

## Big 12 Notebook

The Big 12 offensive player of the week was Missouri junior quarterback Corby Jones, who was 13-25 passing for 231 yards with two touchdowns. He also had 85 yards rushing and two touchdowns in the Tigers' 51-50 upset over the No. 12 Oklahoma State in overtime. Jones scored the winning touchdown on a 15-yard run in the second overtime.

The Big 12 defensive player of the week was senior nose tackle Greg Schoon of Iowa State. Schoon had 13 tackles, including three sacks in the Cyclones' 24-17 victory over Baylor. It was ISU's first win of the year.

The Big 12 special teams player of the week was senior place-kicker Tony Rogers of Texas Tech. Rogers hadn't kicked a field goal all season until he made three against Texas A&M, including a 49-yarder that gave Tech a 16-13 victory.

The most controversial call of the week came at OSU as Cowboys Coach Bob Simmons decided to go for the two-point conversion and the win against Missouri in the second overtime. Simmons did not have to go for two until the third overtime, but tried and failed in running the swinging gate play for the win as freshman QB Tony Lindsay was stopped after a one-yard gain.

"We had the option we wanted open, but we didn't see it," Simmons said. "That's a coaching mistake, not the players."

With the 35-0 win over Kansas, Nebraska moved to 7-0 and secured its 36th straight winning season, the best current streak and third best all-time.

Kansas State has been nearly perfect inside the opponent's 20-yard line, as it has scored on 31 of 33 attempts inside the red zone this season (23 touchdowns, eight field goals). KSU Coach Bill Snyder said offensive improvement is behind the success.

"We've got a lot more confidence in the running game," Snyder said. "We're not so one-dimensional inside the 20."

Iowa State sophomore running back Darren Davis signaled his return from an early-season injury with the sixth-best rushing day in ISU history. Davis, the younger brother of former ISU running back and Heisman Candidate Troy Davis, finished the day with 247 yards rushing against Baylor. ISU Coach Dan McCarney said Davis has been a big addition to the Cyclones.

"He's still not 100 percent out there," McCarney said, "and he still got almost 250 yards in the game. That shows you how good he is."

Colorado Coach Rick Neuheisel had praise for NU Coach Tom Osborne as he goes after his 250th win against Oklahoma this weekend.

"Is that all he has?" Neuheisel said. "It seems like he has 550. I'm going for my 25th win this weekend, so I have achieved exactly one-tenth what he has. To do what he and Nebraska has done is not only one of the great dynasties in college football, but in all of sports."

Big 12 Notebook compiled by staff reporter Sam McKewon.

# Wistrom warms to cold weather

By DAVID WILSON  
Senior Reporter

LAWRENCE, Kan. — Grant Wistrom thrives on playing in bad weather.

Bad weather along with the worst offense in the Big 12 Conference was what Nebraska faced Saturday against Kansas.

"I love games like this," Wistrom said. "Unless it's raining or it's muddy out or something, it's just not football to me. I'm really happy when we can come out and play in these bad weather games. I kind of get off on it a little bit."

Wistrom recorded a season-high two sacks as the top-ranked Cornhuskers defeated the Jayhawks 35-0. The senior rush end recorded a total of four tackles, which moved him within one tackle of NU's top-25 all-time tackle chart.

