

Sports

Cornhusker batters beat KSU Wildcats four times

By Bob Asmussen

Buck Beltzér Field Sunday was not the place for baseball fans who enjoy well-pitched, low-scoring games. The Nebraska baseball team pounded Kansas State pitching for 27 hits as they swept the Wildcats by scores of 9-3 and 12-6. The Wildcats had entered the weekend series last in the Big Eight in pitching.

Leading the charge for Nebraska at the plate was the hot-hitting Steve Stanicek. Stanicek was six for six in the two games. He hit one home run, one triple and two doubles. He drove in four runs and also walked three times. Stanicek has now hit safely in 15 consecutive games.

"I'm just seeing the ball real good now," Stanicek said. "I'm hitting it hard where people aren't. I'm just having a good year right now. I just hope I don't wake up."

On Saturday, Nebraska defeated KSU by scores of 12-3 and 3-2. The 3-2 win was Nebraska Coach John Sanders' 200th at Nebraska.

"The two hundredth win is nice," Sanders said. "Good players help to get coaches those wins."

In the first game Sunday Nebraska took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning on a single by Harold Bright. The Huskers added another run in the third when Mark

Mauer tripled in Stanicek.

The Huskers added two runs in the fourth to make it 4-0. In the fifth inning the Huskers got back-to-back home runs from Ben Amaya and Dan Tomich to make the score 7-1.

Todd Oakes was the winner in the first game, raising his record to 6-2. Oakes struck out seven of the first nine Wildcats he faced, including striking out the side in the third inning.

After Kansas State's first at bat in the second game, things looked grim for Nebraska. The Wildcats got four runs in that inning when catcher Don Grause hit a grand slam home run.

The Huskers came right back in the bottom of the first. Nebraska scored three runs on three singles and an error. With two men on in the first and the score 4-3 Kansas State, Husker shortstop Dan Boever hit a massive homer that cleared the scoreboard and bounded onto Avery Avenue.

The Huskers scored five runs in the second to put the game away. The big blow in the inning was a three-run triple by Tomich. Jeff Anderson came on in the fourth in relief of Bob Sebra to pick up the win. The four-game sweep of KSU ties the Huskers for the Big Eight lead at 8-4. They are 26-8 overall.

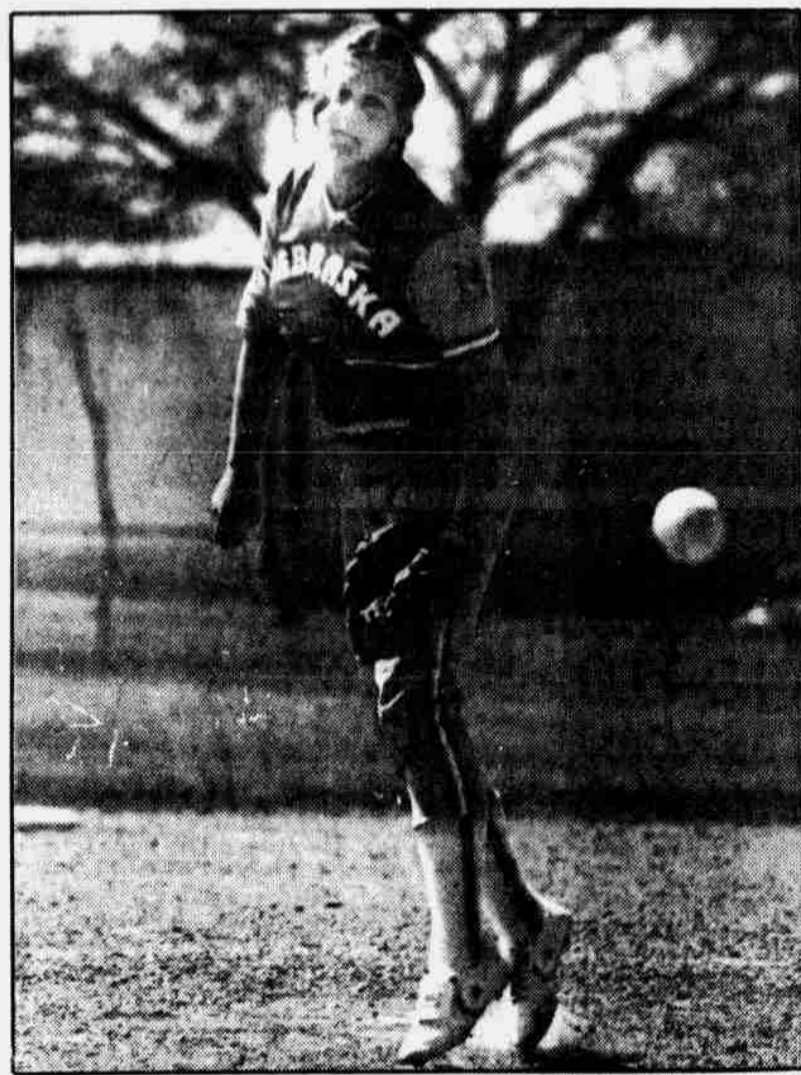


Photo by Dave Bentz

Husker softball pitcher Jeanne Wagner zips a fast ball across the plate to strike out a Mankato State player Saturday at Ballard Field. The Huskers swept the double-header, winning 4-0 and 7-0. Nebraska will be in the Missouri Invitational at Columbia, Mo., Friday and Saturday.

