

Game 4 | Nebraska 27, Rutgers 17

SCORE BY QUARTERS	1	2	3	4	FINAL
Rutgers	7	3	7	0	17
Nebraska	7	7	7	6	27

Lincoln (Sept. 23) -- Nebraska's defense produced another strong effort, while the offense used a powerful ground game fueled by Devine Ozigbo and Mikale Wilbon to claim a 27-17 win over Rutgers

Nebraska dominated the second half on both sides of the ball, erasing a 17-14 deficit in the opening minutes of the second half following Kiy Hester's interception return for a TD off Tanner Lee.

Two drives later, Lee led the Huskers on a massive 17-play, 97-yard march that consumed 8:10 and culminated with his eight-yard touchdown strike to De'Mornay Pierson-El with 2:49 left in the third quarter.

While the Husker offense assumed control, the Blackshirts continued to show consistent improvement on defense. After allowing Rutgers to open the game 2-for-2 on third-down conversions on an 11-play, 75-yard drive that was capped by a Gus Edwards two-yard touchdown run, the Blackshirts forced the Scarlet Knights to go without a conversion on their next eight third-down attempts.

The Blackshirts also provided a big play of their own late in the third quarter with Antonio Reed's interception and 19-yard return. Nebraska converted the turnover into points five plays later on Drew Brown's 32-yard field goal with 14:10 left.

Then Ozigbo, who had two carries in NU's first three games, took over. The junior carried nine times for 42 yards on a game-clinching 12-play, 50-yard drive to set up Brown's 27-yard field goal.

Ozigbo finished the game with a career-high 24 carries for 101 yards, including 19 carries for 85 yards in the second half. Ozigbo and starter Mikale Wilbon led a Big Red rushing binge that racked up 197 yards on 47 carries against the Rutgers defense. Wilbon finished with 78 yards and a touchdown

JD Spielman added a career-best five receptions for 46 yards and a score to lead Nebraska's air attack, as his 18-yard touchdown reception on a Lee pass with 6:52 left in the first quarter tied the game at 7-7. Pierson-El contributed three catches for 22 yards and a touchdown, which gave Nebraska the lead for good at 21-17 with 2:49 left in the third quarter. Pierson-El also gave Nebraska's its biggest play of the day with his 63-yard punt return midway through the second quarter to set up Wilbon's scoring run.

For the game, Nebraska finished with 306 yards of total offense on 73 plays while accumulating 35:21 of possession time. The Blackshirts held the Scarlet Knights to just 194 total yards on just 53 plays, including just 68 rushing yards on 24 carries.



SCORING SUMMARY

1st	10:28	RU	Edwards 2 yd run (Harte kick)
1st	06:52	NEB	Spielman 18 yd pass from Lee (Brown kick)
2nd	10:20	RU	Harte 33 yd field goal
2nd	04:48	NEB	Wilbon 4 yd run (Brown kick)
3rd	14:07	RU	Hester 33 yd interception return (Harte kick)
3rd	02:49	NEB	Pierson-El 8 yd pass from Lee (Brown kick)
4th	14:10	NEB	Brown 32 yd field goal
4th	05:59	NEB	Brown 27 yd field goal

TEAM STATISTICS

	RU	NEB
FIRST DOWNS	12	21
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)	24-68	47-197
PASSING YDS (NET)	126	109
Passes Att-Comp-Int	29-15-2	26-13-2
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS	53-194	73-306
Fumble Returns-Yards	0-0	0-0
Punt Returns-Yards	0-0	3-56
Kickoff Returns-Yards	2-41	2-49
Interception Returns-Yards	2-33	2-16
Punts (Number-Avg)	6-45.7	5-38.8
Fumbles-Lost	1-0	1-0
Penalties-Yards	4-35	6-46
Possession Time	24:39	35:21
Third-Down Conversions	3 of 12	8 of 17
Fourth-Down Conversions	0 of 1	0 of 0
Red-Zone Scores-Chances	2-2	5-5
Sacks By: Number-Yards	0-0	0-0

RUSHING: RU-Gus Edwards 15-58; Robert Martin 5-14; Kyle Bolin 1-11; Jonathan Lewis 1-2; Raheem Blackshear 1-1; TEAM 1-minus-18. **Nebraska**-Devine Ozigbo 24-101; Mikale Wilbon 14-78; Jaylin Bradley 6-16; JD Spielman 1-6; TEAM 2-minus-4

PASSING: RU- Kyle Bolin 15-29-2-126-0. **Nebraska**-Tanner Lee 13-26-2-109-2

RECEIVING: RU-Dacoven Bailey 3-38; Hunter Hayek 3-32; Jerome Washington 3-27; Robert Martin 2-minus-5; Damon Mitchell 1-16; NAKIA Griffin-Stewart 1-12; Jawuan Harris 1-4; Gus Edwards 1-2. **Nebraska**-JD Spielman 5-46; De'Mornay Pierson-El 3-22; Gabe Rahn 2-27; Tyler Hoppes 2-16; Mikale Wilbon 1-minus-2

INTERCEPTIONS: RU-Kiy Hester 1-33; Blessuan Austin 1-0; Dixon, D'Cota 1-5. **Nebraska**-Antonio Reed 1-19; Luke Gifford 1-minus-3

FUMBLES: RU-Team 1-0 **Nebraska**-Devine Ozigbo 1-0.

SACKS (Sacks-Yds): RU-None. **Nebraska**-None

TACKLE LEADER (UA-A): RU-Trevor Morris 4-9 **Nebraska**-Antonio Reed 4-2; Luke Gifford 3-3; Dedrick Young 3-3.