

## Big 12 Notebook

With Colorado's 27-25 victory at Oklahoma on Saturday, CU became the first visiting team to win five straight games at OU's Memorial Stadium.

Texas' Ricky Williams became the NCAA Division I career touchdown leader with 67 after his five-touchdown performance against Iowa State. Indiana's Anthony Thompson was the NCAA career leader with 65.

After Kansas' 24-21 loss to Texas A&M, the Jayhawks fell to 0-3 in conference for the first time since 1989.

Missouri quarterback Corby Jones scored two rushing touchdowns to set two Tiger records with 34 career rushing touchdowns and 54 touchdowns produced (34 rushing, 20 passing). Jones is questionable for Saturday's game against Iowa State because he has a sprained left toe.

Four games into the season, Oklahoma has used four quarterbacks this year. Out of the four quarterbacks, none has played an entire game or played in every game.

Iowa State quarterback Todd Bandhauer rewrote the Cyclones passing record book in ISU's loss at Texas. Bandhauer set single game records for touchdowns (five), passing attempts (62), completions (30) and passing yards (437). His 35 career touchdown passes are also a new Cyclone record.

After a 5-0 start, Texas Tech has trailed its opponent for just 12 minutes and 29 seconds out of a possible 300 minutes this season.

In his first start of the season, Texas A&M quarterback Randy McCown completed only nine of 18 passes for 89 yards in a 24-21 win over Kansas. However, his performance was hampered by four drops and four sacks.

For the second week in a row, Texas running back Ricky Williams was named Big 12 offensive player of the week. Texas A&M linebacker Dat Nguyen was defensive player of the week, and Nebraska kick returner Joe Walker was the Big 12 specialty player of the week.

Two weeks into the Big 12 volleyball season, there are three teams that remain undefeated in conference play. Nebraska, Texas and Colorado are atop the conference with a 4-0 mark. Texas A&M trails the leaders with a 3-1 record, while Texas Tech and Kansas State remain in contention for conference honors at 2-2.

Notebook compiled by staff writer James Nicas

# NU's Walker redeemed with return

BY DAVID WILSON  
Senior staff writer

From the grass at Arrowhead Stadium, Joe Walker watched Oklahoma State receiver Ethan Howell score the game-tying touchdown with just over 12 minutes remaining Saturday.



Walker

Instead of playing it safe, he had gambled. He went for the ball. He lost. But the sophomore Nebraska rover didn't go home a loser. Walker got his revenge when the Cowboys punted in their next possession. Seventy-three yards later, Walker

put the Cornhuskers ahead for good with the longest punt return of his career.

"Great football players don't get down," Walker said. "When you make a mistake, you put that behind you. I feel I'm a big player, and that's what big players do - make big plays."

The score came as no surprise to Nebraska Coach Frank Solich.

"He's really an electrifying player," Solich said. "He's a talented athlete. It wasn't out of the question that he returned one."

In Nebraska's season opener against Louisiana Tech, Walker returned a kick off 99 yards for a touchdown.

Neither big play by Walker came as a shock to NU cornerback Ralph Brown, who laid a key block on OSU safety Trent Alexander during Walker's run Saturday.

"I knew I only had to get him a second," Brown said of his block.

"(Walker) is exciting. That's why I try to do my job 100 percent, because I know he can take one to the house any time."

As a true freshman in the NU secondary last season, Walker had two interceptions, including one for a 71-yard touchdown against Kansas State.

The Arlington, Texas, native added his third career interception against Washington two weeks ago.

But, as he found out Saturday, going for the interception doesn't always pay dividends.

"Joe about did me in with a couple of plays on defense," Solich said.

The 67-yard touchdown pass was Oklahoma State's longest pass play since 1992. It also was the Cowboys' longest play from scrimmage this year.

"The ball was thrown very, very well," Solich said. "(Walker) was just out of position, and he fell."

