

PHOTOS CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT:

KENNY CHEATHAM catches a 30-yard touchdown pass from Matt Turman early in the fourth quarter, beating Michigan State's Amp Campbell.

RUSH END Grant Wistrom celebrates as he crosses the goal line after a nine-yard interception return for a touchdown.

BRENDAN HOLBEIN fights off Campbell for the ball, catching a 35-yard touchdown pass from Scott Frost.

MICHIGAN STATE cornerback Ray Hill wraps up Nebraska's Jon Vedral.

SCOTT FROST gets a pass away, avoiding a hard-charging Chris Smith.

SCOTT BRUHN/DN

Huskers impress Saban

By **MIKE KLUCK**
Senior Reporter

"We have a lot of young players who went to the prom in May, then beat Purdue last week and said, 'Hey, this is easy.'"

NICK SABAN
MSU football coach

Excuse Michigan State Coach Nick Saban for making the understatement of the day after Saturday's 55-14 Nebraska victory.

"I think the most impressive part of their team today was their defense," Saban said.

"It was probably as good as I've ever seen. We anticipated that, but they played extremely well. They're aggressive; they've got great team speed."

Nebraska's defense scored two touchdowns, including an 84-yard interception return by senior rover Mike Minter and a nine-yard interception return by rush end Grant Wistrom.

The Cornhusker defense also set up Nebraska's first touchdown when Minter intercepted a pass from Spartan quarterback Todd Schultz.

Two plays later, Husker quarter-

back Scott Frost ran in over the right end for the touchdown.

But Saban was as equally impressed with Nebraska's special teams as he was with the NU defense.

Husker right cornerback Mike Fullman scored on a 62-yard punt return in the second quarter. Then in the third quarter, Nebraska junior Eric Warfield blocked a punt by Paul Edinger.

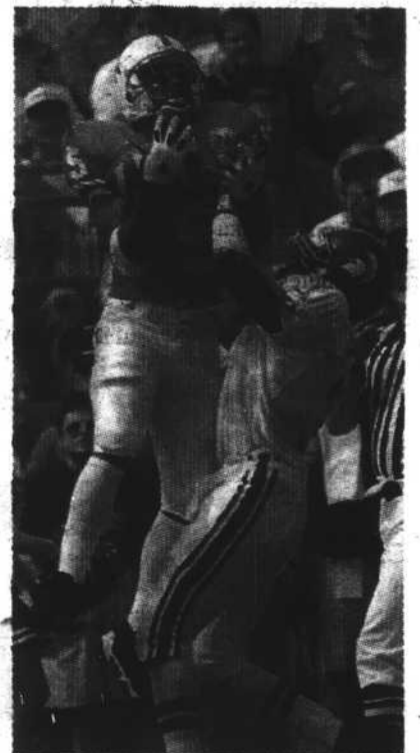
Husker freshman Brian Shaw picked up the ball and returned it seven

yards to the Michigan State 16-yard line. Three plays later, I-back Ahman Green scored from one yard out.

"We thought it was very important for us to come in here today and win on special teams, which we feel is very important in our program," Saban said. "We obviously couldn't do that."

"If you play a team like Nebraska, who's as good-offensively and defensively as they are, and you can't control the field position on special teams,

Please see **SABAN** on 11



JAY CALDERON/DN



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| Nebraska Players | | Michigan St. Players | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Player | Att. Yds. Tds. | Player | Att. Yds. Tds. |
| 7 Scott Frost | 10 58 1 | 11 Gus Orman | 6 38 - |
| Player | Rec. Yds. Tds. | Player | Rec. Yds. Tds. |
| 5 Brendan Holbein | 1 35 1 | 20 Octavia Long | 2 61 - |
| Player | Att/Comp/Int Yds. Tds. | Player | Att/Comp/Int Yds. Tds. |
| 11 Matt Turman | 2/2/0 40 1 | 9 Todd Schultz | 3/1/1 0 - |
| First downs | 18 11 | Fumbles | 2 1 |
| Rushing yards | 184 83 | Penalties / yards | 2/10 4/29 |
| Passing completions | 7 14 | Kickoff returns / yards | 1/29 2/25 |
| Third downs | 60 85 | Third-down conversion | 4 of 12 3 of 19 |
| Average yards per play | 5.0 2.9 | Sacks / yards | 7/47 1/11 |