

Big 12 Notebook

The Big 12 offensive player of the week was Kansas senior running back Eric Vann, who ran for 137 yards and scored a touchdown in the Jayhawks' 15-7 win over Missouri. Vann now has 289 yards rushing for the season.

The Big 12 defensive player of the week was Jayhawk senior outside linebacker Ron Warner, who forced and recovered a fumble late in the game when the Tigers were driving for the tying score.

The Big 12 special teams player of the week was Kansas State sophomore defensive back Lamar Chapman, who recovered an onside kick and returned a punt 94 yards for a touchdown. The punt return tied a Big 12 Conference record.

Kansas State lost two defense players to knee injuries in its 23-20 victory over Ohio Saturday night. Sophomore defensive tackle Damion McIntosh and sophomore defensive back Turelle Williams both are lost for the season.

"This is as banged up as we have ever been," Kansas State coach Bill Snyder said.

Kansas coach Terry Allen has yet to lose a game in his coaching career after his team has tied at halftime. Allen ran his record to 52-0 after his Jayhawk team held on to beat Missouri. Kansas's win was the school's 500th all-time.

Texas A&M returns to the rankings this week at No. 22 in the USA Today/ESPN Coaches Poll going into this week's contest against Southwestern Louisiana. A&M fell out of the rankings last year after a loss to the same team and never returned the rest of the year.

"Last year we didn't have the kind of season we wanted," A&M coach R.C. Slocum said. "We think we're getting back to being the type of team that we really want to be."

Baylor coach Dave Roberts isn't looking forward to trying to match up against Michigan defensive back Charles Woodson when the Bears take on the Wolverines Saturday. Roberts said Woodson, who was an All-American as a freshman, is nearly impossible to throw against.

"We probably should just put our worst player out at flanker and not throw over there all day," he said. "He can run and he's got about a 60-inch vertical jump. He's like Deion Sanders over there."

This Week's Big 12

Schedule

SW Louisiana at Texas A&M
Baylor at Michigan
Nebraska at Washington
Iowa at Iowa State
Missouri at Tulsa
Oklahoma at California
Kansas at Cincinnati
North Texas at Texas Tech

Notebook compiled by Daily Nebraskan staff reporter Sam McKewon.



MATT MILLER/DN

NEBRASKA SENIOR OUTSIDE HITTER Lisa Reitsma leads the Cornhuskers in most offensive categories but the All-American doesn't lead the team in postgame celebrations.

Reitsma quietly leads NU

The All-American senior shines brightest against the best competition.

BY SHANNON HEFFELFINGER
Assignment Reporter

Lisa Reitsma's constantly growing list of achievements and honors indicate she is one of the best players ever to compete for the Nebraska vol-

leyball team.

Any coach, teammate or opposing player will testify to the right-side hitter's dominance across the collegiate scene during the past year.

But don't expect to hear it from her.

The two-time first-team All-American doesn't bring attention to herself. Sometimes, at most, she may allow a smile to cross her face following a kill, and a victory often warrants a pump of her fist.

Just don't anticipate a celebration every time the 6-foot-4 senior adds an item to her expanding list of accomplishments.

"I'm a quiet person and I'm not very vocal at all," Reitsma said. "It's something that I'm still working on. I think it's just growing up and becoming more comfortable with the role. And now that I am a senior, I feel like more of a leader."

"My teammates know I can play. So hopefully they'll realize that I

know what I'm talking about and they'll listen to me."

Reitsma's dominance often appears during Nebraska's crucial matches. In Nebraska's three matches against ranked teams this season, Reitsma led the Huskers in kills, and during NU's five-game victory over No. 7 Pacific, Reitsma topped players on both teams in kills and attacks while also leading the Huskers in digs

Please see REITSMA on 8

Damage control begins for Big 12

BY SAM MCKEWIN
Staff Reporter

That crashing noise that every Big 12 fan heard over the weekend was the sound of two Big 12 powerhouses, Colorado and Texas, crumbling to the ground with losses that left many in the nation wondering whether or not the conference will have a team in the national title picture at the end of the season.

The Buffaloes' 27-3 setback to Michigan and the Longhorns' 66-3 drubbing at the hands of UCLA leaves only sixth-rated Nebraska as a Top 10 team from the Big 12 conference. That could be in jeopardy on Saturday when the Huskers play No. 3 Washington in Seattle.

The losses themselves weren't as shocking as the fashion in which they occurred.

Colorado quarterback John Hessler threw four interceptions, and the Buffaloes had less than 100 yards rushing the football. Texas was never in its game against UCLA, trailing 38-0 at halftime and surrendering 28 points in the final 30 minutes for the 66-3 margin.

Colorado coach Rick Neuheisel said that the Buffaloes are not among the nation's elite teams at this point.

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"We have to look ourselves in the mirror and realize we are not a good football team," he said. "We may be at some time down the road, but right now, we're not getting the job done."

Texas coach John Mackovic said his team did little right on Saturday.

"We missed a lot of assignments, and not one person played well at all," he said. "There wasn't a whole lot that we did do right."

Almost as disturbing was Nebraska's 38-24 victory over Central Florida, a margin much narrower than expected. Kansas State also struggled with Ohio, needing special teams heroics including a 94-yard punt return for a touchdown to pull out a 23-20 victory over the Bobcats.

Texas A&M coach R.C. Slocum said college football has become a game of parity where every team can beat every team.

Last year, the Aggies went 6-6 but lost to Southwestern Louisiana 29-22. Slocum said the Colorado and Texas losses are not uncommon

Please see BIG 12 on 8

Fans' opinions don't affect Frost's status

BY ANTONE OSEKA
Senior Reporter

Fans can cheer or boo, but either way, Scott Frost is the starting quarterback for Nebraska.

After Saturday's 38-24 victory over Central Florida, Nebraska coaches and players were adamant that Frost is the best man for the job, despite the booing he received when he returned to the field in the second quarter.

At that point, NU was losing 17-14 to the Golden Knights as UCF had just scored on its previous possession to take the lead back from the Huskers.

On Nebraska's previous possession, No. 2 sophomore quarterback Frankie London had directed the Huskers on an eight-play, 65-yard drive that London finished with an eight-yard touchdown run, giving NU a 14-10 lead.

As Frost trotted back on to the field, he was greeted by a chorus of boos from Husker fans.

"The thing I want to get clear to everyone who was in that stadium, what we are trying to do is make ourselves a better football team," Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said

after the game. "We are not demoting Scott Frost; we are putting in Frankie London because we wanted him to play when the game was tight."

Osborne had told members of the media last Friday that Frankie London would play in the first half of the UCF game.

"We play option football," Osborne said, "and we feel it is very important that Frankie at least feels fairly confident, if he has to shoulder the whole load, that he can do it."

Husker players have confidence in either quarterback being able to lead the offense when called upon. Starting I-back Ahman Green and tight end Sheldon Jackson said they feel comfortable with either man running the helm.

"I'm not really worried about it," Green said. "Whoever's in there can get the job done."

Jackson said he's more worried about improving the entire offense.

The NU coaches were surprised that Husker fans wouldn't support the coaches' decision. Osborne said he didn't think (booing) has a place in that stadium.

Frost said he didn't pay any attention to the fans.

"I kind of drain all that out," he said.