of grabbed my attention is that they had 440 (453) yards against Kansas State, and that's almost double of what we had.

"I would say there is a definite difference in their offense over the last three or four games as to what it was the first four or five games. They're executing better.'

Nebraska's last trip to Ames two years ago resulted in Iowa State's 19-10 upset of the sev-enth-ranked Huskers — the only game Osborne has lost to a team that finished with a losing record.

Osborne said the Cyclones had a recent his-tory of playing Nebraska close, including last year's 49-17 Husker win in Lincoln, and he



Saturday. Phillips will be going for his 10th straight 100-yard game Saturday against lowa State.

decided until late in the game that we definitely had the thing put away," he said. "So I think they'll (players) understand that we have to play

In 1992, Iowa State was more motivated to win than the Huskers were, Osborne said.

"(In 1992) We had beaten Colorado 52-7," then Kansas 49-7, and I don't think our playhoped his players didn't forget that. "Even last year we got off to a 21-7 lead, and we had a couple of turnovers, and it wasn't lowa State was very ready to play, and they

played the game of the year."

Osborne said he knew the Cyclone players 11 of which are Nebraska natives — would

be ready for the top-ranked Huskers. "I'm sure that we'll get their best effort," he said. "They've got nine, 10 or 11 Nebraska

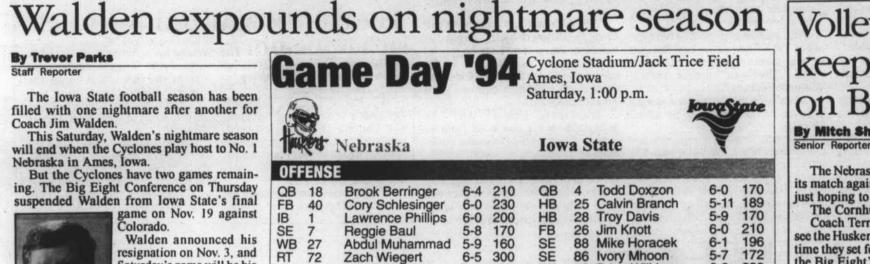
players that are playing key roles for them. They're certainly going to give us everything they've got; they always do.

"I think Iowa State will come to play. In many respects, for a lot of those players, this

will be the most important game of the year. I'm not taking anything for granted here at all.

Despite waving a caution flag for his team, Osborne said that if the 10-0 Huskers played well, they should win.

"I'm not trying to paint a negative picture here that we're in big trouble and we can't win the game," he said. "We just have to pay at-tention to business, and it may not be as quick and simple as people think."



Volleyball team keeping an eye on Big Eight By Mitch Sherman

The Nebraska volleyball team heads into its match against Missouri on Saturday not

just hoping to win. The Cornhuskers want to improve

Coach Terry Pettit said he would like to see the Huskers improve 3 to 5 percent each time they set foot on the court, even against



Saturday's game will be his last on the Iowa State sidelines. Walden also was fined \$5,000 for his comments on the officiating after Iowa State's 38-20 loss to Kansas State last Saturday

Walden

Walden said Nebraska would cause his team numerous problems, but then the Cornhuskers caused problems for opponents all year.

"We'll have the same problems the other 10 did," Walden said. "We didn't create their record.'

However, being the opposite of Nebraska at 0-8-1, Walden said he wished things were better for his program.

"It's been one of disappointment," Walden said. "The frustration comes from not getting the team on an even keel. I feel so rotten for the players.

Injuries have hampered the Cyclones, and Walden said that was one reason why his high hopes for this season were crushed.

We're not strong enough to lose eight or nine starters for an extended period of time,' Walden said. "We couldn't overcome it, and that's a fact."

Walden said his team had done its best to make the most of the injuries.

Although their record doesn't show it, the Cyclones have improved as of late.

In its last five games, the Iowa State offense

RT 72 Zach Wiegert LT 56 Rob Zatechka RG 55 Brenden Stai LG 76 Joel Wilks C 54 Aaron Graham TE 85 Matt Shaw PK 6 Darin Erstad	6-5 300 6-5 315 6-4 300 6-3 280 6-3 280 6-3 235 6-2 195	SE 86 Ivory Mhoon RT 69 Brian Wilkinson LT 77 Tim Kohn RG 73 Tony Booth LG 74 Doug Ragaller C 58 Mike Sakalas PK 2 Ty Stewart	5-7 172 6-6 290 6-5 282 6-3 293 6-1 285 6-3 268 5-11 194
DEFENSE			
LOLB 86 Dwayne Harris DT 55 Christian Peter NT 99 Terry Connealy ROLB 84 Donta Jones SAM 4 Troy Dumas MIKE 48 Phil Ellis WILL 32 Ed Stewart LCB 14 Barron Miles RCB 8 Tyrone William ROV 29 Kareem Moss FS 9 Tony Veland P 6 Darin Erstad	6-2 285 6-5 275 6-2 220 6-4 220 6-3 240 6-1 215 5-8 165	OLB49Marcus AllenOLB42Marc LillibridgeOLB38Michael CooperLDT98Kevin FleecsRDT92Anthony ScottILB40Tim SandersILB45Matt NitchieRCB23Jason BrownLCB27Daryl HallSS11Matt StraightFS29Cedric LinwoodP16Marc Harris	$\begin{array}{ccccc} 6-4 & 210 \\ 6-1 & 223 \\ 6-0 & 200 \\ 6-3 & 244 \\ 6-4 & 253 \\ 6-0 & 205 \\ 6-2 & 220 \\ 5-10 & 181 \\ 5-7 & 174 \\ 5-11 & 192 \\ 5-11 & 194 \\ 5-11 & 185 \\ \end{array}$

has averaged 422.5 yards per game, primarily because of quarterback Todd Doxzon, Walden said

not only for Doxzon but also for 14 other Cy-clone players from Nebraska as well.

"There isn't one of them who wouldn't rather be at Nebraska," Walden said. "There is nothing they'd rather do in life. However, it's like loving your brother. He might love you

to death, but when you play golf or tennis or something, he wants to kick your ass."

DN graphic

Walden has taken advantage of the oppor-Walden said this game would be important tunity he has to criticize the officials, and he paid for it on Thursday.

> Walden said he liked the freedom, but it rarely did any good.

They'd like to strangle me if they could," Walden said. "I am just expressing my American right, but no one will argue with me."

the Big Eight's lower echelon leams

The Tigers, who visit the NU Coliscum for a 3:30 p.m. match on Saturday, are 9-17 overall and 0-9 in the Big Eight. Nebraska swept Missouri earlier this season in Columbia, Mo., 15-1, 15-4, 15-9.

The Huskers continue to keep one eye on the present and one eye on Nov. 16, when they travel to Boulder, Colo., to play No. 14 Colorado. It is at that time, Pettit said, that Nebraska can take a major step toward accomplishing its preseason goal of regain-ing the Big Eight championship.

Undefeated Nebraska, 24-0 and ranked No. 1 in both polls, lost the Big Eight title to the Buffs a year ago after winning the crown for 17 consecutive seasons.

"I think that, more than anything else, is our focus," Pettit said. "We are doing everything we can to take that back

Pettit said the team hadn't changed its attitude because of the No. 1 ranking, which came as a result of previously undefeated Stanford's loss to UCLA last week. He warned, however, that the Huskers, who have lost only five games all year, had not played a difficult schedule.

"I would caution people," he said, "when I look at who we've played. We've not played any of the other teams ranked in the top 10. We scheduled a lot of teams we thought would be in the top 10, teams like

See MISSOURI on 9