

# NU golf team's win challenges stereotype

By Jeff Apel  
Senior Editor

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln women's golf team battered an old stereotype this weekend by winning the Spartan Invitational in East Lansing, Mich.

Nebraska women's golf coach Robin Scherer said opponents used to think Nebraska was at an instant disadvantage because it is located in the Midwest, but not anymore. She said her team's victory proved that the Cornhuskers cannot be taken lightly.

Scherer's Huskers shredded the Midwest stereotype by claiming the top two individual titles en route to claiming the team title at the 6,748-yard, par-71 Forest Akres golf course.

Nebraska was led by sophomore Joanne Brooks, who won her second consecutive individual title of the season with a school-record 222 total, while teammate Ann Guiberson was second with a 228 mark.

Nebraska won the team title by finishing with a two-day total of 933. Michigan State was second with a 963 mark, while Northern Illinois and Michigan tied for third with 964 totals.

Penn State finished fifth with a 969 total, followed by Illinois State, Wisconsin, Illinois, Bowling Green, Notre Dame, Indianapolis, Ferris State College of Big Rapids, Mich., and Wisconsin-Whitewater.

Scherer said Nebraska used a balanced attack to win the team title. In addition to the lofty finish by Brooks and Guiberson, the

Huskers received a 241 total from Susan Dougherty, a 242 mark from Alysen Madsen, a 253 total from Nodjya Cook and a 269 effort from Melissa Busskohl.

"We were consistent," Scherer said. "Ann Guiberson had a great tournament and Alysen played much better. So we got good efforts from our top four players."

Scherer said Brooks showed again that she is a legitimate title threat every time she steps on to the green. The sophomore sensation claimed the third title of her collegiate career by using a consistent effort throughout the two-day competition, Scherer said.

"She played excellent," Scherer said. "She's one of the best players in the country, and she's well on her way to qualifying for nationals."

Scherer said there is a definite difference between Brooks this season and last year.

"As a freshman, she played well at times but wasn't always consistent," Scherer said. "This year she's playing hard every time out."

"Her performance is a big boost." Scherer said Nebraska received a boost entering the Spartan Invitational from the performance it turned in two weeks ago. The Huskers finished eighth in the 11-team All-College Kickoff Classic in Stillwater, Okla., Sept. 21 through 24.

"We used our performance to our advantage," Scherer said. "We set some goals, and we talked about not worrying about what other people are doing. That's a key for us -- concentrating on our game."

# Wildcats to concentrate on their own play

By Darran Fowler  
Senior Reporter

The Kansas State volleyball team will be making its second trip to Lincoln this season and, like the first time, the Wildcats will not be concerned about Nebraska.

Kansas State was not concerned during its first trip to the NU Coliseum because the two teams did not meet in the Runza Invitational Sept. 8 and 9.

In that tournament, which Nebraska won, Kansas State went 1-1, stretching Houston to four games before losing, and defeating Bowling Green in three games.

Kansas State coach Scott Nelson said he is not concerned about Nebraska this time either.

Instead, he said, his only interest

will be the play of his team.

"(Nebraska's) a good volleyball team and they're playing really well," Nelson said. "I'm more concerned about our side of the net rather than their side of the net and I'm sure (Nebraska) coach (Terry) Pettit is more worried about his team's execution."

Fifth-ranked Nebraska plays Kansas State tonight in a Big Eight matchup that begins at 7:30 p.m. at the NU Coliseum. There is no admission charge for University of Nebraska-Lincoln students who show their IDs.

Nebraska is 10-0 this season and 1-0 in conference play. Kansas State is 6-8 and 0-1 in the Big Eight.

Pettit said Kansas State, which finished 15-13 last season and fifth in

the conference, is an improved team. The two teams met three times last season with Nebraska winning every match.

"I think they're a better team than they were last year," Pettit said.

Both teams got a good look at each other in the Runza Invitational.

