

Huskers grab first victory

by Kent Seacrest

After four straight losses the Nebraska baseball team won its first Big Eight Conference game, but it took almost 24 hours from start to finish to register that first win.

In the second game of Saturday's double-header against Kansas, Nebraska's hopes for its first Big Eight victory were looking bright. The score was tied 2-2 in the bottom of the fifth inning with Nebraska's Gene Stohs on second base, no outs and the Huskers' number 2-3-4 hitters waiting to bat.

But Nebraska's hopes were suddenly dampened by rain, causing postponement of the game until Sunday.

The rain and the overnight delay apparently worked in the Husker's favor as the game resumed on Sunday. Stohs, still waiting patiently on second base to come home, saw the next two batters turn into outs.

But the third batter, Maury Damkroger, and Jayhawker pitcher, Bob Wolf, came to Stohs' rescue. Damkroger's infield single, which was followed by a fielding error by Wolf on the

next play, provided Nebraska with the winning run and their first Big Eight victory.

"We were pleased to win our first conference game," Husker Baseball Coach Tony Sharpe said. "With the help of Kansas' pitcher, we were able to score that winning run."

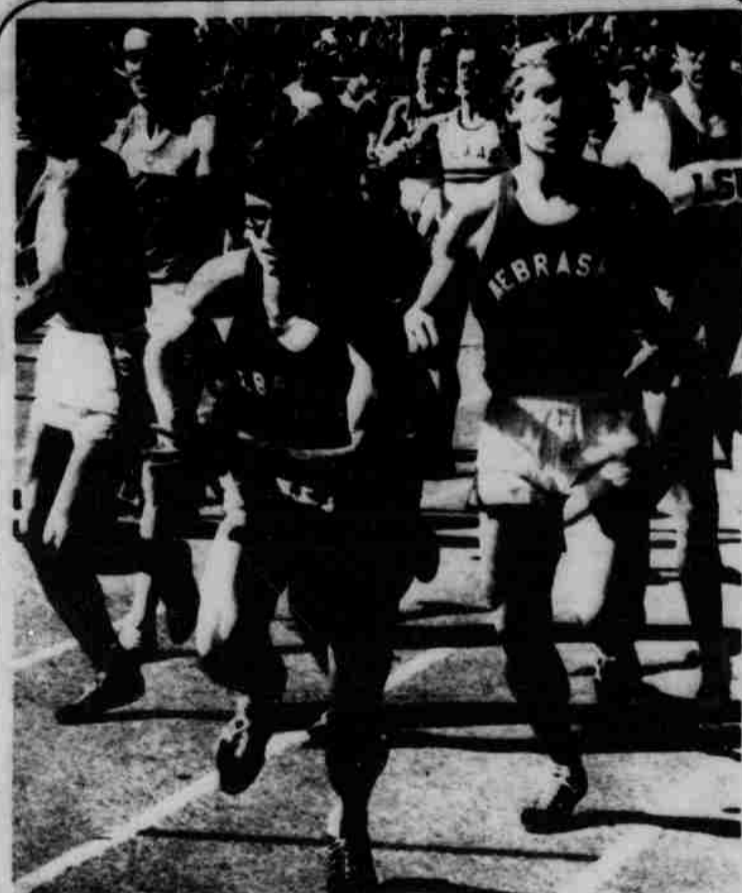
Saturday's first game against the Jayhawks saw Husker freshman Dennis O'Doherty pitch a four-hitter in his first collegiate start. O'Doherty, however, was victim of his own seventh-inning errors which gave Kansas a 3-2 victory.

"We couldn't have gotten a much better pitched game than we got from O'Doherty in the first game," Sharpe said. "He looked like a veteran the way he pitched. It's a shame the way he lost it."

Nebraska's second loss in the three game series came in Sunday's second game. Frustrated by the pitching of Kansas' Wolf, the Huskers could only manage four hits on their way to a 3-1 defeat.

"The second game today was a fine collegiate ball game," Sharpe said. "Both teams had good pitching and defenses. But we couldn't get enough hits. We get tight sometimes up at the plate which really hurts us. The team has to become more relaxed in their hitting."

The Huskers, 1-5 in Big Eight play, travel to Missouri this weekend to face the Tigers in another three-game series.



Nebraska's Dan Speck takes the baton from Jeff Wisemiller on the second leg of the Huskers' winning two-mile relay effort at the Texas Relays in Austin Saturday. The Nebraska quartet, which also included Roger Chadwick and Jim Hawkins, never trailed while posting a time of 7:25.2.

The Huskers' mile relay team of Leighton Priestley, Wes Leonard, Larry Climato and Garth Case finished third behind Oklahoma State in a time of 3:09.2.

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Big Red offense dominates initial spring scrimmage

Defense is usually the name of the game during Nebraska spring football drills, but Saturday at Memorial Stadium the offense dominated play in the Huskers' initial spring scrimmage.

Fourteen touchdowns were scored by four Nebraska offensive teams in the three-hour scrimmage, which concluded the Huskers' first week of spring practice.

"Overall, it wasn't a bad first scrimmage," noted Tom Osborne, assistant head coach. "There were some good things on both sides."

The top two offensive units were able to puncture the famed Black Shirts for three touchdowns. The No. 1 defense gave up two touchdown passes to quarterback David Humm's No. 1 offensive team and one touchdown to the No. 2 unit, led by Steve Runty.

However, Humm's touchdown passes of 38 and 41 yards to Frosty Anderson came against a mixed defensive unit which had the No. 1 line and reserve cornerbacks.

Overall, Humm completed nine passes in 17 attempts for three touchdowns while directing the No. 1 offense. Runty threw two touchdown passes, ran for another and made good use of the option play while quarter backing the No. 2 offense.

It was announced that quarterback Terry Luck, who guided Nebraska's freshman team to an undefeated season last year, will be sidelined indefinitely after sustaining a muscle pull above his knee last Monday.



The Nebraska tennis team split two matches at home over the weekend to bring their season record to 5-3. The Huskers blanked Nebraska Wesleyan 9-0 on Friday, but fell to Northwest Missouri, 8-1, on Saturday.

Two Nebraska gymnasts, Hoppy Batten and Larry Evermann, finished in the top ten Saturday in events at the NCAA Gymnastics Championships at Iowa State. Batten finished seventh in vaulting while Evermann took 10th in the side horse.

Kansas State won the first annual Cornhusker Invitational Golf Tournament at Holmes Park Friday.

Nebraska's first team finished second, five strokes behind Kansas State, in the two-day meet. The Huskers' Rick Schultz won medalist honors with back-to-back 74's.