

2006 GAME RECAPS

Northwestern 21 MIAMI, OH 3 - Thurs game. Emotional game honoring Randy Walker vs his alma mater. NU took its opening drive 10 plays to MU's 25 but was SOD & the next 8 poss were all punts. It was 0-0 in the 3Q when NU blk'd a punt for a TD. MU went on [77/12] & [66/7] drives but settled for a 22 yd FG & missed a 37 yd FG while NU went on [69/7] & [80/8] drives both for TD's, 21-3. MU was SOD at their own 25 on their final poss.

New Hampshire 34 NORTHWESTERN 17 - NU honored Walker in the 1st home game since his death. NH was ranked #2 in Div IAA & came out running the no-huddle offense going [80/10]. NU fmbld the KO and NH went [14/4] for a TD, 13-0 (xpng). NU went [74/4] and [54/7] for TD's & led 14-13 after 1Q. NH went [77/14] for a TD & NU went [62/13] for a 35 yd FG, 20-17. NH drove [81/7] for a TD with 1:07 left 2Q, 27-17. NU went on a [52/14] drive but a 4th & 10 pass fell incomplete. NU fmbld on their own 17 and NH added a TD, 34-17. NU's last 4 drives were SOD at the NH 33, 23, 32 and an int at the 2.

NORTHWESTERN 14 E Michigan 6 - NU went [74/15] for a TD. EM started at the 28 after a short punt & nailed a 47 yd FG, 7-3. NU fmbld at their own 46 but the next 5 poss were punts. NU was int'd at their own 32 (2:24) & EM got a 30 yd FG, 7-6 1H. Backup QB Brewer led NU [72/13] for a TD, 14-6. After 8 punts, EM got to the 32 but was int'd at the 27 with 5:55 left. EM was int'd at the NU47 with :45 left.

NEVADA 31 Northwestern 21 - Fri ESPN. NU took their opening drive [80/10] for a TD. NU was int'd at the Nev16. Nev went [76/5] for a TD & after rec'ing a fmbld, kicked a 32 yd FG. An int set Nev up for a 5 yd TD drive, 17-7. The teams traded 80 yd TD drives and both missed FG's, 24-14 at the half. NU had a [52/11] drive end on a blk'd 32 yd FG but the Cats later went [94/11] for a TD with 13:49 left. Nev went for it on 4th & 20 at the NU30 but the pass fell incomplete. Nev went on an [33/11] drive punting with 2:33 left. NU's Kafka was picked off and ret'd for a TD.

PENN ST 33 Northwestern 7 - PSU went [71/6] but Morelli was int'd at the 9. The Lions then went [37/8], [56/5] & [51/13] on their next 3 drives but settled for 34, 22 & 33 yd FG's & only led 9-0 mid-2Q. NU, after a 14 yd IR, drove [16/5] for TD. PSU went [79/10] for TD w/:37 left 1H, 16-7 & the Lions had a 329-131 yd edge. PSU got 36 yd FG in 3Q & then after a long PR, added a [29/3] TD drive, 26-7. After an int PSU drove [44/6] for TD. NU went on [50/12] & [39/7] play drives but was SOD at the PSU38 & 41.

WISCONSIN 41 Northwestern 9 - UW's Hill got a 60 yd TD run on the game's 2nd play & UW then went [41/9] for a 40 yd FG. NU, after a 47 yd KR, went [52/5] for a TD, 10-6 (xpng). UW fmbld at the NU39 & NU went [56/12] for a 22 yd FG. UW fmbld at the NU19 but later drove [62/6] for a TD, 17-9. UW was int'd in EZ for a TB w/2:24 left 1H. UW went [55/10] for a 42 yd FG and finally hit paydirt with a [73/10] TD drive, 27-9. UW added 25 yd IR TD. UW drove [46/4] for TD w/:48 left on a 25 yd run by Smith.

Purdue 31 NORTHWESTERN 10 - PU went [75/7] but missed a 23 yd FG. NU went [80/8] for a TD & PU got their own [80/12] TD drive. PU got a 27 yd IR setting up a [28/5] TD drive, 14-7. After an int, NU got a 43 yd FG. PU went [85/10] but settled for an 18 yd FG to end the 1H. PU had a 311-124 yd 1H edge. PU missed a 34 yd FG but later went [80/11] & [50/3] for TD's, 31-10. NU gained [55/8] on their final drive.

