

# McCartney sticks to tried and true methods

By Chuck Green  
Senior Reporter

It's business as usual for Colorado football coach Bill McCartney.

Never mind that the No. 2-ranked Buffaloes are on the verge of the biggest game in Colorado history, a Saturday shoot-out with the third-ranked Cornhuskers at Folsom Field in Boulder, Colo.

The game is scheduled for 1:40 p.m., and will be nationally televised by CBS.

"It's just another game on our schedule," McCartney said Thursday. "We're not changing anything. Our players know what they're doing."

"If they don't after eight games, we're in big trouble."

Those eight games, which included matchups with top-25 teams such as Texas, Illinois, Washington

and Oklahoma, have come without a loss.

McCartney said before the season that Nebraska's less difficult schedule would be beneficial to the Huskers, because the "easier" opponents would help them gain confidence and experience with their high scores.

Now, McCartney said, Colorado has had the same kind of benefits from its schedule.

"We've had a streak of good fortune, winning the games as easily as we have," he said. "We've gotten to improve our depth against some quality teams, and that will certainly be to our advantage Saturday."

Colorado's offense is led by quarterback Darian Hagan, a 5-foot-10, 185-pound sophomore from Los Angeles who has rushed for 708 yards and 11 touchdowns on 115 carries.

Hagan also has completed 38 of 55

passes for 793 yards and three touchdowns this season. He has been intercepted three times.

"He's certainly been a team leader in a tough situation," McCartney said. "Darian has stepped in and done everything within his power to help us to get to where we are. He's been a major factor in our success."

J.J. Flannigan is Hagan's favorite pitch-man when McCartney calls an option. Flannigan, who stepped in for an injured-Eric Bienemy, has rushed for 702 yards and 11 touchdowns on 103 carries.

"Their running backs are good," Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said.

McCartney said that while his team is preparing for this game the same as they have for their other games, the Buffaloes are "excited and ready to tee up the football."

"Nebraska is the best team we've

faced all season," he said. "The coaches know it and the players know it, too. This is the game we've been aiming for all season long, and now that it's finally here, we're not going to change what has worked for us all season."

What has worked for the Buffaloes, McCartney said, is a solid work ethic and business-like approach at practice. He said the players have an extra emotional incentive for the game because of the death of former Colorado quarterback Sal Aunese, who died two months ago of stomach and lung cancer.

"It's hard to tell how much the emotion will affect the outcome of the game," McCartney said. "We'll know more on Saturday. But I know the players are dedicating this one to Sal, and people know it."

"It should be an exciting atmos-

phere in the stadium Saturday."

McCartney said he isn't concerned that his team will lose intensity after last week's 20-3 win against Oklahoma.

"When you're winning, you build momentum," he said. "For us, it's been building all year."

McCartney's greatest concern is "Nebraska's excellence on both sides of the ball."

"They're big, strong and fast, just like every year," he said. "We'll have to play well Saturday in all aspects to be successful."

Osborne said his team also will have to play well in order to win. He said he has been pleased with the Huskers' performance this season.

"I think we have played up to our potential," Osborne said. "I've been quite satisfied with the way we've played."

# Coach Thorell says he's confident entering today's game

By Cory Golden  
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska junior varsity will try to put everything together when it plays its final game of the season today.

Nebraska junior varsity coach Shane Thorell said he is confident entering the contest even though the Cornhuskers have not played up to their full potential. He said Nebraska might realize its full potential when it faces Waldorf Junior College of Forest City, Iowa, at Memorial Stadium.

The game, which is free to the public, begins at noon. The contest will be broadcast live by KRNU (90.3 FM), and will be shown on a tape-delayed basis Saturday at 8:30 a.m. by NETV (Channel 12).

Thorell said he has a good feeling about Nebraska's game.

"The offense and defense have been looking good in practice," he

said. "I think we'll put it together this time."

Thorell said he never can be sure, though.

"There are so many variables you have to take into account, you can't be sure," Thorell said.

Thorell said Nebraska cannot afford to turn the ball over against Waldorf. The 2-1-1 Huskers have given up nine fumbles and eight interceptions this season.

"If anything," Thorell said, "I hope the offense will do a little better job of keeping the ball."

Just what the Huskers do with the ball may be one of the most important factors in the game, Thorell said.

"The key for both teams will be how much either team can move the ball," Thorell said. "Waldorf's a big, strong team, but I don't think they have the speed we have on offense."

"They have a very talented defense and ours has played very well so it could be a defensive football game."

"It will be a very tough game for us."

Nebraska has a 7-2 series lead against Waldorf. The Warriors' last win against the Huskers was in 1987, when they posted a 42-25 win. That was Thorell's first year as the Huskers' coach.

Thorell said the 1987 Waldorf team resembles this year's team. He said it is difficult to compare squads from year to year because there are so many variables.

"I don't think we have the talent we had last year," Thorell said. "They're pretty close to my first team. Our schedule is tougher this year than last, but our schedule was even tougher that first year."

Thorell said he has been particularly happy with the development of a

few players.

"Matt Penland, Kevin Raemakers and David Seizys have all done a real good job," he said, "and our offensive line... we have some really fine young linemen who've kept improving this season."

Penland, a walk-on linebacker from Jacksonville, