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MEETINGS: TUES. OCT. 29, 6:30 PM CITY UNION
ALL WELCOME!!

Dahlgren is committed to team play

By Lisa M. Henkel
 Staff Reporter

Karen Dahlgren, a middle blocker on the Nebraska volleyball team, came to Nebraska to see if she could become a success at a Division I school. Making the all-Big Eight team her freshman and sophomore years proved that she didn't need to worry.

Dahlgren, from Bertrand, said the Cornhuskers were the only Division I school that recruited her. She was considering smaller schools like Kearney State.

After redshirting her freshman year, her goals were to become a starter and to become all-Big Eight. Now that she has achieved both of those, her goals have become more team-oriented.

"I'd rather be in the Final Four than anything," she said.

Dahlgren's leadership qualities helped Nebraska coach Terry Pettit to

make her the captain of this year's team.

"He (Pettit) thinks I can be objective," Dahlgren said.

The captain is the only one allowed to talk to the referee so it has to be a player who's on court a good deal of the time, Pettit said.

"A lot of it's experience as much as anything. She's a good role model for the rest of the team," he said. "No one questions how hard she works."

Dahlgren said her team role changes but mainly it's to display leadership and consistency.

"She's a highly committed athlete," Pettit said, "one of the most highly committed I've worked with."

Pettit said she does a lot of things that go unnoticed, like positioning and reading the other side of the court.

"She's one of the most experienced players in college volleyball," Pettit said. "She's probably the leading

blocker in the conference and she's raised her hitting percentage from .290 to .342."

Dahlgren said she thinks this year's team is stronger and has more depth than past teams.

"The difference is we're more willing to work harder this year," she said. "The team is really close, we all get along really well this year."

Majoring in business administration, Dahlgren said she's not sure where it will lead, but she would like to continue to play volleyball after college.

"I'd like to try out for the national team or the pro volleyball leagues in Italy or Japan," she said.

Taking things one step at a time though, Dahlgren is optimistic about this year's team.

"If we keep on improving the way we have these last few weeks the chances are very good (for the Final Four)," she said.

Beyond the call of duty...

Player shows generosity on the field and away from it

By Jeff Apel
 Staff Reporter

The generosity shown by Kent Wells extends beyond the football field.

Wells, Nebraska's freshman offensive tackle, not only has been known to forfeit personal glory on the football field in exchange for team success but is also known to be willing to help in times of need.

"I have always been the type of person who would rather have the team be successful rather than myself," Wells said. "Personal glory is nice but I don't put them ahead of team goals."

During his senior season at Lincoln East High School, Wells forfeited his chances of earning any national high school honors by playing for a team that compiled a 2-7 record.

That same year, Wells started a fund-raising drive hoping to take his high school track coaches to the Keebler National Track and Field Championships in Chicago.

Although the fund drive for the trip fell short, Wells said he still received an amount of personal satisfaction for his efforts.

"I think I really showed Coach (Bob) Eyth and Coach (Ed) McPherren (Wells' high school coaches) that I really appreciated what they were doing for me," Wells said. "I ended up not raising enough money to take them along but I was glad to see that Coach Eyth's parents paid for the trip so they still

got to go."

Making the adjustment to college football has been a difficult one, Wells said. He has had to learn the Nebraska offensive blocking schemes and adjust to not playing all the time.

Although he has had the benefit of having six former high school teammates on this year's junior varsity squad, I-back Dave Clare, offensive guard Tim Harrington, cornerback Matt Jewett, monster Pat McCashland, cornerback Bill Settles and offensive guard John Strasheim, Wells said he is just beginning to catch on to the system at Nebraska.

"Playing at Nebraska is so much dif-

ferent than playing high school football, it's incredible," he said. "Having all of my old high school teammates here, though, has made the adjustment easier."

Freshman coach Dan Young said that Wells' greatest asset is his 6-5, 305-pound frame.

With that type of size, Young said, it isn't difficult for Wells to have a size advantage against his opponents.

"Particularly on the junior varsity level, players Kent's size really can be pretty dominant," Young said. "Kent combines good feet with pretty good strength to be the type of football player that he is."

OSU to Aloha Bowl

BOWLS from Page 9

The Orange Bowl when it lost to Iowa State. Mike Norseth is one of the country's better quarterbacks and will be a fairly high draft pick.

Aloha Bowl: Alabama vs. Oklahoma State. If you asked the Cowboys where they'd rather spend the holidays you probably wouldn't find many that would say Miami. But ask Oklahoma State Coach Pat Jones and he would say Miami. Fortunately, there are more players on the team than coaches so the losses to Nebraska and Oklahoma won't hurt as much.

Bluebonnet Bowl: Texas A&M vs. Colorado. If anyone had said before the season that the Buffs were headed to a bowl, they would have been tied to Ralphie and dragged around Folsom Field. But Bill McCartney will get the last laugh as his team rises in the Big Eight conference.

Other bowls:
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