

Gameday Notebook

Freshman DeAngelo Evans, a native of Wichita, Kan., was not welcomed back to his home state Saturday.

Every time Evans' name was announced over the KSU Stadium public address system, Kansas State fans booed loudly. When Evans turned things on in the second half, the more than 6,000 Nebraska fans in attendance cheered each time his name was announced.

"It was motivation," Evans said. "I ran harder when they booed me." The prep superstar at Collegiate High School, who ran for more than 8,000 yards and 130 touchdowns in four years, chose NU over Notre Dame but was also heavily recruited by KSU and Kansas.

Evans, who rushed for 168 yards, went over the 100-yard mark for the first time in his short Cornhusker career with 10 minutes remaining in the third quarter.

After the game, Jared Tomich, Jason Peter and Grant Wistrom saluted the Nebraska fans and the Cornhusker band in the south end zone.

KSU wide receiver Kevin Lockett, who caught two passes for 10 yards, set a Wildcat school record by catching a pass in his 37th game, breaking a previous record of 36 set by Tommie Johnson.

Sophomore Kris Brown kicked four field goals in a game for the first time. The sophomore from Southlake, Texas, had kicked three field goals in a game four times before his performance Saturday.

The Cornhuskers jumped two spots in each of the two major polls Sunday, ranking fourth in the USA Today/CNN Coaches' Poll and fifth in The Associated Press Top 25. In the coaches' poll, NU ranks ahead of Arizona State. Kansas State fell six spots to No. 22 in The AP poll.

The Nebraska defense kept streaks alive with two interceptions and three sacks. Interceptions by Michael Booker, Ralph Brown and Eric Warfield marked the 11th consecutive game in which Nebraska intercepted a pass. Sacks by Terrell Farley, Jason Wiltz and Jon Hesse marked the 32nd straight game in which NU recorded a sack.

Nebraska's leading tackler was Jamel Williams, who had five tackles. Kansas State's leading tackler was Mario Smith with 14.

The reason for the difference? Nebraska held the ball for 37 minutes, 47 seconds, and Kansas State held the ball for just 22:15.

In other Big 12 action Saturday, Kansas romped Oklahoma 52-24, Texas Tech defeated Baylor 45-24, Texas A&M beat Louisiana Tech 63-14, Texas routed Oklahoma State 71-14 and Missouri beat Southern Methodist 27-26.

Notebook compiled by senior reporter Trevor Parks.

Huskers hammer hapless K-State

Wildcats fail to gain a yard in the first half in Saturday's blowout.

By Trevor Parks
Senior Reporter

MANHATTAN, Kan. — Same old, same old.

Before the Nebraska football team's visit to Manhattan to play Kansas State on Saturday, the Cornhuskers had beaten the Wildcats 27 straight times.

Make that 28. NU looked much like it had in the previous 27 games, hammering KSU 39-3 in front of 43,519 fans — the third largest crowd in KSU Stadium history. The Huskers improved to 3-1, winning the first-ever Big 12 Conference game in school history. The Wildcats fell to 4-1 and 1-1 in the league.

The difference between Saturday and the last 27 victories was that Nebraska was looking to find an identity this year.

Is this team a national championship contender or a group of players that has been given much more credit than it deserved?

The Husker defense answered that question by painfully and powerfully showing that NU belongs among the nation's top five teams.

"This is the kind of thing that was supposed to happen all year. We weren't supposed to get beat like that," Mike linebacker Jon Hesse said, referring to NU's Sept. 21 loss to Arizona State, a game that now seems like a distant memory.

"To come out on the road and do this to a quality team makes us feel pretty good about ourselves."

In the first half, Nebraska's defense was on the field for 27 plays, and it gave up zero total yards. KSU had two first downs, both by NU penalties. Quarterback Brian Kavanagh, who

entered the game second in the Big 12 in passing efficiency, was a dismal 3 of 14 for 16 yards after one half.

Kavanagh finished 5 of 19 for 34 yards and two interceptions. That didn't help a rushing game that totaled 24 attempts for 25 yards.

