



NU'S JENNY BENSON celebrates after her goal iced the game against 10<sup>th</sup>-ranked Minnesota Sunday at the Abbott Sports Complex. In a game dominated by wind and cold, the Huskers rallied from a 1-0 halftime deficit to win 3-1.

MATT MILLER/DN

## Wind at its back, NU blasts Gophers

BY DARREN IVY  
Staff Reporter

Soccer  
Nebraska 3  
Minnesota 1



It was a tale of two halves Sunday afternoon at the Abbott Sports Complex.

In the first half, the No. 10 Minnesota soccer team had a 35 mph wind at its back and took a 1-0 lead. In the second half, No. 7 Nebraska got its turn with wind and scored three goals to claim a 3-1 win, its 12<sup>th</sup> straight, before 502.

"I don't think I have ever had a game where I was satisfied just being down 1-0 at halftime," said Nebraska Coach John Walker, whose club ended the regular season with a 16-2 record.

UM won the toss and took the wind because its coach, Sue Montagne, said there was a chance the wind could change or die down. But that wasn't the case Sunday. The wind blew so hard out of the north at times that the corner flags flew parallel to the cold ground.

Despite having the wind, UM only managed three shots on goal in the first half. Nicole Lee made one of those count when she beat NU goalie Rebecca Hornbacher at the 35:24 mark.

Hornbacher said the wind affected her judgment in the first half.

"I didn't know when I could come out and when I couldn't," Hornbacher said.

The Gophers nearly scored a second goal in the first half off a corner kick, but NU defender Sharolta Nonen got her body in front of the ball, and Hornbacher was able to punch it away.

Hornbacher said Nonen's play was big because it meant UM was only ahead 1-0 at halftime. Hornbacher said she knew her teammates would score goals in the second half.

NU outshot the Gophers 19-12 for the game, but most of the Husker shots came in the second half.

Walker said he eliminated the sweeper position, bringing Stephanie Vacek past the midfield area in the second half to provide more attackers.

The move paid off as sophomore striker Lindsay Eddleman scored the game-tying goal at the 55:30 mark after Becky Hogan's shot had caromed off the goalpost.

Seventeen minutes later, Kim Engesser scored her third game-winning goal of the year off a Nonen assist.

Jenny Benson put the final nails in the coffin with a breakaway goal at 84:04. She said her goal put an end to any UM comeback ideas.

"I think each goal sunk their hopes a little more," Benson said.

Before the game, NU's five seniors, Hornbacher, Kari Uppinghouse, Tanya Franck, Vacek and Lynne Officer were honored. NU will almost certainly play host to at least one more home game in the NCAA Tournament.

Benson said it was emotional because some of the seniors had been with the program from its beginning four years ago.

Although the pre-game ceremony was emotional, Hornbacher said, the team knew it couldn't let it get the best of them.

"We tried to channel the energy to accomplish what we needed to," she said.

On Friday, Nebraska plays either Iowa State or Baylor in the semifinals of the Big 12 Conference Tournament in San Antonio, Texas.

## Huskers bounce back to hammer Oklahoma

Reitsma leads way with 30 kills

BY ANDREW STRNAD  
Staff Reporter

Volleyball Score  
Nebraska 16 15 15  
Oklahoma 14 9 13



The roller coaster ride continues for the Nebraska volleyball team.

The 11<sup>th</sup>-ranked Huskers (16-6 overall and 7-4 in the Big 12 Conference), who lost in three games Wednesday to Colorado, bounced back Saturday night to defeat the Sooners 16-14, 15-9, 15-13 before 4,309 fans at the NU Coliseum.

Nebraska avenged a three-game defeat to OU on Oct. 10, thanks to the performance of All-America outside hitter Lisa Reitsma.

Reitsma hammered a Nebraska three-game record 30 kills, including her 30<sup>th</sup> on match point in the third game, which electrified the crowd.

The senior from Sanborn, Iowa, also recorded her highest hitting percentage of the year, a sizzling .529.

"I thought I was playing well, but I didn't think about 30 kills," Reitsma said.

Reitsma started the match with 12 kills in the first game, when NU had to battle back after trailing 11-8.

Sparking the Huskers comeback in the first game was sophomore middle blocker Tonia Tauke.

Tauke entered the match early in the first game and neutralized one of the Sooners' biggest threats in Patrice Arrington. Oklahoma fell to 13-10 and

7-5.

"Coach told me to go out there and make a statement," Tauke said. "Arrington likes to hit middle, and I camped on her, and I don't think she hit middle very much after that."

In the second game, NU never trailed and after being deadlocked at 8-8, the Huskers rolled to a 15-9 victory.

Sooner Coach Miles Pabst was impressed with the Huskers' play and disappointed in OU's inability to slow Reitsma.

"I really wanted to win that first one, because there might be some self doubt in (Nebraska), but we didn't do a good job blocking to start with," Pabst said.

Reitsma said the Huskers, losers of four of their last seven, never did have any self-doubt during the match. The key to the win was the level of enthusiasm on the court, she said.

"We weren't thinking about anything except winning," Reitsma said. "We were more confident. We had a lot more energy out there, and the crowd actually had a lot to do with that."

Junior Jaime Krondak missed her second straight match with a back injury and will receive a second epidermal shot this week.

## Husker cross country squads please Dirksen at Big 12 meet

■ Cleophas Boor finishes second to pace the Nebraska men.

BY SARAH DOSE  
Staff Reporter

Cross Country Big 12 Championships  
Nebraska women second  
Nebraska men fourth



Other Husker runners included Jaime Pauli (17<sup>th</sup>), Nora Shepherd (18<sup>th</sup>), Kate Centerwall (23<sup>rd</sup>), Melinda Mohr (32<sup>nd</sup>), Deb Osteen (41<sup>st</sup>) and Liz Biehl (66<sup>th</sup>).

"The women, as a team, have a good chance to make it to the NCAA championships, but it's not a gimme," Dirksen said. "At districts, we're going to have to run offensively to win, and they should make it based on what they've been doing lately. But nothing's for certain."

Colorado also won the men's title with a meet-low 32 points. Nebraska finished fourth with 99, just 13 points behind second-place Iowa State and eight points behind third-place Oklahoma State.

"The men really had a fabulous performance. We were hoping the guys would run well because they have been all year," Dirksen said. "We just put everything together at the right time."

Senior All-American Cleophas Boor paced the Huskers with a time of 24:16 for second place behind Colorado's Adam Goucher at 23:25. Freshman Jeroen Broekzitter finished sixth in 24:43.

Rounding out the Huskers' scoring were Aaron Johnson (22<sup>nd</sup>), Marcus Witter (33<sup>rd</sup>) and Lou Petricca (40<sup>th</sup>).

"Boor just had a fabulous race," Dirksen said. "Broekzitter might have gone out too hard at first, but to get sixth as a freshman is incredible. Since we're going into the district meet in a couple of weeks, this is what we like to see."

The Huskers will return to action on Nov. 15 in Ames, Iowa, for the NCAA District 5 Championships. Dirksen said he hopes for both Boor and Broekzitter to make NCAA Championships as individuals if the team doesn't compete.

"We have to avoid injury and sickness and we'll compete well at districts," Dirksen said. "But you never know what might happen. You can't discount anything if you have a good day."