

## Sports

# Invitational cuts tennis team's costs

By Jeff Korbelik

Daily Nebraskan Senior Reporter

The Nebraska men's tennis team will host the first Husker Invitational this Friday and Saturday in an attempt to save on their budget, coach Kerry McDermott said.

Play will be held on the East Campus tennis courts and the varsity courts behind the Coliseum. Competition will begin at 9 a.m. on both days. Admission is free.

McDermott said he decided to institute the invitational in order to save money on travelling expenses. The Huskers have traveled twice this semester. By staying at home, Nebraska is able to pull teams in and expose its program, McDermott said.

Teams from Colorado, Wisconsin, Northeast Missouri State, Southwest Missouri State and Southwest Baptist (Missouri), will compete in the invitational. McDermott said he had problems getting teams to participate.

"It's tough to get teams in the

first semester because they spend their budget on the spring," McDermott said.

McDermott said Nebraska was lucky to get Wisconsin to attend the tournament. The Badgers, he said, are one of the top three teams in the Big Ten. Colorado, which has a new coach, also was willing to compete in the invitational. McDermott said Nebraska has never faced any of the smaller schools from Missouri.

"If the teams are going to travel somewhere, they would much rather play in an invitational than

in a dual meet," McDermott said.

Senior Jim Carson will play No. 1 singles, for Nebraska. Freshman Mike Marsh will play No. 2, senior Ashwin Vasan No. 3, freshman Pat Carson No. 4, sophomore Jim Burton No. 5 and David Hand No. 6. Vasan and Jim Carson will team up to play No. 1 doubles, Pat Carson and Marsh will play No. 2 doubles and Burton and Hand will compete in the No. 3 doubles.

McDermott said his team is not doing as well as expected this fall. The team lacks depth, he said, but the situation should change

by the spring semester.

Nebraska hopes to add two players to their roster this spring, one from California and one from New Jersey. Craig Johnson, who has played No. 1 singles for the Huskers in the past, may play second semester. Ridge Schmidt, who won the Big Eight No. 5 singles title last year, will return in the spring.

"We will have the No. 4 player playing at the No. 6 position where he belongs," McDermott said. "We should be in the top-three in the Big Eight."

# Travis Turner never lost sight of goals

By Mark Davis

Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

Last week was Travis Turner's first start on any Nebraska football squad.

While he made some mistakes, and was taken out of the game on two occasions, Turner isn't worried about his position on the team.

"I don't have to worry, it's all in the Lord's hands," Turner said.

Turner won the starting quarterback job after Craig Sundberg threw three interceptions against Oklahoma State. Turner went into that game behind 3-0, but won it 17-3. Last week, Turner threw for 76 yards in Nebraska's 33-23 victory over Missouri.

The junior from Scottsbluff came to Nebraska after spending some time thinking about attending Chadron State. Until injuring his leg, he played second team on

the freshman squad behind Todd Zart.

After a summer of healing, Turner redshirted and played on the scout team until this year.

Turner said that he had to keep himself going after his injury. He knew he couldn't give up even though it was hard because his recuperation was mostly a personal ordeal.

"I was being tested by the Lord to see if I was strong enough to handle it and how much I really wanted to play football," he said.

The testing didn't end with a complete recovery from his injury. He returned to the scout team for another year.

But Turner never lost sight of his goals.

"I went to practice everyday with a challenge," he said. "I was throwing against the No. 1 team in the nation and I always tried to improve."

Turner's actions are not unlike the heroes he admired as he was growing up.

"I always liked Wilt Chamberlin and Muhammed Ali — people that have great confidence in themselves and could back up whatever they said."

The confidence Turner has in himself is from a combination of being the youngest in a family of four boys and one girl, and trying to live in the image that he finds most heroic.

"The goal of every Christian is to be Christ-like," Turner said.

While being a very confident athlete, Turner is also a very quiet man. He lives in a trailer court with his pet Doberman, Tasha, and Tasha's nine puppies.

When Turner isn't at school studying for a broadcasting degree, he is at home spending time with his dog and "spending as much time as possible" with the Lord.

"I don't know if you would call me a loner or not," Turner said.

Turner used to live in Colorado, and his ultimate dream is to play professional football for the Denver Broncos. But until then, he will be happy to be in Colorado for a short time this coming weekend when Nebraska plays the Buffaloes.

"I miss waking up and seeing the mountains," Turner said.

## Washington Huskies sit atop football poll

By Mike Reilley

Daily Nebraskan Staff Reporter

After Oklahoma and Texas played to a 15-15 deadlock last weekend, the Washington Huskies found themselves sitting atop the Associated Press football poll.

Boston College also continued its climb to the top of the ratings with a 24-10 win over Temple. The Eagles are ranked fourth in the wire poll.

Although both teams are enjoying the benefits of success this season, their reactions to the high national rankings are quite diverse.

A No. 1 ranking is nothing new to the Huskies. In 1982, they held the top spot for the first seven weeks of the season. "It's not a brand new phenomenon to us," Washington sports information director Chuck Niemi said. "We're not as giddy about it as we were two years ago."

Washington coach Don James said the high national ranking doesn't mean anything to him.

"I read in the paper where Texas and Oklahoma players wanted to be ranked No. 1. That's how I voted...I voted them 1-2."

James said he will keep his "I-don't-care" attitude until after the bowl games.

"As I've said so often, the only poll that counts is the one at the end of the season."

Niemi said the high ranking two years ago inspired opponents rather than the team. This year, though, Niemi said the Huskies should appreciate the top ranking since they were not the pre-season favorite.

"It should be more motivational for this year's team because they had to earn the top ranking," Niemi said. "It was to our belief that our high ranking in 1982 was more of a reflection of our '81 team that shut out Iowa in the Rose Bowl."

