



Sports



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Mavericks routed in Omaha

Minnesota State
gives up 380 yards
rushing in 45-15 loss

The Free Press

OMAHA, NEB. — Nebraska-Omaha rushed for 380 yards in a 45-15 victory over Minnesota State in a North Central Conference football game Saturday.

Sixth-ranked Nebraska-Omaha led 24-0 at halftime, and the Mavericks never got closer than 16 points the rest of the way.

Minnesota State senior quarterback Ben King completed 37 of 64 passes for 424 yards and two touchdowns, becoming the program's all-time leader in pass completions (738). The 424 yards passing is the

third most in Minnesota State history and the fourth time in King's career — and the second this season — that he has passed for more than 400 yards. The 64 attempts tied his own single-game NCC and Minnesota State record.

The teams combined for 947 yards of total offense, 464 yards by Minnesota State.

Nebraska-Omaha scored on its first two possessions to open a 14-0 lead at the end of the first quarter. In the second quarter, Nebraska-Omaha's Randy Kush returned a fumble 81 yards, pushing the lead to 21-0. Nebraska-Omaha added a field goal to take a 24-0 advantage into halftime.

Minnesota State opened the second half with a nine-play, 80-yard drive capped by a

MSU: Mavericks' Shackelford catches seven passes for 103 yards

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25-yard touchdown pass from King to Donte Shackelford, followed by a two-point pass from King to Marcus Hansen to cut the margin to 24-8.

Nebraska-Omaha answered with a touchdown on the ensuing drive to push the score to 31-8 with 11:33 remaining in

the third quarter. Minnesota State's second touchdown came 46-yard pass to Hansen with 1:17 remaining in the third quarter. Nebraska-Omaha answered 18 seconds later when McNeil broke a 65-yard scoring run to push the lead back to 38-15.

Shackelford had seven receptions for 103 yards,

Omaar Balton hauled in eight catches for 81 yards, Chris Nowlin caught seven passes for 88 yards, and Jeff Fielder caught seven passes for 46 yards.

Minnesota State was led defensively by juniors Willie Davis and Ryan Weinzierl, who each finished with nine tackles. Sophomore's Jesse

Graves and Randy Earl added eight stops apiece.

Running back Brian McNeill finished with 20 carries for 209 yards and two touchdowns to lead Nebraska-Omaha.

Minnesota State (3-2, 1-1 in NCC) hosts North Dakota at 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, in the annual homecoming game.

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Gustavus
football team
suffers its
first loss of
the season.