Nebraska assistant coach Terri Killion scouted the Wildcats in their matches against Houston and Bowling Green, Pettit said.

"They're running a different system than they did last year, so that'll be to our advantage," he said. "But, they saw us play, too."

Nelson said he expects a better Nebraska team than the one he saw play four games against Bowling Green and five games against Houston.

"They had some personnel

changes with two or three players out of the lineup as well as just trying to develop their system," Nelson said. "If they played those teams now, they would be 3-0 wins."

"I think they'll be a much better team. Nebraska always seems to play better and better as the year goes on. They'll be a much improved team than the one we saw at the Runza Invitational."

Pettit said he is interested in seeing how the Huskers will react with just one day of preparation.

Nebraska is coming off a road win against Colorado on Saturday. The Huskers beat the Lady Buffs 15-13, 15-4, 15-10.

Nebraska hit .430 in the match, its highest hitting percentage this season.

Eileen Shannon led the attack with 23 kills while hitting .550 to raise her season average to .309. She also had nine digs.

Carla Baker had 11 digs and 12 kills for a hitting percentage of .400, with an average of .337. Virginia Stahr totaled 10 kills, hit .429 and had nine digs. Stahr's attack percentage is .450.

Janet Kruse had eight kills and 10 digs, while Cris Hall had 10 kills and eight digs.

Pettit said Husker setter Val Novak set the pace against Colorado.

Novak had 55 assists, boosting her season total to 531. Novak also picked up 10 digs.

"We hit the ball very well," Pettit said. "I thought Novak did a real good job of getting the ball where we needed it."

# Brinson eats his words, gains team's acceptance

When Dana Brinson was at Nebraska, his gold chains and stylish clothes always made him stand out.



Now, he's standing out for a different reason.

Brinson, who completed his eligibility at Nebraska last season, has spent his first year with the National Football League's San Diego Chargers splitting time between running back and wide receiver. His impact has been readily accepted even though his attitude has not.

Brinson arrived in sunny San Diego in midsummer and immediately cast a dark cloud by setting off a flurry of controversy. The controversy erupted when Brinson directed a series of boisterous comments toward new teammate Lionel James, who just happened to be holding the starting job the former Cornhusker wanted.

Brinson's comments weren't taken lightly. Instead, after several crushing hits, a self-proclaimed cheap shot or two and several near-death threats, Brinson was forced to do what most Nebraska players consider taboo: eat his own words.

It seems Brinson picked on the wrong person when he singled out James. The former Auburn star, whose short, muscle-bound build helped him earn the nickname "Little Train," just happened to be one of the most popular players

on the San Diego roster.

And when a cocky, gold-flashing rookie from Nebraska arrived and promised to derail the train, well, in Brinson's infamous words, "shit happened."

Several teammates greeted Brinson the day his comments appeared in print and promised revenge.

