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Big Eight explodes with wins

By Gregg Madsen

In its final year of existence, the Big Eight appears to be going down in a blaze of glory.

So far this season, Big Eight teams have compiled a 22-6 record against nonconference opponents. Last Saturday, the conference went 7-1 and outscored opponents an impressive 329-148, an average victory margin

of 22 points. Iowa State sophomore running back Troy Davisripped Nevada-Las Vegas
for 302 yards Saturday to lead the
Cyclones to a 57-30 victory. The viccoach Dan McCarney said that the tory raised the Cyclones' record to 2-2, their best start since the 1992 sea-

Davis, the USA Today prep player of the year in Florida in 1993, needs

only 88 yards to reach the 1,000-yard team," he said. mark and become the first sophomore in NCAA history to reach 1,000 yards

in just five games.

Only five players have rushed for 1,000 yards in the season's first five games. Two of those players, Oklahoma State's Earnest Anderson in 1981 and Barry Sanders in 1988, were from the Big Eight.

Davis is leading the nation in total yardage with 922 and also has the top average of 228 yards a game.

team took great pride in Davis' performance this season. But McCarney said that individual honors were not as important as team accomplishments.

"We are trying to improve as a

Improvement can be found throughout the conference this season. The 22 non-conference victories already. match last year's total, and three more wins would tie the second-best mark in conference history. The best Big Eight non-conference record came in 1975 when the conference went 28-4.

With five teams ranked in this week's Associated Press poll, McCarney and other Big Eight coaches are expecting some tough conference battles this season.

"The Big Eight is just a sensational conference," McCarney said. "It's going to be an outstanding challenge."
Kansas coach Glen Mason agreed.

"We have more teams that are good," Mason said. "There aren't any really bad teams this year."

"We're not quite used to that because although our team is considered to be tall at 6-foot, we're seeing everybody being over six and being such great athletes on the other side of the net," Vtyurina said. "They play very different volleyball than we play on the east coast.'

Even though Vtyurina struggled Saturday, she said she left with special feeling about Nebraska.
"I love this state."

Svetlana

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ward to the match and was disappointed that she struggled.

"I don't really know what happened," Vtyurina said. "I guess I was trying to play around the block because I knew the block was going to be really high. I was just being careful

instead of being extremely aggres-

Homan said she expected Nebraska to pressure her squad at the net.

"I thought they would be incredibly aggressive at the net, and they were," Homan said. "The way they played was everything that they were expecting.'

The height and the aggressiveness Nebraska presented were the main problems, Vtyurina said.

I-backs

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ankle. He is questionable for Satur-

If Benning can't play Saturday against Washington State, then true freshman Ahman Green will get the

Green, who has quietly accumulated 349 yards and six touchdowns this season, said he was ready to take over the starting role.

Behind Green is sophomore James Sims (216 yards and three touchdowns this season). Fullback Joel Makovicka would fill in behind Sims if the Huskers needed to go that far, Osborne said.

"It's pretty thin right now," Osborne said. "Now we have Ahman Green and James Sims. James hurt his back a little bit (against Pacific). Joel Makovicka would be our number four I-back, or number three if Damon can't play. And he re-injured a toe that has been giving him problems, so that position is depleted pretty badly."

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