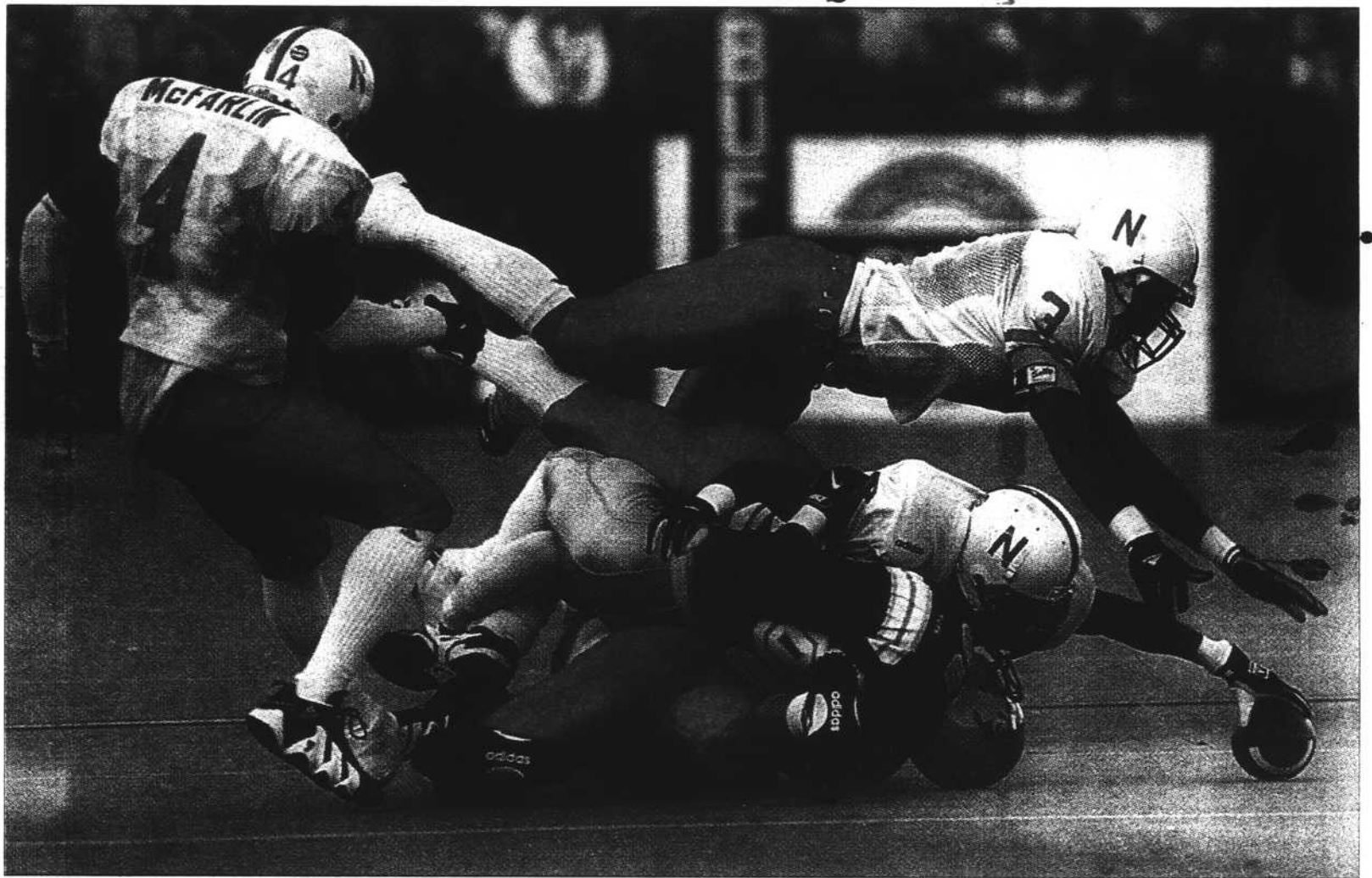
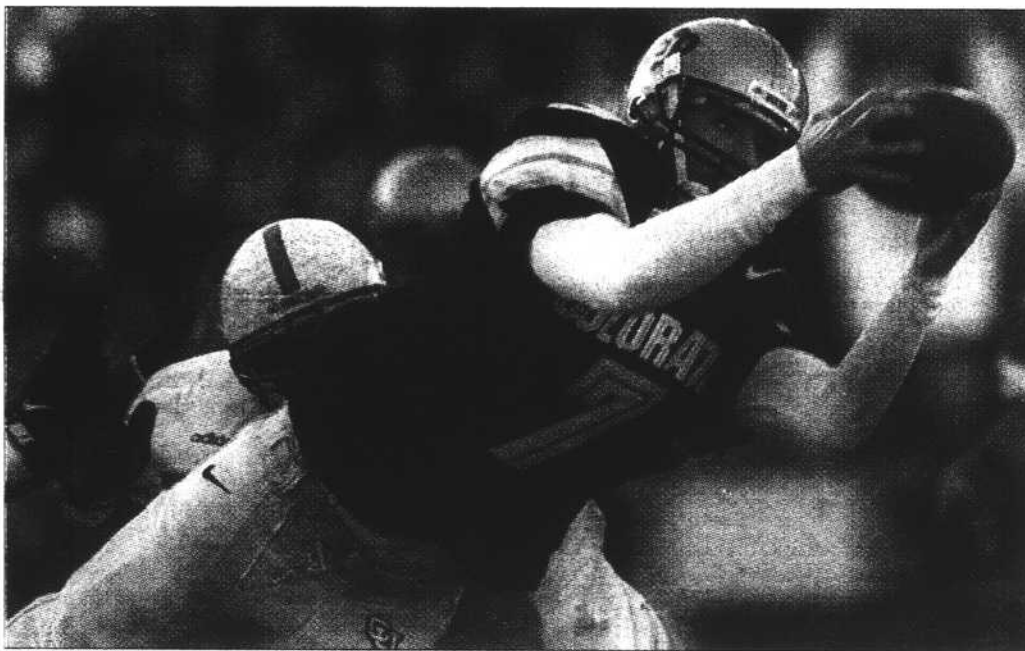


