

Daigle . . .

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"I've solved those doubts now, and I'm positive about this coaching move. If I didn't think I could do the job, I wouldn't have taken it."

"This is only my third campus in 17 years of playing and coaching, and I took this job with the intention of it being my last move."

As a 220-pound shortstop and coach, Daigle earns respect both physically and philosophically.

"First and foremost I think the success I've enjoyed is due to my getting first-rate quality young ladies to play in my program," Daigle said. "I'll forsake a really good softball player for a good girl. I want my ladies to be outstanding morally, academically and as a citizen. Give me that, and I'll take a good player and make her an outstanding player."

After coaching both men and women, Daigle said there is little difference in coaching philosophies for good athletes of either sex.

"Of course there are some physical differences, but, for a true athlete, I

don't think there's any difference in their job attitude about the game. If anything, I think I've found college women's athletics to have a pureness that college men's athletics lacks. You find a lot more problems with recruiting and academics in men's sports then you do in women's. I think it's that pureness that appeals to me."

The last Nebraska softball season was marked by inner-team conflicts and walk-outs that led the UNL athletic department to cancel most of the spring schedule. Daigle said he purposely chooses to ignore last season's problems.

"I don't want to know what went wrong with the team last season because I don't want to dwell on anything negative," he said. "The less I know about last year's problems the more open I can be with my players."

"I'm inheriting some good players. I think it may take them a little while to get used to my ideas about offense and defense, but I think by the time the Big Eight Tournament starts, we'll be pretty competitive".

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