

Remembering past Texas matchups, Huskers look for revenge Saturday

By **MATTHEW HANSEN**
Staff writer

Ask any Cornhusker to name the low point of the '98 season, and he will likely point to last year's Texas game. As the Huskers trudged off Tom Osborne Field last Halloween on the short end of a 20-16 score, Nebraska's 47-game home winning streak became a thing of the past.

Senior cornerback Ralph Brown said the Huskers carried the responsibility of an entire program's disappointment squarely on their shoulders as they exited the field.

"There was a lot of agony, a lot of agony of defeat," Brown said. "I felt we let a lot of people down, let ourselves down. I felt we let our fans down, let this university down by losing at home ... a lot of us felt like crying after the game because we let so many people down."

As Nebraska prepares to take on the Longhorns on Saturday in Austin, the Huskers have not forgotten the events of a year ago. At Nebraska's weekly press conference on Tuesday, one word was uttered by player after player: revenge.

Motivation for this weekend's

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RALPH BROWN
NU senior cornerback

contest shouldn't be hard to come by, said junior guard Russ Hochstein.

"I would say that more than anything, we're excited to play them again," Hochstein said.

"Us revenging the loss is our main thing. Most of the guys here would say that we would love to beat them and get back to where we belong. That's how we are all thinking this week."

Ralph Brown said the memory of last year as well as the inaugural Big 12 Championship game won by Texas in 1996 are both motivating factors.

"I remember my freshman year when we lost to them (in the Big 12 Championship), when we could've gone to the national championship," Brown said. "I remember last year when they beat us at home. They've just ruined a lot of things for us."

Carlos Polk echoed Brown's sen-

timents when asked if the previous Texas losses were motivation for this year's team.

"Oh yeah, I mean, right now we are 0-2 against those guys," Polk said. "This year all we seek is blood."

Coach Frank Solich downplayed the revenge factor. He said that the main focus of his team should be on preparing to play a top-notch opponent and not on past games.

His players agree, of course, and said Tuesday they will continue to prepare for this year's Texas team. Don't tell them to forget about past losses to the Longhorns, though.

Center Dominic Raiola conveyed the anxiousness of the Huskers as they attempt to break their two-game losing streak to Texas on Saturday.

"I want to beat them so bad. I just can't wait for Saturday to be here already."

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Weekend Wrap-Up

NU women take second

The Nebraska women's cross country team took second place for the second time this season at the Wolverine Interregional Invitational on Sunday.

Michelle Brooks led the Cornhuskers with a ninth-place finish. She finished the course in 17 minutes, 58 seconds.

The NU men finished seventh behind Marcus Witter's sixth-place finish.

—Joshua Camenzind

Rifle team takes two

The Nebraska rifle team won a three-team competition at West Point,

N.Y., on Saturday, and defeated King's College of Wilkes-Barre, Pa., on Sunday.

—David Diehl

Huskers roll into second

The Nebraska women's bowling team finished in second place over the weekend at the Hoosier Classic in Indianapolis. The Cornhuskers had the highest qualifying score in the opening round, but in the finals NU was defeated by Central Missouri State 4-2.

Individually, sophomore Diandra Hyman led NU and the tournament with a 195 average.

—Sean Callahan

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