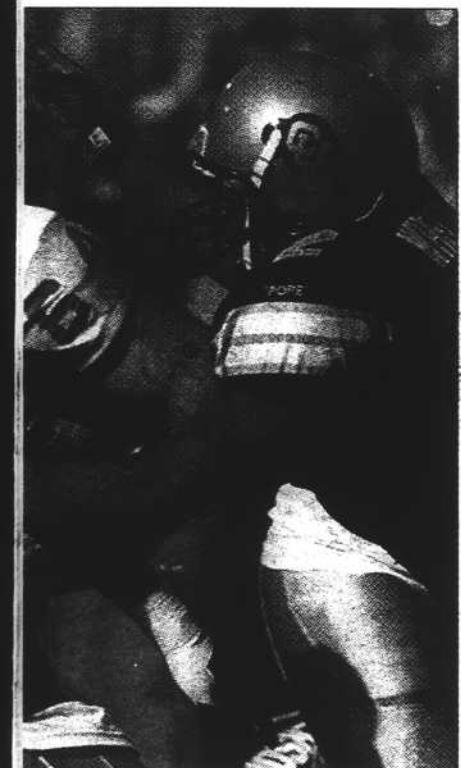
# Nebraska vs. Colorado



SANDY SUMMERS/DN  
**ABOVE: COLORADO WIDE RECEIVER Phil Savoy** appears to fumble the ball as Husker Ralph Brown (bottom) and Eric Warfield try to recover. Savoy was ruled down on the play.



SANDY SUMMERS/DN  
**LEFT: COLORADO QUARTERBACK JOHN HESSLER** stretches for yardage during a broken play against the NU defense.



## Near upset ends sour season

BY DAVID WILSON  
 Senior Reporter

BOULDER, Colo. — With a season-ending loss to Nebraska, Colorado finished with a losing record for the first time since 1984 and will not qualify for a bowl game for the first time in 10 years.

But not all was lost for the Buffaloes (5-6 overall and 3-5 in the Big 12 Conference), who rekindled their rivalry with the Cornhuskers, losing just 27-24.

The 21 seniors who were playing their last game for Colorado left Folsom Field on a positive note.

"It took a game like Nebraska to get the meanness and the attitudes out," CU senior receiver Chris Anderson said. "We should have done that eight games ago."

"I feel like the younger guys are going to step it up. They were able to witness a season of ups and downs."