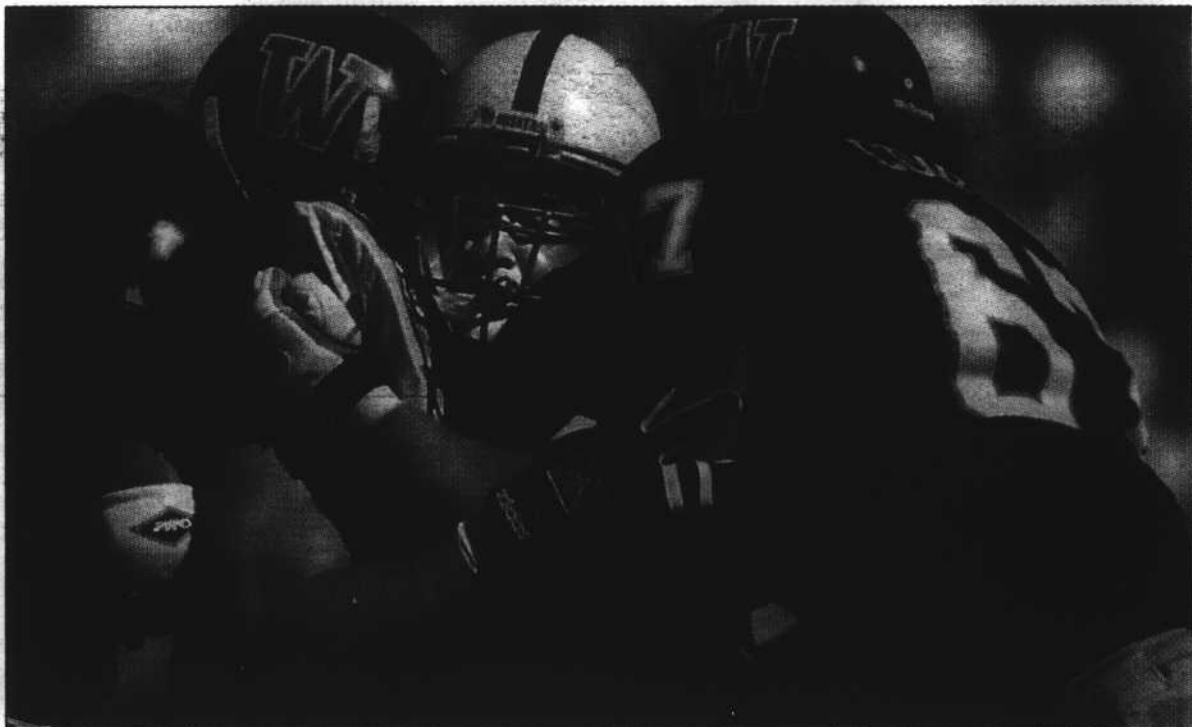
A returning All-American and a 1997 Lombardi Award semifinalist, Wistrom had recorded only one sack prior to Saturday's game.

"It's about time," Wistrom said. "Those things are few and far between, especially this year. Hopefully we got a little something started and I'll be able to carry it on."

With three sacks this season, Wistrom ranks fifth on Nebraska's all-time sack chart — 8½ behind leader Trev Alberts' 29.5 (1990, 93).

Though Wistrom's numbers may not indicate his performance this season, NU Rush Ends Coach Nelson Barnes said Wistrom's presence has been a factor each game.

"I've been pleased with Grant every week," Barnes said. "It's more important how he plays rather than



**EVEN THOUGH GRANT WISTROM'S statistics may not be as high as they were last year, he is still dominating offenses by drawing double teams and pressuring the quarterbacks.**

just numbers that he puts up. Numbers are not the most important thing to our defense."

But the NU defense did put up big numbers against Kansas.

The Blackshirts held Kansas to 48 yards on 48 plays — the lowest amount of total offense allowed by NU this season. The output was also the lowest the Jayhawk offense has produced in a game all season.

"They seemed out of sync right from the start," Wistrom said. "They really didn't try to get any type of rhythm started at all. I don't think

they got much started at all. They didn't know if they wanted to run it or pass it. All in all, they really didn't try to establish anything consistent."

Kansas only recorded four first downs against the Huskers and never crossed their own 45-yard line. But the weather, Wistrom said, may have affected the Jayhawks' game plan.

Forty-nine-degree temperatures and light rain blown by 25 mph winds produced a less-than-perfect day for passing.

"The offensive line and the defensive line came into play more

than usual," NU senior quarterback Scott Frost said.

Nebraska passed just 10 times, while Kansas threw the ball 17 times. But the lack of offensive output didn't take away from a job well done by the Husker defense.

"The weather wasn't really helpful for an offensive game today, but all-in-all, I feel we played pretty good defense," Wistrom said.

Osborne agreed.

"KU has not been noted for moving the ball real well," Osborne said. "But they're not terrible."

## 3 teams race for South Division title

By SAM MCKEWON  
Staff Reporter

Big 12



There may not be any top ten teams in the Big 12 South Division, but it does have a flair for the dramatic.