Michigan St 41 NORTHWESTERN 38 - MSU opened w/a [66/11] FG drive but the Cats went [71/14], [74/7], [43/6], [88/7] for 3 TD's & a FG to lead 24-3 at half w/a 271-136 yd edge. NU even missed a 35 yd FG w/:15 left. NU opened the 3Q with a [80/5] TD drive & a 40 yd IR led to another TD to make it 38-3. MSU then began the biggest comeback in NCAA history. The Spartans went [65/9] & [53/8] for TD's. Hoyer, in for an inj'd Stanton, was int'd at the NU9 but later MSU blk'd a punt for a TD, 38-24. With Stanton back in, MSU went [60/7] & [58/6] for TD's to tie it. MSU then got an int w/2:59 left to set up a 28 yd FG w/:13 left for the win.

MICHIGAN 17 Northwestern 3 - NU turned it over 5 times on a very windy day with gusts up to 60 mph. NU got to the UM 35 but was sk'd & fmbld on 3rd & 12. UM quickly went [52/6] for a TD. NU fmbld at UM's 33. UM went [36/11] for a 30 yd FG, 10-0. UM fmbld a punt on its own 44 but forced NU to punt. UM had a 142-85 yd 1H edge. NU went [33/9] but missed a 38 yd FG. NU was int'd at its own 36 & UM six plays later got a TD, 17-3. UM fmbld at their own 24 but NU was int'd in the EZ on 3rd & 16 on a pass that hung in the wind. UM went [40/9] but had a 40 yd FG blk'd (4:54). NU got 2 FD's but on 4th & 10 from UM's 41 was int'd at the 22.

Northwestern 21 IOWA 7 - NU took their opening poss [80/5] for a TD with the key being a 48 yd pass to backup QB Brewer. NU's next drive was [74/17] but they missed a 22 yd FG. Tate was playing with a cast on his non-passing hand & looked uncomfortable. Tate was sk'd & fmbld & NU ret'd it to the 7 which set up a TD, 14-0. A 24 yd NU punt set up Iowa at the Cats 34 but Tate was int'd at the 1. NU went [72/11] but was int'd at the 6 (:51 1H). After an int, Iowa went [54/7] for TD. Later NU got a [80/7] TD drive w/a 34 yd TD run by Jordan w/4:48 left to ice it. Tate was int'd at the NU35 (2:59) on Iowa's last shot.

Ohio St 54 NORTHWESTERN 10 - In the 1H OSU only had a 229-225 yd edge but led 33-10 in front of a sold out crowd estimated to be 66% Scarlet and Gray. After NU 2 fmbld's, OSU drove [55/5] and [27/4] for TD's. OSU got a 46 yd IR TD, 21-0 after 1Q. NU went on a [69/12] drive for a 29 yd FG but OSU went [80/12] fmbll'ing into the EZ for a TB. After a blk'd punt, OSU went [16/3] for a TD, 27-3. NU went [75/6] for a TD. OSU's Smith was int'd at the 24 with just :44 left 2Q but the Bucks caused a fmbld with :32 left and on 3rd & 28 Smith launched a 34 yd TD pass to Ginn, 33-10. After an int, OSU drove [39/5] for a TD and the Bucks later went [80/9] for a TD, 47-10 after 3Q's. OSU was SOD at the NU33 but NU was SOD at their own 42 and the Bucks tacked on a TD with 2:29 left.

NORTHWESTERN 27 Illinois 16 - NU fmbld & IL rec'd at the NU34 but Reda missed a 20 yd FG. NU went [41/7] for a TD. IL got a 75 yd KR but fmbld at the 8 & NU went [92/14] for a TD, 14-0. IL's Mendenhall got an 86 yd TD run. NU was pinned at its 1 & Sutton was tkl'd for a safety on 3rd & 19, 14-9. NU fmbld at the IL44 setting the Illini up for a TD, 16-14. NU went [53/10] for a 36 yd FG on the 1H's final play, 17-16. NU rec'd an onside kick to open the 2H & converted on 4th & 4 for a FD to the 30. Two plays later they got a TD, 24-16. IL went [73/10] but were SOD at the NU16 when a pass was dropped. IL then fmbld a punt at their own 42 & NU went [53/10] for a 22 yd FG, 27-16 (2:17). IL's 4th & 7 pass was dropped w/1:16 left.