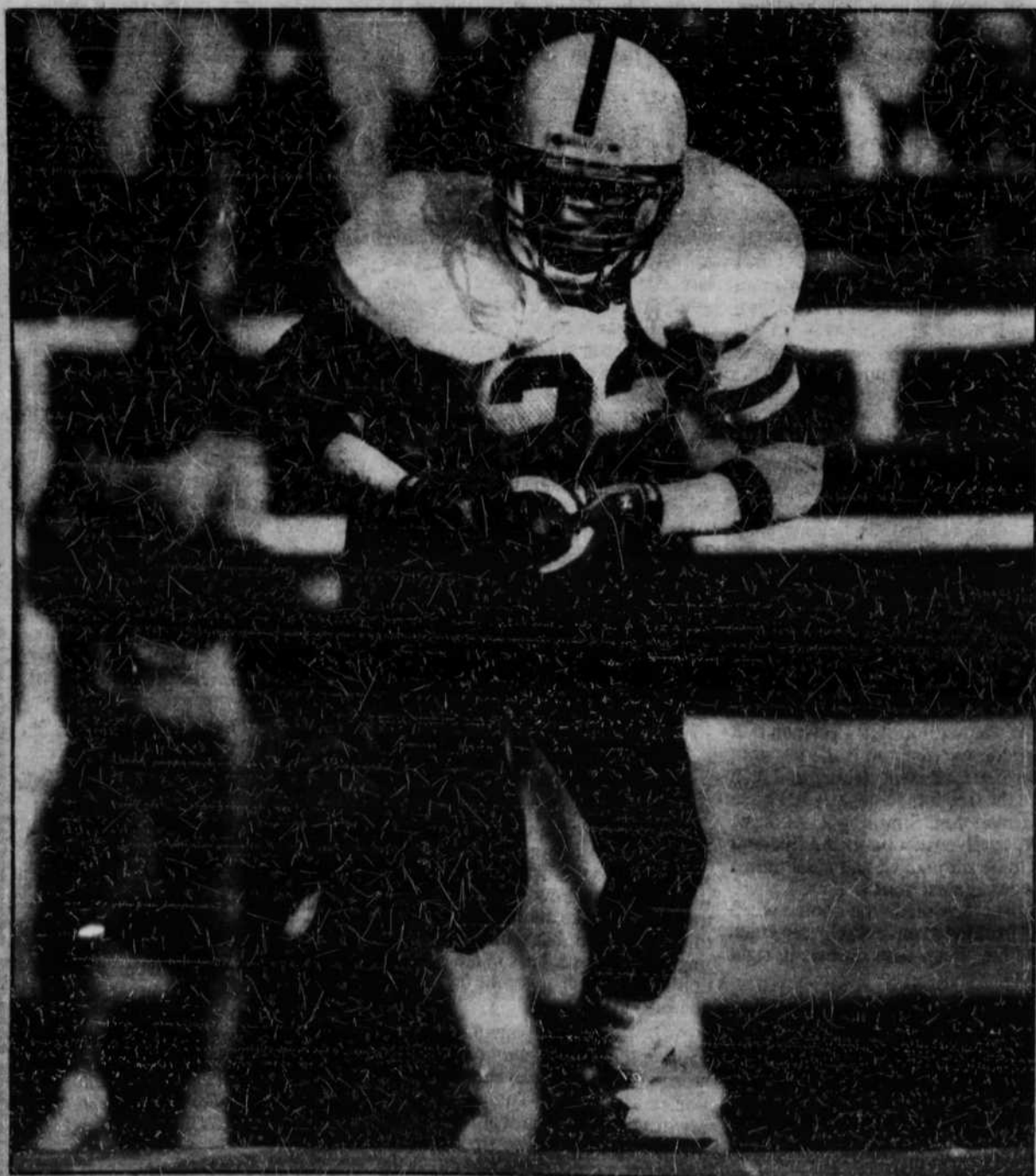
"Watch your back," others said.

Those threats, plus the promise of retaliation against any rookie or other naive player who came to Brinson's aide, turned an ordinary, pre-season practice into an excruciating event. After several of these pain sessions which always included at least one hit that packed a lot of extra punch, Brinson conceded to the inevitable, called a team meeting and apologized.

Fortunately for everyone involved, Brinson's apology was accepted. It's tough for anyone to survive the rigors and physical demands of the National Football League, let alone a 5-foot-9, 170-pound rookie who has been labeled a big mouth.

Brinson's actions aren't new. One of his former Nebraska teammates, Broderick Thomas, had a mouth that would break a Richter scale and anyone who even goes to practice today can get a laugh out of the "We're great and we're going to win the national championship" attitude possessed by most of the players.

What is new about Brinson's cockiness, and what makes it interesting and newsworthy, is he realized he was wrong. Unlike Thomas, who never admitted anything



Daily Nebraskan file photo

Former Nebraska wingback Dana Brinson

See BRINSON on 7