

2005 GAME RECAPS

NORTHWESTERN 38 Ohio 14 - NU hit a 22 yd FG then drove 76 and 88 yds for TD's. OU's first TD under Solich came when S Byrum snagged a pitch on an option and ret'd it 62 yds. After an NU TD with 1:24 left 1H, OU fmb'l'd the KO and NU drove 29 yds for another TD to lead 31-7 with a 337-73 yd edge at this point. NU missed 46 and 41 yd FG's on 12 and 9 play drives to open the 3Q but drove 55 yds for a TD to ice it. OU got a 68 yd TD drive early 4Q and NU fmb'l'd into the EZ for a TB and was int'd in the EZ with :21 left.

NORTHWESTERN 38 N Illinois 37 - NI fmb'l'd at the NU 7 and NU went on a 12 play FG drive. NI drove 65 yds for a TD. NU fmb'l'd at the NI 26 but NI was int'd & ret'd to its own 24. NU had a 29 yd FG blk'd and NI went 65 yds for a TD to lead 14-3. NU went 80 yds and scored on Sutton's 18 yd TD run. NU then got an 81 yd PR TD to stunningly take the lead, 17-14. NU then added an 80 yd TD drive late 2Q. NI went 76 yds for a TD but NU answered with a 73 yd TD drive, 31-21. NI took a FG off the board after a penalty gave them a FD and got an 80 yd TD drive, 31-28. NU went on a 76 yd, 18 play drive but came up short when they faked a 19 yd FG. NI went 85 yds for a 30 yd FG with 3:11 left to tie it at 31. NU went 82 yds for a TD with 1:02 left to take the lead. NI answered with a 71 yd TD drive with :06 left but Novak went for the 2 pt conv & was stopped. NU RB Sutton rushed for 214 yds and 4 TD's.

ARIZONA ST 52 Northwestern 21 - NU missed a 43 yd FG & had an 80 yd TD drive before ASU scored on six cons poss with drives of 64, 69, 70 (27 yd FG), 38 (after fmb'l), 61 & 83 yds and led 38-14 at half. NU was SOD on 4th & 6 at the ASU 10 on their opening 3Q drive and ASU iced it with a 69 yd TD drive. Both backups led garbage TD drives. ASU ended the game at the NU 7 & amassed a school record 773 yds offense incl 532 in the 1H.

Penn St 34 NORTHWESTERN 29 - NU drove 80 yds for a TD and after an int drove 52 yds for a 20 yd FG, 10-0. PSU didn't cover the KO and NU added a 25 yd FG. PSU went 80 yds for a TD and NU fmb'l'd the KO at its own 26 but PSU was int'd. NU went 71 yds for a TD and after an int added a 42 yd FG with 6:35 left 1H, 23-7. After a 72 yd drive PSU fmb'l'd at the 3. The Lions drove 61 yds for a TD with :35 left 2Q. PSU hit a 25 yd FG to make it 23-17 and NU missed a 46 yd FG. PSU got a 28 yd FG but NU drove 41 yds for a 46 yd FG, 26-20. PSU drove 78 yds for a TD with 8:52 left and the 24-23 lead. A roughing the QB call gave NU a FD on 3rd & 13 and they continued on an 86 yd drive for a 25 yd FG, 29-27 with 2:10 left. PSU got a 20 yd pass on 4th & 15 then Robinson hit Williams with a 36 yd TD pass with :51 left. NU's was int'd at midfield.

NORTHWESTERN 51 Wisconsin 48 - The undefeated #14 ranked Badgers led 17-7 after hitting 27 yd FG with 1:59 left 1H but NU drove for a 21 yd FG with :04 left, 17-10. The teams scored at will in the 2H and NU finished with a 674-515 yd edge. NU scored TD's on their first 2 poss of the 3Q to take the lead which they never would relinquish, 23-17. The Badgers settled for a FG then the next 5 poss were TD's, 44-34 NU. NU got a 98 yd drive capped by a 62 yd TD run by Sutton with 4:22 left, 51-34. The Badgers went 66 and 45 yds for TD's with 2:48 left to pull within 3. UW forced a punt w/1:23 left & got the ball on their own 3 but Stocco was int'd at their own 16.

