

Big 12 Notebook

The Iowa State football team rebounded from a loss to Iowa last week with a 42-23 win over Division I-AA Northern Iowa Saturday.

Leading the way was sophomore tailback Troy Davis. Davis carried the ball a Cyclone-record 53 times for 241 yards and four touchdowns. His performance earned him the Big 12 offensive-player-of-the-week award. "He is a tremendous physical specimen," ISU Coach Dan McCarney said. "We asked him seriously how he felt, and he said he could go another 20 carries."

"I have to help the team," Davis said. "Give me the ball and I can turn a game around. I guarantee it."

Kansas State's Chris Canty was named the league's defensive player of the week. The junior cornerback had one interception, which he returned 44 yards, three solo tackles and one pass breakup in KSU's 34-7 win over Rice Saturday.

Texas Coach John Mackovic said his team's 27-24 loss to Notre Dame on Saturday will be one to remember. "We really laid it on the line," Mackovic said. "We are disappointed, but we know we put a lot of hard work into this game."

The game ends a two-game Texas series with the Fighting Irish, who kicked a field goal to win in the final seconds.

Notre Dame beat UT 55-27 a year ago in South Bend, Ind., but Mackovic said he's in favor of playing the Irish again. "Our fans had a lot of fun going up there, and I think their fans had fun coming down here."

Texas Tech also lost its game to Georgia in the fourth quarter. The Red Raiders had the lead with 10 minutes remaining in the fourth quarter but lost 15-12. "We let that game get away from us," Tech Coach Spike Dykes said. "We thought we played by the book, but they obviously didn't read the book in Georgia."

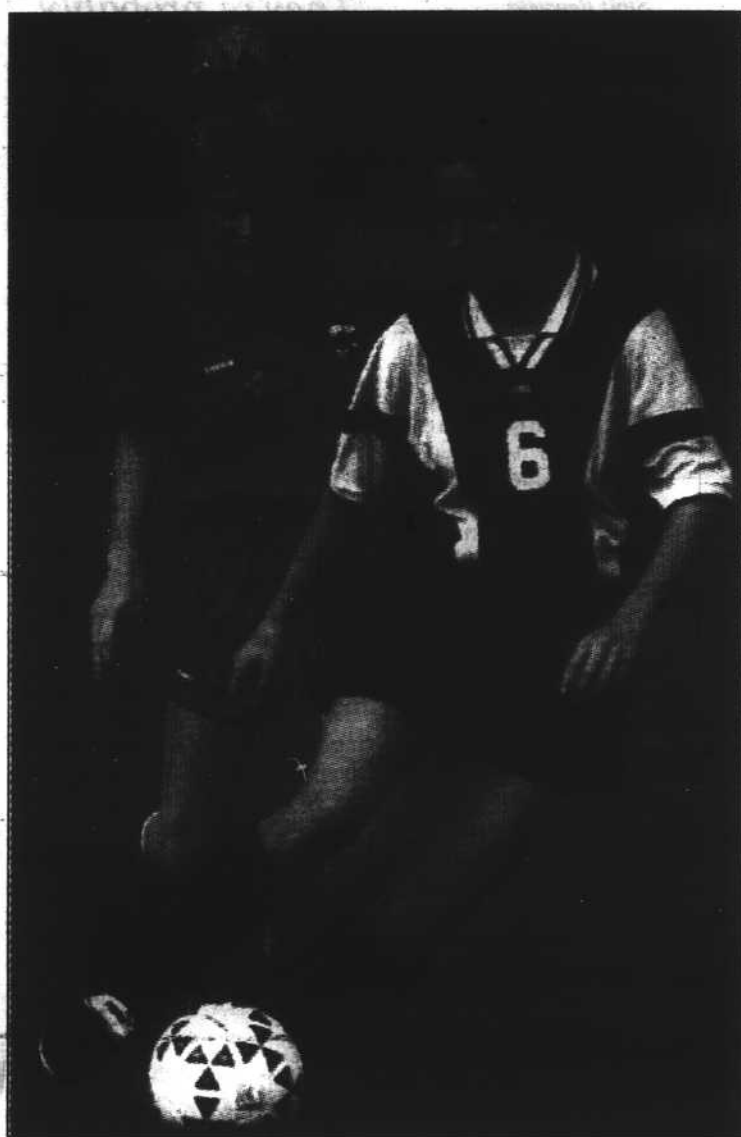
Missouri won its first game Saturday night against Clemson. MU Coach Larry Smith said the 38-23 win in Columbia, Mo., was a big step for his team. "It is a matter of playing hard, and we did," Smith said. "The big thing we did was prepare for Clemson, and we hit the field with a lot of enthusiasm and fire."

Smith said his team needs to stay focused so it can continue to win games. "We need to keep getting better and not worry about games we should or could win," Smith said.

Oklahoma State's 31-17 win over Utah State marks the first time since 1990 that the Cowboys scored 30 or more points in two consecutive games.

In other Big 12 games, Oklahoma fell to 0-2 with a 51-31 loss to San Diego State; Baylor beat Oregon State 42-10 and Texas A&M shut out North Texas 55-0.

Big 12 Notebook is compiled by staff reporter Jay Saunders.



STEPHANIE VACEK (left) defends Vanderbilt's Laura Koerner Sunday during Nebraska's double-overtime win.

