



FRANCIS GAROLDER/Lincoln Journal Star

Nova grimaces in pain as he brought down by Nebraska defensive tackle Maliek Collins late in the Memorial Stadium. Nova did not return to the game.

making name for himself

more defensive tackle continues to make presence felt.

ROSENTHAL
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Havoc up front

Nebraska's defensive line continues to make an impact. Here's a look at three Huskers who were a handful in the trenches Saturday:

Husker	Td	TFL	Sk	QBH
Maliek Collins	7	3	1	3
Randy Gregory	5	1	1	2
Kevin Williams	3	1	0	1

Nova, under pressure, threw the ball away as Collins dragged him down from behind.

Nova landed awkwardly on his right leg, left the game and didn't return.

"No doubt, they have disruptive people," said Rutgers coach Kyle Flood.

"They have defensive linemen that can win one-on-one matchups, so at times you only have to rush four. You

What fans see from Collins on the field is only part of the equation, Gerry said, noting Collins' tremendous work ethic.

"He's not the type of dude to go out on weekends and have fun. He's the type of dude who sits in his house and takes care of his family," Gerry said. "That's one thing I love about Maliek, is I know he's going to give his all."

"Maliek is really strong. People might not see it, but when Maliek gets to expose his talent, a lot of people are kind of like, 'Wow! I think people started to see it the Miami game, when he kind of just threw down Duke Johnson.'"

Saturday, Nebraska had six quarter-back hurries, two sacks and eight tackles for loss, but Papuchis lamented the leaky rushing yardage his team allowed in the fourth quarter, along with a couple of health issues in coverage. One



THE GRADES

Brian Rosenthal breaks down NU's performance.

RUNNING GAME

A

You could tell early in the game Ameer Abdullah was cutting and making the same moves we've seen on turf that he didn't make in Nebraska's previous two games, both played on wet grass. The cut Abdullah made on comeback Lorenzo Waters on his 53-yard score was particularly stunning. Credit Alex Lewis with a crushing block to free Abdullah on his next TD. The 16-yard run by Tommy Armstrong to finish NU's first drive was the longest touchdown run of his career.

PASSING GAME

B

Protection was better for Armstrong, who, for the most part, made good decisions. The big exception was his second-quarter interception near midfield, a pass he threw directly into the arms of Anthony Coffey. You could argue whether a couple of balls off the hands of Alonzo Moore should be considered drops, but at the very least, Moore could make an impression by coming up with above-average receptions. Much love for a rare touchdown pass to the tight end, in this instance, Sam Cotton.

AGAINST THE RUN

B

Rutgers' biggest running play came when seldom-used backup quarterback Chris Laviano, replacing injured Gary Nova, busted a 46-yard run early in the third quarter. Aside from that, the Blackshirts, behind a stout defensive line, shut down Deshaun Peoples (32 yards), Justin Goodwin (31 yards) and Robert Martin (32 yards). Peoples and Goodwin combined for just 32 rushing yards after the first quarter.

AGAINST THE PASS

B

Sloppy. Bad communication. Missed assignments. Dropping coverage when the quarterback scrambled. Those were the gripes Bo

Pelini had on his defense's performance. The dropped coverage was in reference to Rutgers wide receiver LaDarius Cain slipping past linebacker David Santos on the 73-yard catch-and-run touchdown in the first quarter. On the positive side, Nate Gerry had his team-best third interception, and Maliek Collins was impressive in helping the defensive line apply first-half pressure on quarterback Gary Nova.

SPECIAL TEAMS

C

Abdullah joked he nearly ended up on "SportsCenter"

THE GRADES
Sen Ken Haar breaks down
TEAM-NPP's
Performance

-10/30/2014-

RELIABILITY



Public Power has provided reliable power to its customer-owners, without brownouts or blackouts. And Public Power responds quickly and efficiently due to storm damage.

RATES



Although Nebraska was rated 6th lowest in the nation in retail rates in 2006, we now rank 15th. And while retail rates nationally are leveling off, Nebraska rates continue to increase.

TRANSPARENCY



Unlike private regulated utilities, Public Power does not have to answer to an independent agency such as a public service commission in reviewing their decisions. Contracts and vital details about power procurement are kept confidential, making it impossible for policy makers and the public to get the full picture. Perhaps a law is needed to make any future agreements transparent.

ACCOUNTABILITY



Nebraska ratepayers have no legal standing in the courts. While some Public Power entities have elected boards, others, such as LES, have appointed boards which act with no oversight. Perhaps all Public Power Boards should be elected.

LEADERSHIP



The Nebraska Legislature has failed to provide oversight of Public Power, whose cumulative budget far exceeds that of the State itself. On the local level, board members often simply defer to their administrative teams, without access to a second technical opinion, as provided in many states by a public service commission.

ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH



At some point in the future, no one will burn fossil fuels to generate electricity, especially coal – coal threatens our health and our environment. OPPD will be a national leader by reducing coal generation to 20% by 2033 – OPPD earns an “A”. NPPD and LES are further behind and bring the TEAM-NPP average down to a “C”. With world-class wind and solar resources, Public Power across the board should be striving for an “A+”.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Our unique Nebraska Public Power system can not only serve our state with low cost and dependable electricity, it can also help grow Nebraska's economic base to the benefit of all Nebraska. But only if it acts like a team.

Here I have to split up the grades.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



I applaud the team spirit of OPPD and NPPD, who have taken their TEAM-NPP responsibilities seriously by making the policy decision to buy Nebraska wind, PERIOD. OPPD and NPPD earn an "A" for their good judgment.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



TEAM-NPP member Northeast Nebraska Rural Public Power earns a "D" for making the decision to buy Kentucky coal generated electricity.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



The rural Public Power districts who resist developing their own economic and tax bases by openly opposing the development of their own world class wind resources earn a "D".

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



And the Lincoln Electric System earns a “D” for their policy decision to consider the purchase of additional wind from outside Nebraska. Money that stays in the Nebraska economy by using Nebraska wind directly benefits the City of Lincoln through increased tax revenues and commerce.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

The long term interests of our state are best served when we work together as a team to the mutual benefit of the whole Nebraska Public Power system and all Nebraskans. Our unique Public Power system has enormous potential to serve our state in a way that private sector electrical generation cannot, but only if TEAM-NPP thinks and act like a team.

STRUCTURE



Needs study! Example: NeG&T, which as a group purchases 38% of NPP's wholesale power, is attempting to “wag the dog” and limit NPPD's wind purchases by threatening to not renew generation contracts with NPPD. This would put NPPD and its bonded indebtedness in peril. Example: an attempt was made to begin electing administrators of districts that purchase energy from NPPD to the NPPD Board – a clear conflict of interest. Perhaps NPPD should become vertically integrated as OPPD now is.