

# Sports

## NU to play CU in tournament

By Todd Aron  
Staff Reporter

### Probable Starters

#### Nebraska (11-16, 4-10)

- F — Shelly Block, 5-9 Jr.
- F — Stephanie Bolli, 5-10 So.
- C — Angie Miller, 6-0 Jr.
- G — Maurice Ivy, 5-9 So.
- G — Amy Stephens, 5-6 Fr.

#### Colorado (19-8, 9-5)

- F — Tracy Tripp, 5-9 Fr.
- F — Crystal Ford, 6-2 Fr.
- C — LeaAnn Banks, 6-1 Sr.
- G — Bridget Turner, 5-8 Fr.
- G — Kris Holwerda, 6-0 Sr.

A five-game losing streak will be on

the line when the Nebraska women's basketball team travels to Boulder, Colo., Tuesday to face Colorado in the first round of the Big Eight Postseason tournament.

Nebraska is coming off its worst defeat of the year, a 101-63 loss to Kansas State Saturday in Manhattan. The loss dropped the Huskers to 11-16 for the season and 4-10 in the Big Eight for a seventh-place finish.

Colorado has jumped from an eighth-place finish a year ago in the conference to second-place this year.

Colorado coach Ceal Barry attributes the turnaround to recruiting.

"The assistant coaches have done a good job recruiting," she said. "Bridget Turner, Tracy Tripp and Gretchen DeWitt have all contributed."

Coach Barry also said the whole team has improved, but it was recruiting that made the difference.

"That's the bottom line," Barry said.

Colorado has earned the right to host its first Big Eight tournament game ever. Coach Barry said it is a big stepping stone for the Buffs.

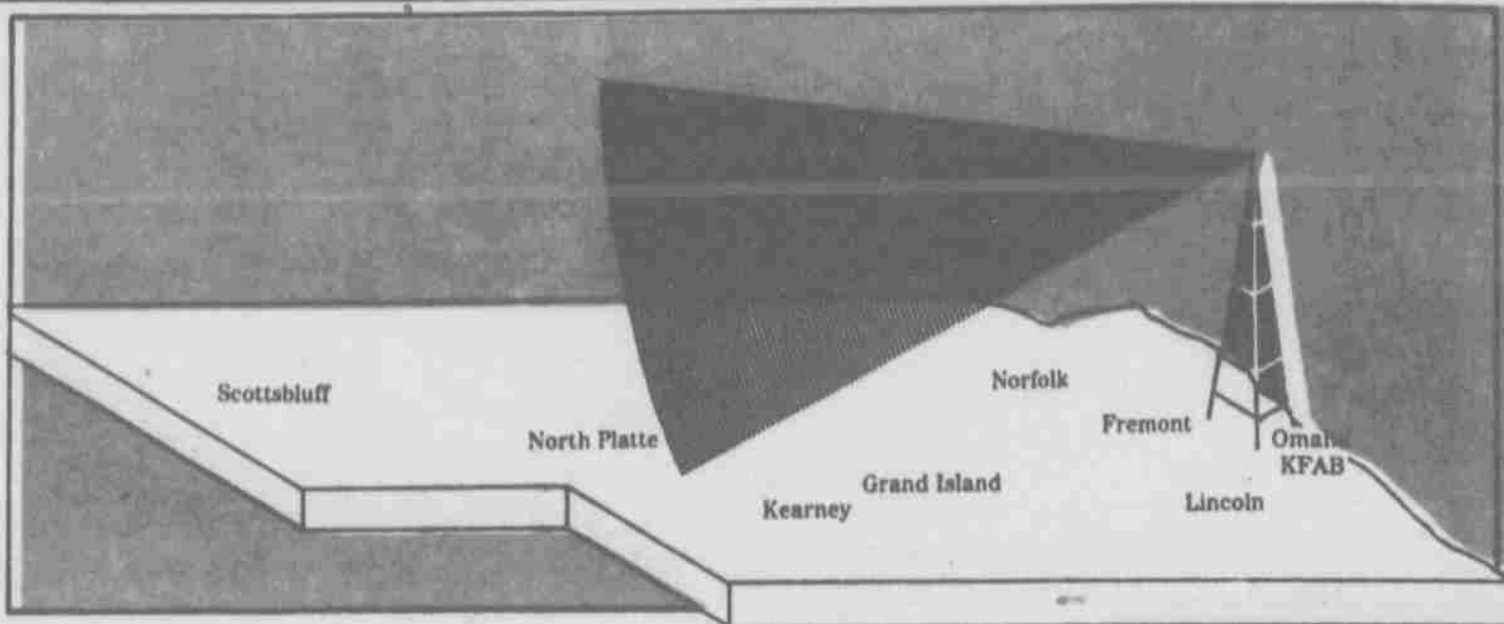
"It was a goal we set at the beginning of the season," she said. "It was the only one we set and it's a real positive thing to reach your goals."

Barry said hosting the first game is not as big of an advantage this year as in past years. There is so much balance in the league it doesn't matter who or where you play, she said.

The Buffs have been true to their coaches word, going 5-2 on the road and 4-3 at home in the Big Eight.

