



- *Saturday, October 6, 2012*
- *Ohio Stadium - Columbus, OH*
- *Nebraska at Ohio State*
- *8:00 p.m. (ET)*
- *TV: ABC -*

Undefeated Ohio State faces what may be its toughest test of the year as the 2012 season reaches the halfway point Saturday night at the Horseshoe. Former OSU captain Bo Pelini brings his 21st-ranked Nebraska Cornhuskers to Columbus where he'll try to collect his second win in as many tries against the No. 12 Buckeyes.

Pelini and the Huskers set a record for the school's greatest comeback a year ago in Lincoln when they overcame a 21-point Ohio State lead in the second half to [top the Buckeyes 34-27](#) , and you can bet the bitter memory of that loss lingers with this year's OSU team. Following their bruising win over a tough Michigan State squad a week ago, Urban Meyer said he felt his team

came together in a way that proved to him what they're made of, and they'll need more of that togetherness Saturday night in order to remain unbeaten.

This matchup is compelling well beyond the storied histories of the two programs and the prime-time national telecast with Brent and Herbie. The collision of two ranked teams in the beleaguered Big Ten may be a rare occurrence this season, and as the conference wheat begins to separate from the chaff, Nebraska (4-1, 1-0) and Ohio State (5-0, 1-0) look like two of the kernels worth watching closely the rest of the way.

It's also a duel of two of the best dual-threat quarterbacks in the conference, if not the entire country. Braxton Miller (302 yd avg.) and Taylor Martinez (271.4 yd avg) are currently #2 and #3 respectively in total offense in the Big Ten, and their teams usually sink or swim based on the performances of their offensive leaders. Lately there's been a lot of swimming going on.

This will be just the fourth meeting between the two teams, with Ohio State winning in 1956 and 1957, and then the big comeback win for Nebraska in Lincoln last year. Pelini is in his 5th year at Nebraska, with a 43-17 overall record. The Huskers head coach is a native of Youngstown where he played at Cardinal Mooney. Pelini played at Ohio State from 1987-90, starting at safety his last two years at OSU, and serving as a captain for the 1990 season.

State of the Bucks

After a lot of early season hand-wringing by outsiders and media people about Braxton Miller's durability and the number of rushing carries he was getting, the OSU coaches have made clear that he is their best offensive weapon, and they're going to call his number as often as they feel they must to win football games.





[Ohio State Buckeyes Football Game Notes \(pdf\)](#)