Vacek paces NU defensive attack

By VINCE D'ADAMO
Staff Reporter

If three serious knee operations frustrated Nebraska defender Stephanie Vacek, she could not be blamed.

But Vacek has handled the adversity of tearing an anterior cruciate ligament three times since her freshman season, and has returned to anchor the Cornhusker defense.

Initially disappointed, Vacek has displayed resilience in helping the 13th-ranked Cornhuskers to a 7-0 record. She had a solid spring and has not looked back since.

Vacek suffered a bruised ankle in Sunday's 3-2 double-overtime win over Vanderbilt. However, she is expected to be in the lineup for a pair of games this weekend.

"It was a little frustrating at first," Vacek said. "But I had a lot of team support. I just wanted to come back and play. I didn't want to let them down."

Most of all, Vacek, a 5-foot-8 junior from Papillion, said she loved the game and did not want her career to end.

"I just have a love for the sport," Vacek said. "I just wanted to play. There's nothing to it."

Please see VACEK on 8

Farley to join Cornhusker recovery bid

NU EXPERIENCES LIFE after a loss for the first time in two years.

By TREVOR PARKS
Senior Reporter

For the first time since Nov. 16, 1992, the Nebraska football team has begun preparations for a regular-season game after a loss.

And as the Cornhuskers (1-1) welcome Colorado State (2-2) to Memorial Stadium Saturday at 11:30 a.m., NU will more than likely have the services of Will linebacker Terrell Farley.



Farley

Farley, an All-America and Butkus Award candidate, was suspended for the first two games after being ticketed for suspicion of drunken driving Aug. 30.

Coach Tom Osborne said he will talk to Farley's counselors and doctors to see if Farley has completed everything asked of him.

"He'll play if everything is up to snuff," Osborne said Monday. "As far as I'm concerned, from what I've seen, Terrell has responded positively."

Now the team needs to respond positively, Osborne said, after losing for the first time in 27 games, 19-0 to Arizona State Saturday night in Tempe, Ariz.

"They don't feel good about this," Osborne said. "The thing I'm concerned about is playing well. I can understand getting beat. We just need to play well, and we didn't play well — so that goes down a little harder."

"They have enough pride in what they are doing here to not want to let that happen again."

The last time NU did not play well enough to win in the regular season was Nov. 14, 1992, when the

Bounce Back

Loss	Next game
11/14/92 Iowa St. 19 Nebraska 10	11/27/92 Nebraska 33 Oklahoma 7
9/19/92 Washington 29 Nebraska 14	9/26/92 Nebraska 45 Arizona St. 24
9/19/91 Washington 36 Nebraska 21	9/28/91 Nebraska 18 Arizona St. 7
10/23/90 Oklahoma 45 Nebraska 10	1/1/91 (Citrus Bowl) Georgia Tech 45 Nebraska 21
10/23/89 Colorado 27 Nebraska 21	10/11/89 Nebraska 51 Texas Tech 14

Cornhuskers lost 19-10 to Iowa State. "We needed to prepare better the last two weeks," Osborne said. "There is no question about it. Hopefully, we'll be a better football team. We'll just have to see what happens."

Almost half of NU's practices leading up to the ASU disaster did not go well, Osborne said.

Defensive Coordinator Charlie McBride said Monday that the expectations put on this year's team may be set too high right now.

"A lot of people thought — and the players sometimes think — we are better than we are," McBride said. "We're not as good a football team right now as we were last year."

Four players were held out of Monday's practice on the grass fields northeast of Memorial Stadium. Cornerback Mike Fullman (groin), I-back Damon Benning (bruised ribs), rush end Grant Wistrom (neck strain)

Please see FOOTBALL on 8

Husker loss shocks Big 12 coaches

By VINCE D'ADAMO
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska football team, expected to be the class of the Big 12, shocked the conference Saturday.

By losing 19-0 to Arizona State, the Cornhuskers proved that any team can be beaten any week, Texas A&M Coach R.C. Slocum said. Slocum, whose Aggies lost to Southwest Louisiana earlier this month, said no coach ever doubts that.

"Most coaches that I know live in fear of that happening to their team," Slocum said. "But just because Nebraska lost a football game, that doesn't mean they're going to drop off the map."

Lack of execution, turnovers and penalties contributed mightily to the

"I heard the score and thought it was a misquote."

SPIKE DYKES
Texas Tech football coach

Cornhuskers' loss. Nebraska still has the respect of its Big 12 peers, but Kansas Coach Glen Mason said Nebraska had to lose sometime.

"They had such a great run," said Mason, whose Jayhawks are one of three undefeated Big 12 teams. Kansas State and Baylor are the others. "You don't see them make the type of mistakes they made. But anymore, I'm not shocked by anything."

In losing for the first time in 27

games and 38 regular-season contests, Nebraska's offense mustered only 130 yards rushing and 13 first downs, and the Sun Devils held the ball for more than 36 minutes.

Baylor Coach Chuck Reedy said it's hard not to be surprised by NU's fall from the top.

"I guess anyone would be surprised," Reedy said. "I still know

Please see BIG 12 on 8

BIG 12 CONFERENCE

Conference Overall	
North Division	
Kansas	0 0 0 0
Nebraska	0 0 1 1
Missouri	1 1 1 2
South Division	
Texas Tech	1 1 1 2
Texas A&M	0 0 1 2
Oklahoma St.	0 1 3 1