

## Big 12 Notebook

Oklahoma State, which comes to Lincoln on Oct. 2, will be doing so without quarterback Tony Lindsay. Lindsay is still recovering from a knee injury he suffered in the Cowboys' season opener Sept. 4. Head Coach Bob Simmons has ruled out the possibility that Lindsay will be available for the Nebraska game.

"He is still rehabbing his knee and participating in practice from a throwing standpoint," Simmons said.

Missouri will be facing Nebraska this week after starting the season 2-0. Head Coach Larry Smith said he is looking forward to the rematch with the Huskers in Columbia.

"Players walked off the field (in '97) knowing that they played Nebraska nose to nose," Smith said. "It was very inspiring for our football team and helped pick our program up."

R.C. Slocum, head coach at Texas A&M, is very aware of what Southern Mississippi will bring to the table when they meet on Saturday at 7:30 p.m. USM played Nebraska tough last week — and the Aggies faced the Golden Eagles last season in a 24-6 Aggie win.

"Southern Miss is a really good team," Slocum said. "Everybody that watched them play Nebraska got a good appreciation for them."

Colorado and Washington will square off Saturday in a battle that will go beyond the lines of the field. Media hype of Colorado visiting its former Head Coach Rick Neuheisel, now the coach of the Huskies, will no doubt overflow during the week. CU Coach Gary Barnett said that this game is important for both teams.

"Both teams have their backs to the wall," Barnett said. "This is a must-win for both teams."

Oklahoma quarterback Josh Heupel was named the Big 12 offensive player of the week after guiding the Sooners to a 41-10 win over Baylor. Heupel broke four school records passing for 420 yards, completing 37 of 54 passes. School records for completions, attempts, passing yards and total offense now all belong to the junior first-time starter. Head Coach Bob Stoops said he has been pleased with Heupel's poise in the first two games.

"We felt all along that Josh was a strong quarterback," Stoops said. "I love his attitude, love the way he prepares and after the summer and the spring he had — we figured Josh would be pretty solid, and he has definitely been that."

Nebraska linebacker Julius Jackson took the defensive player-of-the-week honor after leading the Cornhuskers to a 20-13 win over Southern Mississippi. Jackson scored twice for NU; once on a fumble recovery and once on an interception return.

Colorado kicker Jeremy Aldrich picked up the honor for special teams as he converted on a CU record — five field goals for the Buffaloes against Kansas. All five field goals were more than 40 yards. He was also perfect on his four extra-point attempts.

Big 12 notebook compiled by staff writer Joshua Camenzind

# Craver arrives for Huskers

By DARREN IVY  
Senior staff writer

Being thrown into the fire, a person must learn that getting burned is part of the experience — and move on. If he doesn't, it's all over.

Sophomore cornerback Keyuo Craver now knows that. As a true freshman, he was basically baptized under fire in the secondary.

Not only was the Harleton, Texas, native adjusting to college football, but he was doing it at a position he rarely had played in high school.

"Technique-wise I was clueless," Craver said. "I had no idea what I was doing."

However, the former standout running back learned his new position quickly and saw action in all 13 of NU's games last year. As the season went on, he earned more playing time and ended the season with one interception and 25 tackles.

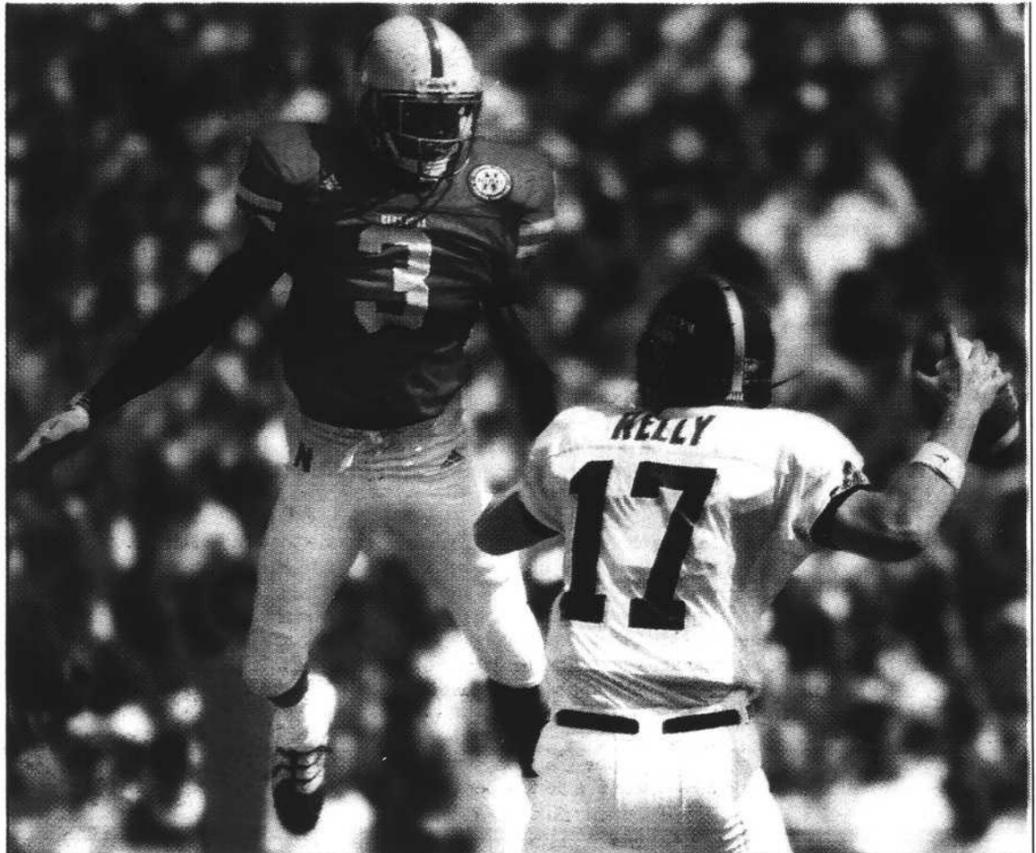
Craver took some knocks, but he also learned many things that he has applied this season. The most important thing, he said, was that football is 10 percent physical and 90 percent mental.

