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Quick Stats

- **Position:** Wide Receiver
- **Hometown:** Hutchinson, Minn.
- **High School:** Hutchinson
- **Birth Date:** Aug. 24, 1985

Quick Hitters

Favorite pre-game meal?

- French toast for the early games.

Last movie you saw in the theater?

- Quarantine.

Favorite TV show?

- Probably Home Improvement or Seinfeld.

Hobbies outside of football?

- I like to play softball in the summer. We have a slow-pitch team. I like to go to movies and play games.

Favorite actor?

- Jerry Seinfeld.

When the Minnesota Twins traded ace Johan Santana, what was your first reaction?

- Horrible. What were they thinking?

What's on your iPod?

- I don't even have an iPod anymore. I'm not too big into music.

Favorite restaurant in Lincoln?

- Fireworks.

Your mom's best meal?

- She makes this really good corn casserole.

Getting to Know . . . Nate Swift

By Nate Pohlen, Nebraska Media Relations

Perhaps Nate Swift's school record-breaking 144th career reception against Baylor on Oct. 25 was only overshadowed by one thing: the rest of his performance that day.

Swift has quietly gone about his business during his Nebraska career, running routes to near perfection and providing his quarterback with reliable hands. He earned first-team freshman All-Big 12 honors in 2005 after setting school records for freshman receiving yards, receptions and touchdowns. But for the most part, Swift hasn't garnered a ton of attention playing in a conference filled with high-flying receivers.

But on that perfect October afternoon in Memorial Stadium, Swift made sure everyone, especially Baylor's secondary, knew just how good he is.

Swift tore apart the Bears' defense for 121 yards on a career-best 11 catches. He scored two touchdowns – a 9-yarder in the third quarter that broke Johnny Rodgers' record of 143 career receptions, and a 53-yarder in the fourth quarter that gave the Huskers a 10-point lead and sealed the win.

"I don't think it's really going to set in until after the season, but it's really exciting," Swift said. "It's always fun getting up there and competing against somebody like Johnny Rodgers."

Swift wasn't even aware of his record-breaking catch until he got back to the sidelines and everyone congratulated him.

"I thought I was close," Swift said. "I wish I would have been able to keep the ball right then, but luckily they gave it to me after. It's sitting in my room right now."

A native of Hutchinson, Minn., Swift was recruited to Nebraska by Frank Solich to play in the option offense. He remained committed to Nebraska at the time Bo Pelini led the Huskers to their 2003 Alamo Bowl win over Michigan St. And now, things have come full circle, as Swift has made Pelini's first full-time head-coaching gig a little easier by having a career year.

"I remember talking to him every once in a while when I'd come to the games," Swift said. "I knew what kind of coach he was then

and obviously, when I was here the year after he had left, everybody was still talking about what a cool coach he was. It's really exciting to have him back here and be able to play for him."

If you ask Swift, breaking the school receptions record was the last thing on his mind when he came to Nebraska in the fall of 2004. The Hutchinson High School standout was ready to do some blocking and maybe catch a couple passes every game.

"Coach (Barney) Cotton actually was recruiting me and said they were going to a little bit more of a balanced offense and going to throw a little bit more, but that wasn't really my main focus," Swift said. "I just wanted to come to a place that was going to win and have a lot of tradition and obviously Nebraska is all that."

Swift's six touchdowns this season lead the Huskers and his 18 career touchdown receptions rank second all-time at NU, behind the 1972 Heisman trophy winner Rodgers. Entering today's game, Swift needs just 255 receiving yards to pass Rodgers and become the school's all-time career receiving yards leader.

And then of course there is that electrifying 88-yard punt return for a touchdown against Virginia Tech on national television earlier in the season, which Swift says is his favorite career highlight, despite the record-breaking catch.

A construction management major and first-team academic All-Big 12 pick in 2005, Swift has volunteered with the Lincoln Action Program and participated in Nebraska's hospital visits. After he graduates in December, Swift plans to get an internship with a construction company in Lincoln while continuing to work out in hopes of making an NFL squad.

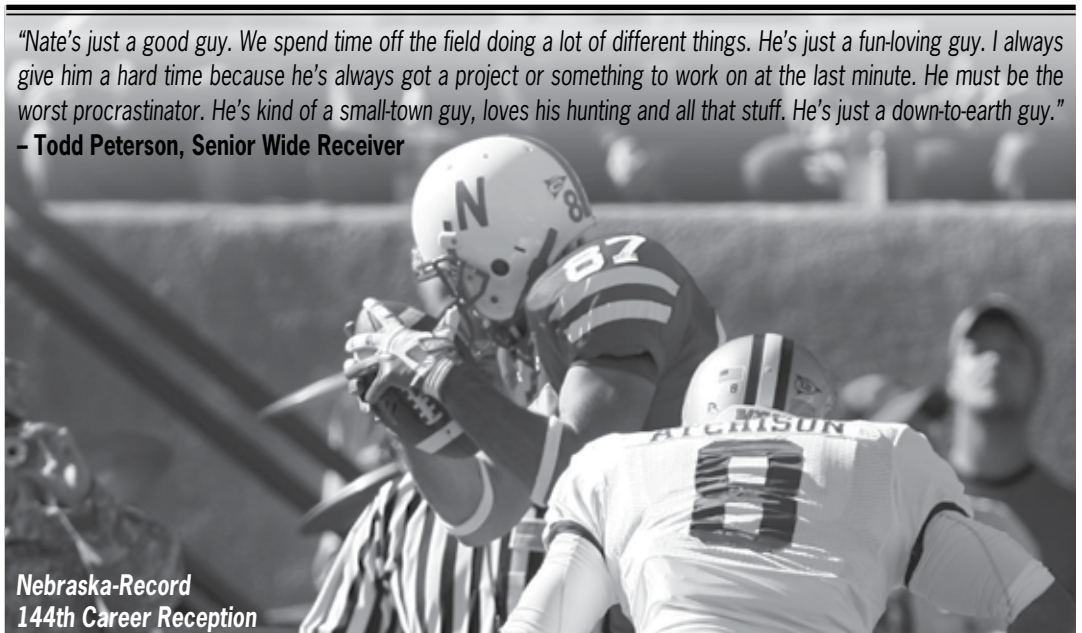
While Swift will go down in history as one of NU's top all-time receivers, he said he always strived to be known for just one thing in his career.

"I've always said I wanted to be remembered as a really consistent guy," Swift said. "Someone who always does the right thing and does things for the team."

It's safe to say he's done all that and more.

"Nate's just a good guy. We spend time off the field doing a lot of different things. He's just a fun-loving guy. I always give him a hard time because he's always got a project or something to work on at the last minute. He must be the worst procrastinator. He's kind of a small-town guy, loves his hunting and all that stuff. He's just a down-to-earth guy."

– Todd Peterson, Senior Wide Receiver



Nebraska-Record
144th Career Reception