Northwestern 34 PURDUE 29 - NU got a 66 yd TD pass and PU answered with a 62 yd drive but while stretching for a TD, the ball came out of Chattam's hands for a TB. PU was int'd inside the NU 20 and the Wildcats drove 79 yds for a TD, 14-0. PU got a 47 yd FG then each team went on an 80 yd TD drive with PU missing the xp, 21-9. NU went 85 yds for a TD w/1:32 left 1H and PU was SOD at the NU 39. PU ret'd the 3Q's opening KO 95 yds for a TD and then missed a 33 yd FG after an 11 play drive. PU got a 5 yd TD drive after a 35 yd PR to pull within 28-23. NU missed a 41 yd FG & later went 55 yds but fmb'l'd on 3rd & goal from the 2. PU went 98 yds (18 pl) for a TD w/:17 left to take the lead 29-28 (2 ptng). NU went 75 yds eschewing a FG due to poor field conditions & scoring a TD on 4th & inches w/1:50 left, 34-29 (2 pt ng). PU was int'd at the NU 41 and the Cats ran out the clock.

Northwestern 49 MICHIGAN ST 14 - After scoring a TD on their 1st poss, the Spartans missed a 47 yd FG and were int'd in the EZ after a 16 play drive. QB Stanton then fmb'l'd at the 9 and NU ret'd it 86 yds for a TD. Stanton was int'd at the 2 and MSU missed a 37 yd FG on their other 1H poss and trailed 21-7 at the half. NU scored TD's on their 1st 4 poss of the 2H to put it away. MSU was int'd at the 2 in the 4Q

Michigan 33 NORTHWESTERN 17 - UM got a 74 yd TD drive and an 83 yd fumble ret TD. NU answered with a 62 yd TD pass. UM was int'd at the NU 4 and later NU went 55 yds for a 28 yd FG, 14-10. UM went 57 yds for a 26 yd FG then drove 71 yds for a TD. UM got an int at the NU 28 and hit a 19 yd FG with :58 left 2Q, 27-10. NU then went 80 yds and got a 35 yd TD pass with :11 left. UM was SOD at the NU 24 and int'd at the NU 20 before going on an 11 play FG drive, 30-17 with 13:29 left. UM iced it with a 48 yd FG drive with 7:11 left. The next 3 poss were all SOD's and UM ran out the clock at the NU 25.

NORTHWESTERN 28 Iowa 27 - Iowa drove 78 and 40 yds for TD's on their first 2 poss. NU got a 3rd & 12 34 yd TD pass to cap an 80 yd TD drive, 14-7. Iowa drove 69 yds for a TD then settled for a 19 yd FG to cap an 88 yd drive. Iowa led 24-7 at the half with 316-177 yd and 17-6 FD edges. NU went 80 yds for a TD to open the 3Q but the next 6 poss ended in punts. NU was int'd and ret'd to their 21 but Iowa settled for a 32 yd FG, 27-14. Iowa drove 56 yds but missed a 41 yd FG. NU was int'd at the Iowa 14 with 4:34 left. Iowa punted with 3:27 left and NU went 77 yds for a TD (2:10). NU rec'd the onside kick & went 47 yds in 6 plays for a TD with :42 left and the miraculous lead, 28-27. Iowa got to midfield but dropped a 4th & 10 pass.

OHIO ST 48 Northwestern 7 - NU opened with an 80 yd TD drive but gained just 171 yds after. The Bucks drove 45 yds on 11 short runs for a TD. A 24 yd PR set up OSU for a 29 yd TD drive. OSU blk'd a punt and LB Hawk rec'd it for a TD. After an int OSU drove 37 yds for a TD, 28-7 at the half. OSU rec'd a fmb'l at the NU 18 and nailed a 33 yd FG. The Bucks drove 80 yds for a TD & Zwick led OSU to a 37 yd FG. NU replaced Basanez with Bacher & missed a 50 yd FG. OSU went 67 yds for a TD w/4:53 left.

Northwestern 38 ILLINOIS 21 - Both moved at will in the 1H as they exchanged TD's & IL missed a 47 yd FG & each team punted once. NU got a 19 yd FG w/:09 left 2Q, 24-21. NU went on an 80 yd TD drive to open 3Q scoring on a 28 yd run on a fake FG. IL was int'd at the 16 & NU was SOD on 4th&1 at IL5. NU missed 41 yd FG early 4Q but got an 80 yd TD drive w/6:50 left. IL was SOD on 4th&6 at NU22 with 2:47 left.