"We came out of the first half, and they had zero yards," Husker defensive tackle Jason Peter said. "That is real nice to see. Everybody was all in tune, and we just had a hell of a day."

KSU finished with just 86 total yards on 52 plays, its lowest yardage total since picking up 16 yards in a 1992 loss to Colorado. The 86 yards were the fewest given up by Nebraska since a 1984 win over Iowa State.

Except for the one drive that began in Nebraska territory, the Wildcats did not move the ball across the 50-yard line until backup quarterback Jonathan Beasley ran 14 yards to reach the NU 42 with 5 minutes, 42 seconds remaining in the game.

Not once did the Cats cross the Nebraska 31-yard line.

"What we saw, we've seen in the past," KSU Coach Bill Snyder said. "What they did, they did very well. What we did, we did very poorly."

Nebraska's offense mirrored Kansas State's in the first quarter, mustering only 29 yards. But the Huskers did manage two Kris Brown field goals.

The Huskers' 3-34 into the game, came after NU's Octavious McFarlin returned a James Garcia punt to the Kansas State 47-yard line.

After picking up its only first down of the quarter on a 12-yard Ahman Green run, Nebraska was stopped on three plays before Brown split the uprights.

Batkus Award candidate Terrell Farley — in his second game back after a two-game suspension — set up Brown's second field goal when he tackled KSU's backup punter, Chad Romano, at the Wildcat 11-yard line later in the opening quarter.

KSU cut the lead to 6-3 with 12:40 to play in the first half on a 51-yard field goal by Jamie Rheem.

The Wildcats set up their lone scoring drive when Clyde Johnson intercepted a Scott Frost pass at the KSU 32. Johnson returned the ball to the NU 46-yard line and Nebraska was

Nebraska	39
Kansas St.	3

"This is the kind of thing that was supposed to happen all year."

JON HESSE
NU middle linebacker

charged with a 15-yard personal foul when Johnson was hit by Frost after running out of bounds.

In three plays, the Wildcats moved backward two yards before Rheem's kick.

"Obviously, our defense played one of the finest games they've ever played," NU Coach Tom Osborne said. "I'm very proud of everything we did."

Finally, the Nebraska offense showed signs of life. The Huskers moved 30 yards in 17 plays, eating 6:47 off the clock. NU completed its longest drive of the season on a fourth-down-and-1 play from the 8.

Green took a pitch from Frost around the left side untouched for NU's first touchdown of the game. On the drive, Green split time with true freshman DeAngelo Evans, a Wichita, Kan., native who chose Nebraska last fall to the dismay of KSU's Snyder, among other coaches.

Evans, playing second at I-back because of Damon Benning's groin injury, stole the show Saturday, rushing 21 times for 168 yards and two scores.

NU's two-point conversion failed, but the Huskers extended their lead to 12-3 with 4:49 left in the half.

Frost, who finished the afternoon with 35 yards rushing and completed 8 of 16 passes for 79 yards and one touchdown, said the 80-yard drive — during which the Huskers ran for 46

Please see KSU on 11



RYAN SODERLIN/DN

Football Poll Associated Press Poll

Team	Record	Prev.
2. Ohio St. (20)	4-0	3
4. Arizona St.	5-0	5
6. Miami	4-0	8
8. Alabama	5-0	13
10. Penn St.	5-1	4
12. LSU	4-0	14
14. Michigan	4-1	6
16. Washington	3-1	18
18. Auburn	4-1	20
20. Virginia	4-1	12
22. Kansas St.	3-2	16
24. Wyoming	6-0	25

Coaches' Poll

Team	Record	Prev.
2. Ohio St. (20)	4-0	3
4. Nebraska	3-1	6
6. Miami	4-0	8
8. Alabama	5-0	10
10. Colorado	3-1	13
12. Notre Dame	3-1	14
14. North Carolina	4-1	17
16. Washington	3-1	18
18. Northwestern	4-1	
20. Brigham Young	5-1	21
22. California	5-0	
24. Wyoming	6-0	25