Though Colorado Coach Rick Neuheisel said he was satisfied with his team's performance Friday, the game was similar to the Buffaloes' entire season.

"Basically, it was who we've been all year," Neuheisel said. "Part of the time we executed terrifically and part of the time we didn't. And that's the reason we find ourselves finishing

### Scoring Summary

Team	Qtr	Scoring play	Conversion	Score	CU
NU	1	* K. Brown 25 yd FG		3	0
NU	2	S. Frost 19 yd run	K. Brown kick	10	0
CU	2	J. Aldrich 30 yd FG		10	3
NU	3	A. Green 16 yd run	K. Brown kick	17	3
CU	3	J. Hessler, 35 yd pass to D. Cherrington	J. Aldrich kick	17	10
NU	3	A. Green 11 yd run	K. Brown kick	24	10
NU	3	* K. Brown 46 FG		27	10
CU	4	J. Hessler, 32 yd pass to M. Stiggers	J. Aldrich kick	17	27
CU	4	J. Hessler, 18 yd pass to R. Toler	J. Aldrich kick	24	27

with a 5-6 year."

A lack of talent had nothing to do with the Buffaloes sub-par season, senior quarterback John Hessler said.

"This is a damn good football team," Hessler said. "We just didn't live up to expectations."

Despite the loss, Hessler said, he was satisfied with his final game at Colorado. One offensive pass interference call with under a minute remaining, he said, was the difference in the game.

The Buffaloes pulled together in the fourth quarter and backed by a recovered onside kick, CU rallied from a 27-10 deficit to score twice in the final four minutes of the game. Colorado's second onside kick failed, but the Buffalo defense stopped Nebraska in three plays and forced

the Huskers to punt with one minute remaining in the game.

Beginning from its own 20-yard line, Colorado began a drive that had the potential to save its season.

Hessler completed a pass to senior receiver Phil Savoy for 16 yards before throwing two incomplete passes. Facing a third-and-10 situation at the CU 36, Hessler hit Savoy at midfield, but Savoy was called for offensive pass interference.

Though Neuheisel said it probably was interference, most CU players disagreed with the call, including Savoy.

"That's just the way I play," Savoy said. "I like to play aggressive and use

Please see **BUFFS** on 10

### Top 25 AP Top 25

Rank	School	Record	Pvs
1	Michigan (69)	11-0	1
2	Nebraska (1)	11-0	2
3	Tennessee	10-1	3
4	Florida St.	10-1	5
5	UCLA	9-2	6
6	Florida	9-2	7
7	North Carolina	10-1	8
8	Washington St.	10-1	10
9	Ohio St.	10-2	9
10	Kansas St.	10-1	11
11	Auburn	9-2	13
12	Penn St.	9-2	4
13	Georgia	9-2	14
14	Texas A&M	9-2	15
15	Syracuse	9-3	16
16	LSU	8-3	17
17	Arizona St.	8-3	12
18	Purdue	8-3	18
19	Missouri	7-4	19
20	Colorado St.	9-2	20
21	Washington	7-4	21
22	Southern Miss.	8-3	23
23	Air Force	10-2	25
24	Oklahoma St.	8-3	25
25	Michigan St.	7-4	-

### USA TODAY/Coaches Top 25

1	Michigan (58)	11-0	1
2	Nebraska (4)	11-0	2
3	Tennessee	10-1	3
4	Florida St.	10-1	5
5	North Carolina	10-1	8
6	UCLA	9-2	7
7	Washington St.	10-1	10
8	Florida	9-2	8
9	Kansas St.	10-1	9
10	Ohio St.	10-2	11
11	Auburn	9-2	13
12	Penn St.	9-2	4
13	Georgia	9-2	14
14	Texas A&M	9-2	15
15	Syracuse	9-3	16
16	LSU	8-3	17
17	Purdue	8-3	18
18	Colorado St.	9-2	19
19	Arizona St.	8-3	12
20	Missouri	7-4	20
21	Air Force	10-2	23
22	Washington	7-4	22
23	Southern Miss.	8-3	24
24	Oklahoma St.	8-3	25
25	New Mexico	9-2	-

SANDY SUMMERS/DN  
**and Damen Wheeler. Green finished the game**

RYAN SODERLIN/DN  
**strong safety Ryan Black as NU tight end**  
**ost finished the game with 76 yards rush-**  
**in and throw for 1,000 yards in a season.**