Gameday Notebook

Nebraska maintained its hold on the No. 1 ranking in both The Associated Press poll and the ESPN/USA Today poll with Saturday's 35-0 win over Kansas. The Cornhuskers (7-0 overall) earned 35 first place votes in the AP poll to Penn State's 25. The Nittany Lions (6-0) did not play last weekend.

Florida State (7-0) remained No. 3 in the AP poll and Michigan (7-0) jumped North Carolina (7-0) into the fourth position, while the Tarheels fell to fifth. The rest of the AP top 10 stayed the

NU junior I-back Ahman Green recorded 123 yards on 25 carries Saturday, marking his the sixth consecutive game he has rushed for more than 100 yards. For the season, Green has totaled 993 yards and scored 13 touchdowns on the ground.

With his effort against Kansas, Green has run for 2,996 yards in his career, which ranks fourth on Nebraska's alltime rushing chart behind Mike Rozier (4,780 yards, 1981-83), Calvin Jones (3,153 yards, 1991-93), and Ken Clark (3,037 yards, 1987489).

A 35-0 victory over Kansas Saturday put Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne within one win of his 250th career victory. The Cornhuskers will play host to Oklahoma this Saturday at 2:30 p.m. The game will be televised on ABC.

Nebraska won its 44th straight game in the month of October as Osborne improved his career record to 249-49-3. For the 10th time in Osborne's 25-year career, the Huskers have started the season 7-0.

Nebraska senior rush end Grant Wistrom recorded two sacks and four tackles against Kansas and moved within one tackle of the Huskers' top-25 all-time tackle list. Wistrom has already broke NU's career record for tackles for loss.

With three sacks this season, Wistrom ranks fifth among NU's all-time sack leaders with 22. A returning All-American and 1997 Lombardi Award Semifinalist, Wistrom trails leader Trev Alberts, who recorded 29.5 sacks from 1990 through 1993.

Before Saturday, the Jayhawks had not been shut out in 52 games. The last time Kansas failed to score in a game was in a 42-0 loss against Florida State on Aug. 28, 1993, in East Rutherford, N.J.

The Jayhawks have not been shutout at home since losing 70-0 to Nebraska on Nov. 15, 1986.

Notebook compiled by senior reporter David Wilson.

NU records second shutout

Defensiveplay saves Huskers

By David Wilson Senior Reporter

LAWRENCE, Kan. - The Nebraska offense sputtered, rain made a cold night colder and the lights at Kansas' Memorial Stadium went out. But that didn't stop the Cornhusker defense from shining.

For the first time since 1979, the NU defense recorded its second consecutive shutout Saturday night as the Cornhuskers downed the Jayhawks 35-0 before 42,000 rainand wind-soaked fans at Memorial Stadium in Lawrence. Nebraska improved to 7-0 overall and 4-0 in the Big 12 Conference, while Kansas fell to 4-4 and 2-3.

Forty-degree temperatures matched by 25-mph winds blew light rain and did not provide pleasurable conditions for either team's offense.

The Husker defense held the Jayhawks to 48 yards on 48 plays, both a season low.

"They really showed their superiority on the defensive end of the ball," Kansas Coach Terry Allen

The Jayhawks were held to a negative 19 yards of total offense and no first downs in the first half while finishing the game with 21 yards rushing and 27 yards passing. NU sacked Kansas quarterback Zac Wegner four times and did not allow him a positive run. Nebraska senior rush end Grant Wistrom recorded two sacks and defensive tackles Jason Peter and Steve Warren each added

"Everything they were coming out with, we were just shoving it back down their throat," Peter said.

The Huskers, on the other hand, produced 415 yards of total offense including 382 yards on the ground - but only recorded 129 yards in the second and third quarters.

Ahman Green scampered seven times for 50 yards on NU's first drive, and finished the game with 25 carries for 123 yards and one touchdown. Though the offense was slowed in the middle of the game,



LANE HICKENBOTTOM/DN NEBRASKA SENIOR QUARTERBACK SCOTT FROST runs for a chunk of his 121 yards rushing. Frost averaged 5.8 yards on 21 carries.

Big 12

Green said, Nebraska's defense played solid all night.

'Offense wins games and defense wins championships," Green said. "That's what they did today. They played a great game out there."

Up until a light failure with 9:36 remaining in the second quarter, the Huskers had racked up 247 yards of total offense and led 21-0.

But a power outage caused by a blown fuse killed the power in two light towers on opposite ends of Memorial Stadium. The outage delayed the game for seven minutes as the officials and both head coaches debated on whether to continue the game or wait until power was

With the agreement of both coaches, the game continued, but NU's offensive momentum remained off. Nebraska did not earn a first down for five series following the he didn't want his players standing in



LANE HICKENBOTTOM/DN

HUSKER FANS at Kansas' Memorial Stadium covered themselves with plastic to keep dry during the Nebraska shutout over the Jayhawks. Attendance at Saturday night's game was estimated at 42,000, while more than half were NU fans.

delay.

Two plays after play resumed on the field with only half the lights, NU freshman Joe Walker fumbled a punt. Allen offered to delay the game until the lights came back, but Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne said

the cold any longer than they had to.

"We fumbled the punt because we fumbled the punt," Osborne said. "But I told him we'd do what he wanted to do."

The game continued without fur-

Please see HUSKERS on 11

Reitsma leads conquest of Baylor

By Sam McKewon Staff Reporter

There was little in the way of surprises in the Nebraska volleyball team's return home against Baylor.



Senior outside hitter Lisa Reitsma pounded 22 kills as the 11th-ranked Huskers moved to 15-5, 5-3 in the Big 12 as they swept past the Bears (13-9, 3-5)

15-11, 15-8, 15-1 in front of 4,152 at the NU Coliseum. It was Nebraska's first home game in the arena in 20 days.

Nebraska Coach Terry Pettit said the fans were a welcome sight inside



the confines of the NU Coliseum.

"It was good to see the fans tonight," he said. "You never know if they're going to be disappointed that we've lost a couple matches, but they're very loyal fans."

Baylor Coach Brian Hosfield said he knew the crowd would have an effect on the young Baylor team that started two freshmen and a sopho-

"That was the biggest crowd that we played in front of all year," he said. "We have a young team and this type of crowd can be pretty intimidating. We had to take an early timeout to get our bearings."

After that timeout, BU put up a decent fight against the Huskers in the

first game. NU raced out to a 14-7 lead, but several service errors pre- playing in the middle against BU. vented Nebraska from closing out until the Bears closed the gap to 14-

Pettit said the service errors were a weak link for NU on Friday.

"That part wasn't smooth," he said. "But usually those types of errors come because you're trying too hard, not because of focus."

From that point on, Reitsma took over. With a .269 hitting average for the season, Reitsma hammered the Bears with .475 average on 40 attacks Friday to go along with a team-high seven blocks.

More important to the team, Pettit said, was Reitsma's ability to play more in the middle instead of on the outside, opening up attack chances for freshmen Katie Jahnke and Nancy Meendering.

Reitsma said she felt comfortable

"I've felt a lot better in the middle," she said. "Everybody on the team is getting a lot more comfortable with it. We've had a great two weeks of practice, so it's been a lot of fun."

Hosfield said that Reistma and the rest of the Nebraska's middle block shut down Baylor's offense completely in the second and third games.

"She scored every time she hit it, it seemed," he said. "She was a big factor in the middle block, too. There was some bad things for us in the middle

Overall, Pettit saw the match as an indicator that NU was getting closer to being a very good team.

"We're not playing perfect volleyball right now," he said, "but we've got the right players on the court and soon, I think, we're going to be real good."