

Softball coach says it's time for basics

By Mike Kluck
Staff Reporter

It is time for the Nebraska softball team to go back to the basics, according to Nebraska coach Ron Wolforth.

Wolforth said the Cornhuskers have run into problems throughout the early part of their season because of the speculation derived from their No. 2 preseason ranking. He said the distraction of being touted as a strong candidate for the national champion hurt Nebraska during its nine-day trip to Texas and California, where the Huskers compiled a 12-5 record.

"A lot of people were telling us we were a shoe-in for the national title," Wolforth said. "Our players started listening to them and forgot that it takes hard work and intensity."

Nebraska opened its trip by shut-



Wolda

ting out Bowling Green, Southwest Texas State, Baylor and North Texas State in the Houston Classic, but dropped a 1-0 decision to Iowa State in 10 innings. Nebraska then earned a third-place finish by shutting out Indiana and Bowling Green in the tournament's consolation round.

Wolforth said he wasn't disappointed by the Huskers' loss to Iowa State because they played well defensively. He said Nebraska had the effort and determination to beat the Cyclones, who were the tournament's champions, but couldn't score any runs.

Wolforth said Nebraska's victories in Houston were glimpses of how good the Huskers could be this year.

"We started to see some changes with our team," Wolforth said. "It was a good confidence-gaining period of time."

Nebraska defeated Texas A&M 4-1 in Houston, and then avenged a 3-1 loss to Northwestern in Stockton, Calif., by defeating Pacific 6-0.

Wolforth said the losses to Texas

A&M and Northwestern occurred because the Huskers didn't have the intensity they needed.

"In those two games we seemed just to go through the motions," Wolforth said. "Those two games were the most non-intense I have seen us play in the last two years."

"I feel personally responsible for several of our losses because our team wasn't up to the level we needed to play at. This is a reflection on me somehow, but I need to get out of them what is needed to get us where we need to be."

Nebraska finished its trip by traveling to San Jose, Calif., to compete in the San Jose State-Bud Light Invitational. The Huskers wrapped up a second-place finish in the tournament by dropping a 9-0 decision to No. 1-ranked UCLA.

Wolforth said the UCLA score was not a proper indicator of how the Bruins and Nebraska compared on the field.

"UCLA is not anywhere close to nine runs better than Nebraska,"

Wolforth said. "I wasn't upset with the game because we fought hard to get into the championship."

Wolforth said the San Jose State tournament wasn't a total loss even though Nebraska lost to UCLA and dropped a 2-1 decision to Illinois State. He said the Huskers defeated New Mexico, a squad which beat Nebraska earlier this season, and posted wins against Santa Clara, Creighton, and top-20 powers Arizona State and Central Michigan.

Wolforth said Nebraska's five victories in San Jose gave him a good feeling for the rest of the season. He said the Huskers would be assured of a repeat trip to the College World Series if they play at the level they played at in San Jose.

"Everyone of our starting nine had a hand in at least one of our victories," Wolforth said. "It was a good team effort on both defense and offense. We had some solid games with good intensity, and we played with good team unity. We're going to take those five games and springboard from

them for the rest of the season."

Wolforth said Nebraska is spurred by the play of third baseman Katy Wolda, who was named to the All-Tournament team in San Jose. Junior shortstop Jane Kremer, who broke a Husker record when she knocked in five runs against Santa Clara, was named the offensive player of the tournament.

Wolforth said that although Kremer was honored for her offensive play, her defensive skills were more impressive.

"I have never seen her play better defense at the shortstop position," Wolforth said. "If she continues to play like that, she could be the best defensive shortstop in the Big Eight. She took her first step forward in becoming a complete player."

Wolforth said Nebraska is "going in the right direction" after compiling a 17-8 record this season. He said the Huskers are looking forward to opening their home season at 1 p.m. Saturday against Eastern Illinois at the Nebraska Softball Complex.

Huskers gain exposure at Tennis Classic

By Nick Hodge
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska men's and women's tennis teams were given a rewarding experience during their spring-break trip to California.

Nebraska tennis coach Kerry McDermott said he was pleased with the trip to the West Coast even though the Cornhusker men had a more successful spring break than the Husker women. The Nebraska men compiled a 6-2 record, while the Husker women earned a 1-5 mark.

