

Volleyball team will face Weber State

By Mike Kluck
Staff Reporter

Nebraska will try to make Weber State's first appearance in the National Collegiate Athletic Association Volleyball Tournament a short one.

The 32-7 Wildcats will face Nebraska in the opening round of the eight-team Midwest Regional Tournament at the NU Coliseum Friday at 7:30 p.m. Weber State qualified for the NCAA tournament by upsetting regular-season Big Sky conference winner Boise State in the conference tournament.

The 27-4 Cornhuskers will be making their seventh consecutive appearance in the NCAA Tournament. The 5th-ranked Huskers are 5-1 in opening-round, NCAA matches and have an 11-6 tournament record.

Nebraska lost to Illinois in the regional finals last season.

"It has become a tradition at Nebraska to be playing our best volleyball at this time of the year," Nebraska coach Terry Pettit said. "Our players have been in this position so many times they know the level they need to be at to be successful."

Nebraska's success was evident in last weekend's Big Eight Tournament at Salina, Kan. The Huskers defeated Iowa State Friday night and Colorado Saturday to earn the Big Eight Tournament title and an automatic berth into the NCAA tournament.

Pettit attributed Nebraska's conference title to the development of his players throughout the season.

"Our young players have really developed and done a good job," Pettit said. "Also, our older players

have come through for us. Our seniors — Lori Endicott and Angie Millikin — have been providing good leadership for us."

Pettit said the Huskers are ready to enter the third phase of their season. He said Nebraska's volleyball season is divided into a pre-conference phase, a combined regular Big Eight season and conference tournament phase and an NCAA Tournament phase.

The Huskers have successfully completed the first two phases and plan to do well in the NCAA, Pettit said. He said one of Nebraska's goals going into the season was to return to the NCAA Final Four.

Nebraska's last Final Four appearance was in 1986 when the team lost to Pacific in the championship match.

The winner of the Nebraska-Weber State match will advance to

the regional semifinals Dec. 8 through 11 at four sites. If Illinois, the top seed of the region, wins its first match the Midwest Regionals will be held in Champaign, Ill. But if Illinois State defeats the Fighting Illini, other sites, including Nebraska, would be considered.

'She's just an incredible player.'

— Pettit

The regional champions will advance to the NCAA Final Four Dec. 15 through 17 in Minneapolis, Minn.

Pettit said the probability of Nebraska playing its final home game Friday night should also be incentive

for fans to attend the contest.

"It will be the last chance for university people to see our seniors," Pettit said.

He said people should also want to get a final look at Endicott, Nebraska's All-America setter.

"I feel Lori Endicott is the best collegiate player in the country," Pettit said. "Anybody who is a Nebraska fan who hasn't had the opportunity to see her play is missing one of the truly best athletes that have played at Nebraska."

"She's just an incredible player," he said.

Pettit said Monday morning that he was still trying to compile a scouting report on the Wildcats. Friday's match will be the first meeting between the two schools.

"I know they're a good team and have some good wins," Pettit said.

Bowling team places second

By Mike Kluck
Staff Reporter

Although the Nebraska women's bowling team finished 2nd behind West Texas State for the 3rd time this season women's coach Roger Nash said he was satisfied.

Nash said the 37 pins shy of defeating the Buffaloes, the defending national champions, at the National Collegiate Team Matchgames bowling tournament in St. Louis on Saturday. The Huskers bowled 12,157 total pins to West Texas State's 12,194. Fellow Nebraska-Kansas conference member Wichita State finished 3rd at 12,084.

Nebraska's 977 pins a game average was the 4th highest norm in the history of the tournament. West Texas State averaged 985, the second highest norm in the tournament's history.

Nash said he was pleased with Nebraska's results in the 64-team tournament. But he said he hopes the Huskers continue to improve.

Nash said two players who have shown improvement are freshman Kim Berke and sophomore Michelle Kelcey of St. Louis. Berke led the Huskers with a 211 average and finished 7th in the individual standings.

Kelcey bowled a perfect 300 game at the tournament. The tournament was held at Strike and Spare Lanes, a place where Kelcey has practiced. It was her first 300 game.

The Nebraska men also finished 2nd in the 64-team field with 13,234 pins, 531 fewer than champion William Paterson (N.J.).

Tickets to bowl on sale Thursday

The Nebraska ticket office has announced that full-time University of Nebraska-Lincoln students may reserve tickets for the Orange Bowl Thursday and Friday at the Athletic Ticket Office, 117 South Stadium.

Nebraska will face Miami in Miami Jan. 2.

The student allotment for the game will be divided equally both days with reservations equally from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day or until the day's allotment is sold.

Students reserving tickets must pick them up at the Orange Bowl the night of the game or at the team hotel during times that will be announced later.

Each qualified student may reserve one ticket, two if married. Current full-time I.D.'s will be required of all students, and marriage certificate of married students are required.

Tickets are \$30.00. Each student's personal check should be made payable to UNL and show a Lincoln address.



Doug Carroll/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska guard Amy Stephens battles a Wisconsin-Green Bay player for a loose ball during Saturday's championship game at the Wimmer's Invitational women's basketball tournament at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Stephens scored a career-high 35 points against Wisconsin-Green Bay in the Cornhuskers' 63-57 win.