"(Playing cornerback is) mostly a mental thing," Craver said. "You just can't get down on yourself. I learned a big lesson (Saturday). You have to forget about all your mistakes and come back strong."

After being burned several times by Southern Mississippi's two outstanding receivers, Sherrod Gideon and Todd Pinkston, Craver bounced back to make two key fourth-quarter interceptions.

He also broke up four passes and his tipped pass set up Julius Jackson's winning touchdown.

"It made me very proud to see him do that," said Ralph Brown, Craver's mentor and fellow starting cornerback. "He was getting a little down on himself early in the game.



NEBRASKA CORNERBACK Keyuo Craver leaps in front of Southern Mississippi quarterback Jeff Kelly to break up his pass. Craver finished the game Saturday with four pass break ups and two key interceptions, helping NU move to 3-0 on the season.

For him to do that was great. I gave him a little pat on the back and told him he did a great job."

Brown has taken Craver under his wing in much the same way Michael Booker did when Craver came in. Brown said he can identify with what Craver is going through because he sees a lot of himself in the young cornerback.

In terms of pure athleticism,

Brown said, Craver has him beat. As for technique, it's a close call, Brown said.

Brown's overall edge on his young running mate apparently has grown smaller.

"I just have a little more confidence," said Brown, the school's all-time leader in pass breakups. "I believe I can cover anybody. Once he gets over the hump confidence-wise,

it will steamroll, and everybody better watch out. I think those two interceptions (Saturday) will give him more confidence."

The humble Craver said his confidence had come a long way from last year.

"I've matured a lot more," Craver said. "I've gotten smarter and grasped the whole mental aspect a lot better."

## Sports Opinion

### De la Hoya chokes, loses the boxing title



John Gaskins

Hello, once again, oh sports geniuses. I was going to attempt to write a decently thought-out, half-intelligent sports column with possibly, quite possibly, a dabble of valid opinion to it. But the two people who actually read my column, my sports editor, Dave, and my imaginary friend, Blinky, both found the last DN Sports Quiz so finger-lickin' good that they wanted an encore.

So, Dave and Blinky, this is for you. Of course, because of the university's contracts with numerous corporations, I now have to give the Quiz a sponsored title. So, here it is, your Pepsi-Amigos-Adidas-Jenny-O-Gas 'N Shop-Cellular One-Old Milwaukee Light-Trojan Condoms-Turtle Wax-Dixie Cup-Reddi Whip DN Sports Quiz. Enjoy!

1. The big plays of Keyuo Craver, Julius Jackson and the rest of the Nebraska defense against Southern Mississippi:

- Saved the Huskers from losing the game.
- Saved the Huskers from losing a shot at the national championship.
- Saved most Husker fans from having nothing else to live for for another year.

2. The fact that Iowa State started the season 3-0 is a sign that:

- Head Coach Dan McCarney, in his fifth season, is finally turning the program around.
- It has a weak schedule.
- The apocalypse is indeed upon us.

3. After blowing a sure victory in the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> rounds of his Welterweight Championship majority decision loss to Felix Trinidad, Oscar De La Hoya admitted that in those rounds, he was:

Please see QUIZ on 8

## NU optimistic after challenging top team

By BRANDON SCHULTE  
Staff writer

One day after losing its first match of the season to top-ranked Santa Clara, the Nebraska soccer team was filled with optimism.

This hopefulness sprung from the fact that Nebraska, ranked fourth in the NSCAA poll, played even with No. 1 Santa Clara before losing 2-1. Despite the loss, Nebraska moved up in two of the three major soccer polls, while dropping only one slot from three to four in the NSCAA.

Down by two goals at halftime, the Cornhuskers battled back against a pro-Bronco crowd and what NU Coach John Walker said might have been the best team he's seen in his tenure at Nebraska.

"They certainly have a complete package," Walker said. "Looking at the combination of technical ability, athletes and physical play, I can't think of a team that was better than the one we saw yesterday."

Santa Clara displayed its might in the first half by scoring two goals and controlling the majority of play.

However, the second half was a

different story altogether. Two-thirds of the second half was played in the Bronco half of the field.

Nebraska cut the lead to one goal when it scored on a header by Lindsay Eddleman off a corner kick in the 70<sup>th</sup> minute. In the final 20 minutes, Nebraska added an extra forward as the entire team began attacking to get an equalizer.

The only times Santa Clara managed to cross midfield, Husker goalkeeper Karina LeBlanc stymied counterattacks with two key saves and broke up several crossing passes. On one occasion Walker said she "flew through a pile of players to punch the ball away."

In the last 10 minutes of the match, Santa Clara showed signs of fatigue. It knocked the ball out of play on purpose and held onto the ball instead of pushing forward for another goal as it employed stalling tactics to run out the remainder of the clock.

Another player who came up big down the stretch for NU was Jenny Benson. Returning home to her native California, in front of

Please see SOCCER on 8