McDermott said the trip provided the Nebraska program with good exposure.

"We're playing a better schedule and better matches, which will make our program better and improve recruiting," McDermott said. "Our program has improved a great deal already."

McDermott said the level of competition throughout the trip will help the Huskers in the long run.

"There were lots of close matches, which always brings out the best of

your game," McDermott said. "We had a good spring break."

The Nebraska men opened their portion of the trip by finishing second at the San Diego Team Tourney in San Diego March 18-20. The Huskers had reached the finals of the three-day tournament by defeating Northern Arizona and Dartmouth, but lost to San Diego 5-3.

Nebraska warmed up for the California-Irvine Marriott Tennis Classic March 24-27 in Irvine, Calif., by defeating U.S. International 7-2

Monday in Irvine.

The Huskers then earned a fifth-place finish in the 16-team Marriott Classic by defeating Mississippi 5-3. Nebraska opened the tournament by defeating Harvard 5-4 and then avenged a 5-3 loss to Minnesota by defeating Chapman, the No. 1-ranked team in Division II, 6-0.

McDermott said Nebraska has made great strides since participating in the Marriott Classic last season.

"We had a good tournament by finishing fifth out of 16 teams when

you look back at last year, when we lost in the first round," McDermott said.

The Nebraska women defeated Loyola Marymount in the Marriott Classic, its lone victory of the trip. McDermott said he was disappointed with the Husker women because he felt they could win three matches entering the trip.

"I'm disappointed but it was good to get outdoors and face the elements," McDermott said. "It was also good to get some match experience."

Competition surges as Olympic hopefuls come to Lincoln

By Richard Cooper
Staff Reporter

When the NCAA Men's Gymnastics Championships come to Lincoln April 14-16, Nebraska will carry the No. 2 national ranking into the meet.



The Cornhuskers, who have finished second at the NCAA Gymnastics Championships in the last three consecutive years, are the No. 1 seed in the Midwest region.

Dave Mickelson, chairman of the NCAA Men's Gymnastics Committee, said 10 teams will be selected Tuesday to compete in the champion-

ships. The top teams in the four regions — East, Midwest, Midwest and West — will receive automatic berths and the next six teams will receive at-large berths.

Mickelson said teams will be selected on the basis of final NCAA regular season ranking, head-to-head competition and late-season performances.

The final rankings and scoring averages were released Monday by the NCAA. Illinois is the No. 1-ranked team with a 285.25 scoring average, followed by Nebraska with a 284.18 average. Oklahoma is ranked No. 3 with a 283.55 average, followed by No. 4 Iowa with a 283.09 average, No. 5 Ohio State with a 282.77 average, and No. 6 Stanford with a 282.26 average. Houston Baptist, Minnesota, UCLA, Arizona State and Penn State fill out the top 11 teams.

Mickelson said Arizona State will

probably not be selected because Penn State is the No. 1-ranked team in the East region. The No. 1-ranked team in the Midwest region is Big Ten champion Illinois.

Mickelson said the NCAA Gymnastics Committee gives an automatic berth to the Big Ten Champion because it is the only "legitimate conference" in the NCAA with seven teams.

Nebraska is the top seed in the Midwest, and Stanford has qualified as the No. 1 seed in the West region. The Cardinals were the Pac 10 runners-up this year.

Mickelson said six teams are capable of winning the NCAA Championship. He said the meet promises to be the most competitive one in NCAA history.

"The great thing about these championships is we are finally getting the 10 best teams in the country on the same floor," Mickelson said.

"This is the most wide-open championship I have ever been associated with. It should be a great meet."

Team competition will begin April 14, and the top three teams from the preliminary round will advance to the finals April 15. The all-around and individual event finals will be decided on April 16.

UCLA gymnastics coach Art Shurlock said the three teams that qualify for the final round will have to score a 286 or better. Nebraska tallied a 286.75, the highest score in the NCAA this year, earlier this season against Oklahoma and Iowa State.

Shurlock said the NCAA champion could break the national scoring record of 287.80, which was set by Nebraska in 1983.

Mickelson said this year's all-around title will be just as competitive as the team title because 1988 is an Olympic year. He said five gymnasts — including Alfonso Rodriguez of

Houston Baptist, Nebraska's Tom Schlesinger and Kevin Davis, Illinois' David Zeddies, and UCLA's Curtis Holdsworth — have a chance at winning the all-around title.

The premeet favorite is Rodriguez, Mickelson said. Schlesinger and Davis, who finished first and second in last year's all-around competition, are also strong contenders for the title, he said.

Mickelson said the NCAA championships will give fans an opportunity to look at potential 1988 U.S. Olympic Team members.

"This year is a special year for the NCAA's because gymnastics fans will be watching gymnasts who will compete in the Olympics this year," he said. "Every four years the NCAA's are very competitive because of the Olympics, and every time the level of competition goes up a notch."

Seven Cornhuskers held out of spring football practice

Nebraska wingback Dana Brinson and cornerback Charles Fryar — both starters from last year's team — topped the list of seven Cornhuskers now being held out of spring football drills which Coach Tom Osborne announced Wednesday.

Osborne said I-back Ken Clark, linemen Chris O'Gara and Ray Valladao, defensive

tackle Kent Wells and fullback Randy Williams will be held out in addition to Brinson and Fryar.

"One or two of those guys may miss the whole spring, and the majority of them will probably be out about two weeks," Osborne said Wednesday. "Most of that is academics and some of it is disciplinary."

Osborne wouldn't elaborate on the disciplinary reasons behind the suspensions, but said that most players were being held out for "precautionary reasons because of academics."

In addition, Osborne said, safety Mark Blazek, tight end Dan Lohmeier and lineman Sean Putnam will likely miss most or all spring

drills with injuries. Tight end Todd Millikan and quarterback Steve Taylor, he said, may return for part of the spring practices.

Osborne said he was still unable to judge the team effectively after only three days of practice, but said the first- and second-team offenses and most of the defensive units performed well Wednesday.

FOR SALE

14" color TV, good deal for just \$45. 467-5189

Complete G.A.P.S. course to prepare for LSAT. It helped me. Half of new price. 477-5672.

FOR SALE: Used drafting table wood board with adjustable metal base. \$35 excellent condition. Call 476-8482.

IMPORTED & DOMESTIC CIGARETTES

Cliff's Smoke Shop
140 No 12th Street
(NEW LOCATION)
476-0119

SCHWINN BIKE FOR SALE
Call 466-6333 after 5:00 PM.

Solofox machine with attachments, stereo system; with Megaplanners speakers with one lobe subwoofer, Bangen-Olsen turntable, NAD tuner and amplifier with lots of other items for sale. See to appreciate. Call and leave number. Available after 5 p.m. 477-6810 and ask for Eric. 1040 S. 18th, Apartment 5.

Used Olivetti electronic typewriters. \$300. See Dan at the Daily Nebraskan, 34 Nebraska Union, 1400 R Street. 472-1769.

VEHICLES FOR SALE

1987 VW new engine, excellent body, 780-5843 after 6:00.

SERVICES

WATCH YOUR FAVORITE MOVIES AT DUDS N' SUDS

Movie night every Thursday night, with free popcorn. Try us because nobody "DUDS" it cleaner.

DUDS N' SUDS
938 NO 27TH STREET

Xerox copies made
\$.05 a copy
Fast Bucks
Check Cashing Service
1106 N 27th

Fast Bucks Pawn Shop
We loan/buy class rings, gold, etc.
1106 N 27th

Fast Bucks
Check Cashing Service
Out of state/Two party checks cashed instantly.
1106 N 27th

Guaranteed Home Shopping Credit Card, \$1,000 credit line! Build or reestablish credit. No credit check. No bank account! Pre-approved for first \$100 callers. Call 1-800-327-6826 ext. 991.

Notary Service

Fast Bucks

Check Cashing Service

1106 N 27th

PRIVATE GUITAR INSTRUCTION

Beginners or Advanced.
ZAGER STUDIO
423-2709

Professional Tattooing. Hungry Eye Studio 111 North 56th. 477-9279. Formerly Ralph's

High quality photo ID's made
Fast Bucks
Check Cashing Service
1106 N 27th

Thursday Special

3 1/2 cents copies

6-9pm, CopyCenter

NEBRASKA BOOKSTORE

1300 Q Street 476-0111

TYPEWRITERS-WORDPROCESSORS

RENTAL-SALES-SERVICE
BLOOM'S
323 North 13th St.
474-4136