

Wingbacks miss Tuesday practice

By Mike Kluck
Staff Reporter

The absence of two wingbacks from Tuesday's practice had Nebraska football coach Tom Osborne a little worried.

Dana Brinson, a 5-foot-9 senior from Valdosta, Ga., suffered from stomach cramps and didn't practice at all Tuesday. Nate Turner, a 6-1 freshman, left practice early because of tendonitis in both his knees, Osborne said.

"Those two receivers made us a little short-handed there," Osborne said.

Osborne said Turner may be limited until Thursday, but expects him to play on Saturday against UCLA in

Pasadena, Calif.

Senior cornerback Lorenzo Hicks also left practice early because of a strained groin, said Nebraska Athletic Trainer George Sullivan.

Osborne also announced that sophomore Brian Boerboom on offense and Joe D'Alesio on defense were scout team players-of-the-week.

The scout team player-of-the-week is something the Nebraska coaches started this year, Osborne said.

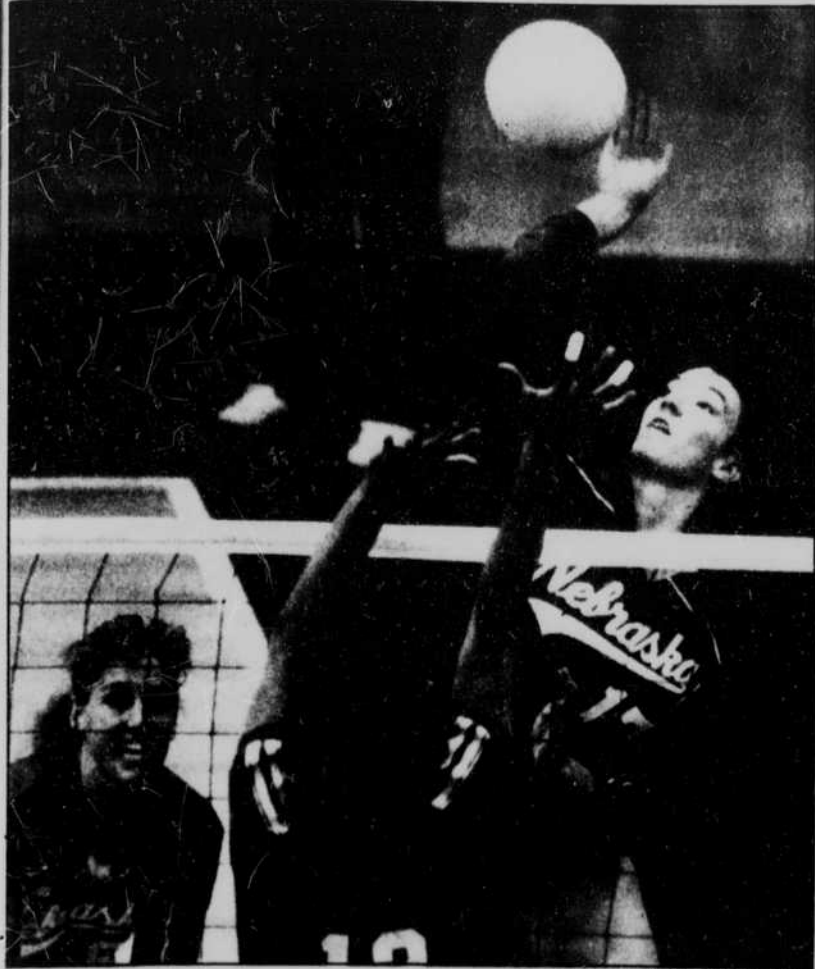
"It's to reward guys who we think have done an especially good job on the scout team," Osborne said. "The coaches just decide by basis of effort and attitude."

"It's a hard job. If you know you're not going to play that week, it's hard

to keep yourself motivated and keep hustling. But you don't give the offense any kind of picture — or the defense — if you're not trying. So having a good scout team is really important."

Boerboom, a 6-7, 255-pound offensive guard-tackle, was a 1987 scholarship player from Colorado Springs, Colo. Boerboom, who graduated from Doherty High School, was the offensive player-of-the-year as a lineman and was named to high school All-America teams by Bally and Scholastic Coach Magazine.

D'Alesio, a junior, is a 6-6, 235-pound defensive tackle from Kansas City, Mo.



Doug Carroll/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska's Janet Kruse (17) attempts a spike during the FirstTier Invitational Volleyball Tournament.

First volleyball tournament pleases freshman Cornhusker

By Kyle Schurman
Staff Reporter

A normally difficult transition went smoothly for Nebraska freshman Janet Kruse Friday and Saturday during the FirstTier Volleyball Invitational in the Nebraska Coliseum.

Kruse, a 6-foot-1 outside hitter from Fort Calhoun, has only had pre-season practice to adjust to college volleyball since she is a freshman. Usually, the transition from Class B high school volleyball to college volleyball would be difficult enough for a player against any type of collegiate competition.

But Kruse had to make the transition against top-20 caliber teams like Purdue, Florida and 1986 NCAA champion Pacific during last weekend's tournament.

Kruse said she thought she played well in her collegiate debut. She had 11 kills in 21 attacks during the six games she played in. She assisted on six blocks.

"I was happy with how I played," Kruse said after Nebraska's straight-set victory over Pacific in the Cornhuskers' final match of the tournament. "I feel a lot more comfortable now than I did at the beginning."

Kruse played in the second game of Nebraska's tournament-opening match against Purdue Friday night and recorded two kills. She then

played in two games against Florida Saturday morning and had one kill.

Kruse saw her most extensive playing time Saturday afternoon against Pacific, the Huskers' toughest tournament opponent. She helped Nebraska complete its come-from-behind, 16-14 victory in the first game.

However, the first time Kruse touched the ball in that game she wasn't successful. With Nebraska leading 15-14, Kruse misplayed a set attempt, giving Pacific a side out. She made up for her mistake on the next volley when she had an attack kill, giving Nebraska a side out.

Following a Husker service error, Kruse helped Nebraska regain the serve when she and junior Carla Baker blocked a Pacific kill attempt.

Kruse then helped Nebraska score on the game-winning point when she blocked a Pacific attack on the next volley.

Kruse had four kills in the second game, and one kill in the third game. She said she didn't expect to play as much as she did in the tournament.

"It was great, but I really didn't expect to play that much," Kruse said. "I was just glad I got a chance to play."

Nebraska coach Terry Pettit said before the season he thought Kruse would enjoy significant playing time throughout the season.

"She's a Husker," Pettit said.

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