Sports Shorts

Nebraska's Jack Moore was named Saturday as the winner of the Frances Pomeroy-Naimsmith Award. The award is given annually by the Basketball Hall of Fame to the nation's outstanding college player less than six feet tall.

Moore finished his career as the Huskers' seventh all-time leading scorer with 1,204 points. He also ranks second on the NCAA all-time free throw shooting charts.

The 5-9 Moore will be given the award at a luncheon May 3 at the Hall of Fame in Springfield, Mass.

The 1982 Nebraska-Oklahoma football game has been moved to Nov. 26, the day after Thanksgiving, to accommodate nationwide television coverage by CBS. The game was scheduled for Nov. 20.

Scores, injuries highlight scrimmage

By Pat Higgins

Quarterbacks are becoming an endangered species for the Husker football team. Bruce Mathison joins Turner Gill on the injured list as Mathison suffered a broken bone in his left hand at Saturday's scrimmage.

The cast on his hand will likely keep Mathison out of the remainder of spring practice. Mathison directed the first string offense to a 65-yard touchdown drive against the second team defense before he was injured Saturday. In that drive, Mathison completed three passes in three attempts for 44 yards.

Mathison took over for the first string early in the scrimmage when Nate Mason took a blow to the ribs. Mason returned to the scrimmage after Mathison was hurt. Senior cornerback Allen Lyday intercepted Mason and returned the ball for a 46-yard touchdown.

"Nate was intercepted but he did do some good things out there. He got banged up pretty good, too," Husker Coach Tom Osborne said.

Roger Craig was the leading rusher with nine carries for 65 yards, including a 38-yard gain. Craig played fullback

at times which set up a backfield of Craig and Mike Rozier. Rozier gained 56 yards on 11 attempts, including a 2-yard touchdown run.

Seven touchdowns were scored Saturday. In addition to Lyday's score for the defense and Rozier's score, I-backs Tim Brungardt and Mark Schellen each had 1-yard runs for touchdowns. Mason added a touchdown on a 3-yard keeper play. Despite the number of touchdowns scored, defensive coordinator Charlie McBride was pleased with the defense.

"I am a lot more pleased with the intensity on defense by all the units. This is a testing to me. On Monday we will start to separate personnel and get our two best teams out there," McBride said.

Middle guard Jeff Merrell pulled a hamstring and had to leave the scrimmage early. McBride was content with the efforts by the middle guards and most of the rest of the defense.

"All our middle guards played well. The secondary is starting to play more as a unit and from what I saw, Tony Felici and Bill Weber looked good at defensive ends," McBride said.

NBA playoffs are best games in town

It's April, time to drag out the bats and cleats, and get out in the sun to "Play Ball," right? Not quite right. Some of America's sports fans will closet themselves inside for another couple of months while the NBA playoffs warm to a big finish. Warm is just the word for the NBA playoffs, because by the time they finish in early June, it's going to be 80 degrees in the shade outside.

Clippers, Utah Jazz, Indiana Pacers and Chicago Bulls play each other. That kind of public service would not be lost on hard-core NBA fans either.

At any rate, the problem with the NBA is with the regular season, not the playoffs. Sure, some teams can play .500 ball all year and get in the playoffs, but the fact remains that a .500 ball club in the NBA is still one of the 15 or so best teams in the world, and plays an entertaining and interesting game when the championship is on the line. Besides, anybody who noticed the less-than-glittering records of some of those NIT teams knows that the NCAA is about one more expansion away from throwing .500 college clubs into the tournament. What's more, the NBA clubs get their records without loading up in December against Anybody State and University of Wisconsin-Nowhere.

Unlike the college basketball playoffs, the NBA playoffs succeed not because they are the only game in town, but because they are the best game in town. That does not mean the college tournament would not succeed if it came along later in the year, but it does say that the NBA playoffs have proven themselves against greater competition.

So, if you can stand the thought of staying indoors a few hours longer, watch the NBA playoffs. The sight of Julius Erving, Larry Bird, Moses Malone, Magic Johnson and Gus Williams playing like they mean it, playing for more than the money, is worth it. There will be plenty of baseball left when the NBA playoffs are over. You can watch baseball into October if you want to. Of course, the NBA season starts about then all over again.



Pat Clark

Why do people do it? Why would anybody want to sit indoors in summer watching basketball, either in the arenas or on television, when for a few dollars you can get a baseball game and a suntan at the same time? They do it because at long last, after a season that started in October, after the high school and college extravaganzas, the pros finally get serious about the game.

You may hate the racehorse brand of basketball the pros play. That's fine; there's plenty of room out in the sun for you. You may think the season is too long. You're right. But the games that have to go are those dogmeat affairs in October and November. Start the season in mid-November and start the playoffs the first week of April. Not only do the fans not really get interested until mid-November, but cutting those games could eliminate 10 to 20 games in which some combination of the San Diego

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