For the second straight year, the South Division is up for grabs between several teams. Three — No. 19 Oklahoma State (6-1 overall and 3-1 in the Big 12 Conference), unranked Texas Tech (5-3, 3-1) and Texas A&M (5-2, 2-2) — are currently leading the pack for the confer-

ence crown.

"It looks like it's going to be a pretty darn good race," Aggies Coach R.C. Slocum said. "It will probably come right down to the end."

Barring two upsets in its last four games, Nebraska (7-0, 4-0) will be the Big 12's North Division representative for the Big 12 Championship Game Dec. 6 in San Antonio. NU can lose one game and would still have the tie-breaker over Kansas State,

because of the Huskers' 56-26 win over the Wildcats.

But in the South, little can be determined yet. OSU looked in total control of the conference until its 51-50 double overtime loss to Missouri on Saturday. The Red Raiders, who lost to the Huskers 29-0 on Oct. 18, jumped back into a tie for the conference lead with a 16-13 upset win over Texas A&M on Saturday.

One team that has been all but eliminated from winning the South is preseason favorite Texas. The Longhorns fell to 1-3 in the Big 12 and 3-4 overall with a 47-30 loss to

Colorado on Saturday.

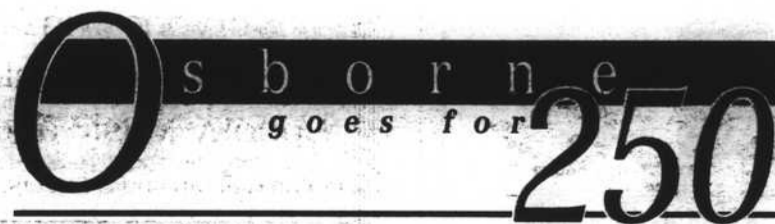
Texas Coach John Mackovic said he is disappointed his team could not do better in the conference race.

"It was certainly one of our goals to get to be the champ again," he said. "We could have really got ourselves back in it with a win over Colorado, but we didn't get it."

That basically leaves three teams, each of which will have to accomplish different things to win the Big 12 South Division.

Oklahoma State is still in control

Please see SOUTH on 8



## Osborne's first game was revenge

Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne goes for his 250th win this Saturday against Oklahoma. This week the Daily Nebraskan highlights Osborne's top five victories.

Tom Osborne's first game as Nebraska's coach was a revenge game for the Cornhuskers.

UCLA had halted Nebraska's 32-game win streak with a 20-17 victory over top-ranked NU in the opening game of the 1972 season, which prevented Nebraska from competing for a third straight national championship.

So the Huskers' 40-13 victory in Osborne's first game with 74,966 fans at Memorial Stadium and a national ABC television audience was revenge for NU and a preview of what fans would expect for Osborne's next 25 years.

Nebraska rushed for 305 yards and threw for 105 yards.

But more important was the NU defense, which held UCLA's wishbone attack to 239 yards rushing and 259 yards overall.

UCLA would also provide Osborne with his 100th victory when NU defeated the Bruins 42-10 on Sept. 24, 1983.



## OU, NU's relationship tenuous

After Saturday's game against Oklahoma the NU/OU rivalry will take a two year hiatus. This week the Daily Nebraskan looks back at the top five games that have made this an intriguing contest.

Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne had to wait five years before he got his first victory against Oklahoma as a head coach, but when Nebraska finally beat OU 17-14 in 1978, it was the biggest win of Osborne's tenure.

Eventual Heisman Trophy winner Billy Sims and the top-ranked 9-0 Sooners strode into Lincoln expecting their sixth straight win over the Huskers, but were stopped by six fumbles, including one at the end of the game that cost the Sooners the win.

bles, including one at the end of the game that cost the Sooners the win.

NU went ahead 17-14 on a 24-yard Billy Todd field goal early in the fourth quarter and then watched Oklahoma march down the field before Sims, who had rushed for 153 yards and two touchdowns, fumbled the ball at the NU 3-yard line as he was going into the end zone, preserving the Husker victory.

With the win, the Huskers earned their first trip to the Orange Bowl since 1973.

However, after the OU win, NU lost the very next week to Missouri, and was forced to play the Sooners again in the bowl game, where the Sooners won the rematch 31-24.