Nebraska Secondary Coach George

### Walking on Daylight

Rover Joe Walker's return numbers in 1998:

Punt returns:	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
1998	12	157	13.08	1	73*
Career	19	196	10.31	1	73*
Kickoff returns:	No.	Yds.	Avg.	TD	Long
1998	10	266	26.6	1	99*
Career	25	655	26.2	1	99*

\*Went for touchdown

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Darlington saw things a little differently. "He was beaten like a dog," Darlington said. "He's too good of an athlete for that."

But for Walker, that's football. "Sometimes you gamble, and you lose," Walker said. "Sometimes you gamble, and you win."

**In other news:**  
Nebraska starting quarterback

Please see **WALKER** on 8



DAWN DIETRICH/DN

Jeannette Zimmer, a UNL freshman cross country runner, practices Monday afternoon at Oak Lake Park. Zimmer vows not to feel the pressures of her high school career in college.

# Zimmer runs past pressures for Nebraska

BY LISA VONNAHME  
Staff writer

Jeannette Zimmer couldn't handle the pressure.

After winning the Washington state cross country title as a high school freshman, Zimmer

was told by her coaches, family and friends that she was going to be a great runner. But she couldn't deal with those expectations. She failed to qualify for the state meet as a sophomore, and she never won the state cross country title again.

And so she made a decision - a decision that changed her outlook on running.

**JEANNETTE ZIMMER**  
cross country runner

cross country title again.

And so she made a decision - a decision that changed her outlook on running.

Please see **PRESSURE** on 8

# KSU's Snyder says North up for grabs

BY CHRISTOPHER HEINE  
Staff writer

The Big 12 North Division is so difficult this season that it makes Kansas State Coach Bill Snyder more than a little nervous.

Snyder said Monday that competing in this year's league "is like being a kitty cat in a room full of rocking chairs."

Kansas State (4-0 overall and 1-0 in the Big 12 Conference), along with its con-

ference peers, has reason to be worried.

The North currently has four of its six teams ranked in college football's Top 25.

Two of those teams, Nebraska and Kansas State, make up two of the nation's top five spots.

Because of the stiff competition, finishing the season without a loss should prove to be a difficult task for any of the six clubs.

No. 2 Nebraska (5-0 and 1-0) has already experienced some Big 12 butterflies.

Last Saturday night, Oklahoma State was less than a yard, maybe even an extra minute, away from upsetting the Cornhuskers.

A penetrating tackle by Husker rush end Mike Rucker in the Cowboy back-

## Big 12 report card

Rising	Comment	Week grade*
Nebraska	Whew! Got out-yarded but survived to beat Oklahoma St.	B
Kansas St.	Now they play Colorado. Will it be close?	NA
Texas Tech	Squeaked by Baylor 31-29. It'll do.	B
Texas	Ricky Williams ran wild against Iowa St.	B
Colorado	Look who's 5-0! CU has as many wins as last year.	B
Texas A&M	Almost got caught looking past Kansas to Nebraska.	B
Oklahoma St.	They're no flukes. Defense as good as any in Big 12.	B-
Stable		
Missouri	Ought to be ashamed for beating Northwestern 35-14.	C
Oklahoma	They're starting to call for John Blake's head in Norman.	C-
Iowa St.	Twenty Cyclones couldn't have stopped Ricky Williams.	C-
Baylor	Baylor's barely losing. But they're still losing.	C-
Kansas	Almost beat A&M. Almost doesn't count.	C-
Falling		
None	- we were merciful.	

\*Grades not given for teams who haven't played.

JON FRANK/DN

field preserved the victory as time expired.

Husker Coach Frank Solich isn't surprised by how any of the Big 12 teams are performing; even traditional conference cellar-dweller Iowa State (2-3 and 0-2).

"I thought it would be a strong conference coming in," Solich said last week. "I'm real pleased with what Iowa State has gotten done."

Solich said Iowa State's 27-9 victory

Please see **NORTH** on 8