While Washington takes a low-key approach to the rankings, football fever has hit the

Boston College campus.

"Obviously, there is unparalleled interest in Boston College football this year," sports information director Reid Oslin said. "This is the most attention we've received in more than 40 years."

In 42 years to be exact. In 1942, BC finished the regular season ranked No. 1 and played in the Orange Bowl.

Despite the excitement, Oslin agreed with James that the only important poll is at the end of the year.

"Being 4-0 is nice, but being 8-0 late in the season is the ultimate."

Fan support for BC football is at its peak. For the first time in the school's history, all home games played at the 32,000-seat Alumni Stadium have been sold out. Oslin said a local television station even cancelled the "Love Boat" to air an Eagle game.

"It's great getting all the television coverage," Oslin said. "It's fun for us to be in a position like Nebraska is."

Eagle wide receiver Gerard Phalen credits his coach, Jack Bicknell, for the team's success. Phalen said the coaching staff has kept the players from becoming overconfident.

"There is a fine line between being overconfident and confident," Phalen said. "So far, no one has crossed the line into overconfidence."

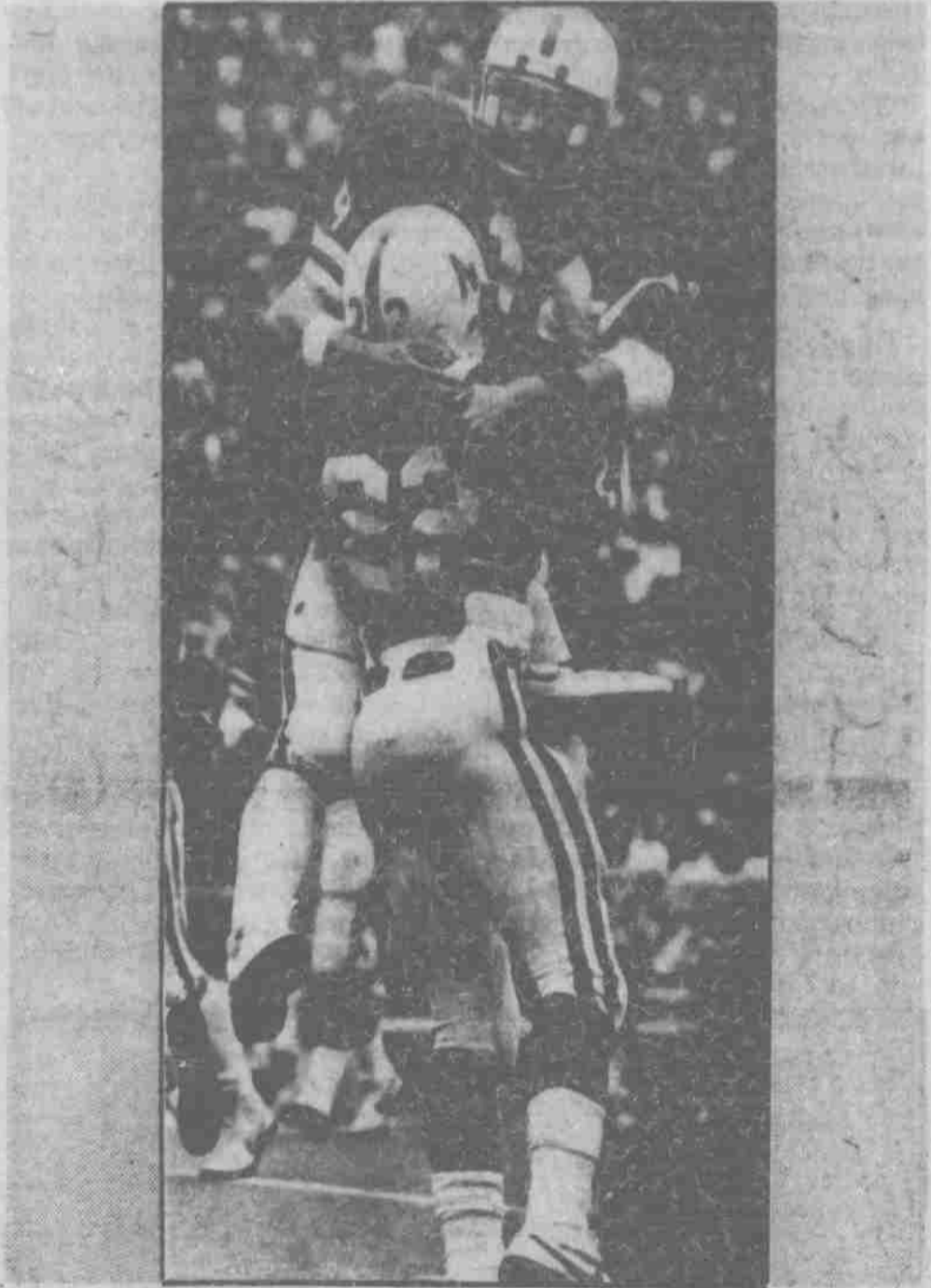
Phalen said Bicknell "has built this program around honesty."

"He talks to the team and whatever he tells us, we believe," Phalen said. "He makes sure we don't cross that line."

Like Niemi, Phalen also thinks the high ranking inspires opponents.

"We're going to get the best of every team," Phalen said. "Everyone's coming at us with the attitude, 'Hey, let's knock off Boston College.'"

"They're not going to let up against us and we have to make sure we don't let up either," Phalen said.



Joel Sartore/Daily Nebraskan

Travis Turner went from being No. 2 (below), to an on-the-field celebration with Doug DuBose (above) as No. 1.



Mark Davis/Daily Nebraskan