One of their five road conference wins was in Lincoln last week. Colorado escaped with a 68-66 win behind 6-foot sophomore Erin Carson's 26-point performance.

Nebraska must also contend with all-Big Eight center 6-1 senior LeaAnn Banks and 5-8 freshman guard Bridget Turner. Banks is averaging 11 points and 9.8 rebounds per game. Turner is averaging 11.6 points and 5.6 rebounds per game.



Kurt Eberhardt/Daily Nebraskan

## KFAB radio, NU satisfied with football, basketball pact

By Steve Thomas  
Staff Reporter

KFAB made waves — and not just radio waves — when it signed an impressive contract with NU three years ago.

But it's halftime at the negotiating table now. And neither team — KFAB or the university — is ready to make any predictions on what will happen at the close of the game.

In 1982, KFAB and the university negotiated a contract for nearly \$500,000 a year, which granted KFAB the rights to be the sole network to originate Nebraska football and basketball broadcasts.

With the five-year contract more than half fulfilled, KFAB and NU are satisfied with the arrangement.

"The athletic department is the big winner in this contract," said Lyle Bremser, vice president and general manager of KFAB. "And they should be. That's what it's all about."

Prior to the contract, Sports Information Director Don Bryant said the athletic department took in between \$50,000 and \$60,000 a year for all football and basketball broadcasts.

In the contract's first year, KFAB paid \$475,000. That figure has been adjusted each year since 1982 in conjunction with the consumer price index, but will never dip below \$475,000, Bryant said.

"The whole thing evolved out of economics," Bryant said. "We were getting so very little for radio rights. I think it can be considered one of the outstanding radio contracts in the nation."

Gary Fouraker, in charge of business and finance in the athletic department, said Nebraska followed the lead

of others in negotiating such a contract. "Many other schools had done it," Fouraker said. "And it appeared to be the most equitable way of handling the situation."

In Fouraker's line of work, it is no surprise that he is pleased with the first three years of the contract.

"I have to look at the contract strictly from a financial standpoint, but it has been a tremendous success for the athletic department," Fouraker said.

Citing the athletic department as the victor, it follows that someone must come out on the short end of the contract. Not so according to Lyle Bremser.

"It has been a success from our standpoint, too," Bremser said. "It's not a big moneymaker for us, nor did we anticipate it to be. There's a prestige factor involved that cannot be overlooked."

Bremser said the state needed Nebraska's football and basketball coverage.

"It was something we had done for too long," he said.

With KFAB having the rights to originate the network for all games, other stations pay KFAB for rights to pick up the broadcasts. One station per market area carries the broadcasts and the cost varies from market to market, Bremser said.

Things were set up in KFAB's favor when the contract was drawn up three years ago — then came the onslaught of televised football. Bremser admitted it was not a welcome change.

"Television has had some effect on us," Bremser said. "But Bob Devaney has taken a good stand in trying to protect all interests. When we're pay-

ing that much money, they (the university) are interested in our contract. They don't want to cut off their nose to spite their face."

Bremser said he would be hard-pressed to cite any losers in the contract.

"The fans can get all the coverage they want by flicking on a switch," Bremser said. "And other stations aren't hurt because when they have exclusive rights in a market area, they can up their advertising rates."

Some radio stations aren't quite as happy with KFAB's marriage to NU.

Jay Vavricek, station director at KRGI in Grand Island, said it has been less profitable to carry the games since the KFAB contract.

"I would guess some stations are hurt somewhat by having to pay so much more than before," Vavricek said. "But that's all a part of free enterprise."

While Vavricek has no problems with the contract, others do. According to UNL attorney Richard Wood, a Seward station has filed suit claiming the contract violates federal anti-trust laws. Wood said he expects the lawsuit to be dealt with later this year.

With time running out on the contract, Vavricek offered some suggestions for the future.

"I'd just like to see them open the doors to other stations and not use money as the only criteria," Vavricek said. "Good will, integrity and promotions should figure in too."

Both Bremser and Bryant said there has been no discussion about the future of broadcast rights for football and basketball.

"Just from a financial standpoint," Bryant said, "I think we would like to come up with something similar."

## NU softball team ranked No. 2; spring season opens this week

By Lisa M. Henkel  
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska softball team starts its spring season this week ranked No. 2 in the nation, according to the NCAA preseason coaches poll.

The Cornhuskers finished their fall season 15-1. Their fall record plus their pitching staff gave Nebraska its No. 2 ranking. Nebraska assistant coach Ron Wolforth said the ranking "doesn't mean a heck of a lot."

Wolforth said the Huskers have the best pitching staff in the nation.

"The pitchers' ERA was definitely under one. Lori Sippel is one of the top pitchers in the nation, if not the best," he said.

Donna Deardorff and Marlys Handley, along with Sippel, had an ERA of 0.54 with nine shutouts and 136 strikeouts during the fall season.

The only thing worrying Nebraska's coaches is the team's youth.

"We're awfully young. We have 10 new kids. Our season depends on how well they mature. They've got the basic fundamentals. We're very fast and have a very good team attitude," Wolforth

said.