Coach bans Stephens from shooting at practice

By Jeff Apel
Senior Reporter

Amy Stephens, a pre-season All-America selection who led Nebraska to the team title in last weekend's Wimmer's Invitational, will be missing from the Cornhusker's offense today and Wednesday.

Nebraska women's basketball coach Angela Beck said Monday that Stephens, who collected most valuable player honors by averaging 25 points a game in the Wimmer's Invitational, will not be allowed to shoot during the Huskers' next two practices. She said that plan's purpose is to show Nebraska's remaining four starters that they need to develop more balanced scoring.

Beck said Nebraska did not get enough balanced scoring during its 63-57 victory against Wisconsin-Green Bay in the tournament's championship game Saturday at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. The Huskers, 2-0 and ranked 25th by USA Today, opened the four-team tournament by defeating Minnesota 90-77.

The only other Huskers who tallied double-figure scoring figures in the tournament were center Kim Harris and guard Sabrina Brooks, who averaged 16.5 and 10.5 points, respectively. Nebraska remaining two starters, guard Amy Bullock and forward Ann Halsne, averaged 2 and 1.5 points, respectively.

"I want Amy Stephens to get 35 points per game," Beck said during

her weekly press conference at the sports center, "but I want everybody else to get 10. We're going to have to get scoring from somebody else."

Beck said the Wimmer's Invitational showed her that Nebraska does not have the chemistry it needs. She said the Huskers overcame unbalanced scoring, lack of chemistry and 28 percent shooting from the floor by using tough defense to sink Wisconsin-Green Bay.

"If you only shoot 28 percent and you win, you have to be playing some good defense," Beck said. "Luckily, our defense won that basketball game for us."

Beck said Nebraska can overcome its poor shooting if it learns to be more patient.

"We get nervous if there's 20 seconds on the clock," she said. "We just need to get a little more poised."

Beck said patience and strong defense will be critical when Nebraska travels to Missoula, Mont., to compete in the Domino's Classic. The tournament will begin Friday at 8 p.m. with Nebraska playing U.S. International. Montana will face Pacific at 10 p.m.

The tournament's consolation game will be staged at 8 p.m. Saturday, with the championship contest set for 10 p.m.

Beck said she is looking forward to the tournament because the Lady Griz always draw good crowds. She said the tournament will also provide Nebraska with stiff competition.

Reid's absence to restrict Huskers

By Mark Derowitsch
Senior Reporter

Nebraska forward Beau Reid will probably miss Wednesday night's game against Michigan State, Cornhusker coach Danny Nee said Monday.

Reid injured his left ankle during the opening minutes of Saturday's 86-77 win against Creighton at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Nee said Reid's ankle either has a deep bruise or is severely sprained.

"We'll take it on a day to day basis and wait for the doctors and trainers to release him," Nee said. "I wouldn't expect to rush him back with all the games we have coming up this weekend if we could get by without using him. I would hope we could have him back by Friday. We'll take him along slowly."

Reid, a 6-foot-7 sophomore from Lancaster, Ohio, averaged 8.3 points per game last year.

Nebraska, 1-0, will face Michigan State in a 7:35 p.m. game at the sports center. The Spartans faced Furman Monday at East Lansing, Mich.

Nee said Reid's injury really limits the Huskers' player rotation.

"When Beau went out like that, I wasn't prepared," Nee said. "Last 10 minutes of the first half."

Nee said Reid is important to the Huskers because he offers so many dimensions to their game.

"Beau plays three positions," he said. "When you lose a player like him, you lose an extra passer and offensively, he has an impact as a scorer. Plus, we lose his intensity."

Ray Richardson, a 6-foot-7 junior from Hiwassee (Tenn.) Junior College, will start in Reid's absence against the Spartans, Nee said. Richardson scored 15 points against Creighton.

Nee said he might have to play 10 or 11 players if Reid doesn't play

Wednesday.

Nee said freshman guard Eric Dolzal, senior guard Todd Koca and sophomore guard Jed Bergen may have to pick up the slack with Reid out.

"I don't think we want to play with a 10- or 11-man rotation all year, a 10- or 11-man rotation all year," Nee said. "But those guys are on scholarship and their job is to contribute when they have to."

Nee said Bergen and Dolzal played well against the Bluejays.

"I think they handled the extra pressure well," Nee said. "Jed is a very steady, hard-nosed player. He's played within himself. Bergen has gotten a raw deal over the past few weeks and he's handled himself well."

NOTES:

This weekend, the Huskers will stage the Ameritas Classic at the Sports Center. Nebraska will face North Texas State Friday at 6:38 p.m.

In the other semi-final game, Army will play San Jose State at 8:30 p.m. The finals will be played Saturday night at 8:08, while the consolation will start at 6:08.

Last season, Ohio State defeated Nebraska 72-63 in the finals of the tournament.

Nee said he doesn't expect senior guard Eric Johnson to score 31 points per game, like he did against Creighton.

But he said Johnson could do it if the Huskers needed it.

"The microwave (Johnson's nickname) was hot," Nee said. "He just took over the game Saturday."

Nee said he's glad the Huskers are playing a lot of games in a short period of time.

"Creighton was a very tough opener," he said. "We're truly getting tested early."

"I'd rather be playing than practicing and I'm sure the team feels the same way."