Although practice doesn't tell you how the team is going to look in a game situation, Wolforth said the Huskers have come a long way since the fall.

"We've had a fantastic three weeks. Overall it's gone very, very well. The players are very intense and are hard workers," he said.

With four teams in the Big Eight ranked in the Top 20, Wolforth still thinks that Kansas is the team to beat. The Jayhawks have their entire team returning.

"It's going to be a real challenge. One of us is going to win the conference and go to the College World Series," Wolforth said.

The Huskers have the possibility of starting seven out of nine players that have never played for Nebraska before. Four positions will be filled with freshmen, and possibly five depending on the pitcher. Heidi Schlabach and Shelby Mertins are the only seniors on the team. Juniors Amy Love and Lori Richins were voted the team's co-captains.

Even though the Huskers may be young, Wolforth said that hitting, along with pitching, are Nebraska's strengths. "We have nine or 10 major college

hitters. We have a solid lineup. There's not a weak spot. We can bat nine players with very good offensive potential," he said.

The softball team opens at Las Cruces, N.M., Wednesday with a double-header against Minnesota. After that the Huskers are at the Road Runner Invitational at Las Cruces the next day.

"There's some really fine teams. Hopefully, we'll have a good showing. We'll be very competitive," Wolforth said.

Wolforth said the team hasn't had any injuries, which he attributes in part to weight training.

"We're very strong. And, knock on wood, we're very, very healthy," he said.

Nebraska can't afford any injuries because they don't have a lot of depth, Wolforth said. He said depth is always a problem with softball because a team can only have 12 players on scholarship.

Coach Wayne Daigle is in his third season at Nebraska. His record is 136-33. Last year, the Huskers had their best record, 59-14, and made it to the finals of the College World Series. Daigle came to Nebraska from Sam Houston State University.

Ron Wolforth is in his second year as assistant coach.

## Get the Jump on Spring at Mid City Toyota

73 TOYOTA, Yellow, rear defog. 86,630 mi., AM. WAS \$875..... \$875	74 CORVETTE STINGRAY, Rep., p/s. auto, air. WAS \$8,450..... \$7,450
71 TOYOTA CORONA, Beige, AM/FM. WAS \$1,150..... \$750	78 CAMARO Z-28, White, 49,729 miles. p/s, auto, air, tilt, AM/FM stereo. WAS \$3,975..... \$3,450
77 TOYOTA COROLLA, 4-speed, 72,107 mi., 2-dr., rear defog. .... SAVE	83 CAMARO, Gray, p/s, auto, air, tilt, cruise, 37,000 miles, window locks, AM/FM cassette. WAS \$10,300..... \$9,975
84 TOYOTA MINI VAN, p/s, p/b, tilt, front and rear heat and air, double bench fold down. WAS \$12,975..... \$10,900	80 HONDA PRELUDE, 2-dr., sunroof, cloth, AM/FM cassette, rear defogger. WAS \$5,475..... \$4,975
74 MERCURY COUGAR, P/S, auto, air, 2-door. WAS \$1,250..... \$875	84 PONTIAC FIERO, Red, full power, window locks, 4-speed, Sharp! WAS \$8,950..... \$8,375
80 FIAT STRADA, 4-door, gold, air, auto, AM/FM, low miles. WAS \$3,350..... \$2,950	78 PONTIAC FIREBIRD, p/s, auto, air, tilt, cruise, AM/FM, rear defogger, 52,000 miles. WAS \$4,975..... \$3,950
85 FORD, 4-door, blue, p/s, p/b, air, auto. WAS \$975..... \$795	80 PONTIAC FIREBIRD, 41,000 miles, tilt, cruise, p/s, auto, air. WAS \$4,975..... \$4,475
77 BUICK SKYLARK, Gold, 4-door, p/s, auto, air, bucket seats, floor shift. WAS \$2,975..... \$1,975	82 PONTIAC FIREBIRD, Silver, p/s, auto, air, tilt, cruise, 36,000 miles. Come look. WAS \$7,950..... \$6,975
86 CHEVY 1/2-TON PICKUP, Red and white, clean. WAS \$1,475..... \$1,250	85 TOYOTA COROLLA, Blue, 15,000 miles, liftback, auto, air, p/s, cloth seats, rear defogger. WAS \$9,350..... \$8,950
89 VW CAMPMOBILE, Steeps 4, low miles. WAS \$2,350..... \$1,975	84 SUPRA, Full power, sunroof, 18,000 miles, extra sharp! WAS \$12,600..... \$11,995
76 FORD 1/2-TON PICKUP, with shell. WAS \$1,850..... \$1,450	81 CELICA LIFTSACK, Moonroof, AM/FM, sport wheels, cloth bucket seats. WAS \$6,350..... \$5,495
78 BUICK CENTURY WAGON, Auto, p/s, air, lift, cruise, one owner. WAS \$3,650..... \$2,950	
72 PONTIAC GRANDVILLE, Auto, p/s, air, white, good tires. WAS \$975..... \$750	

Mid City Toyota  
1145 N. 48th  
464-0241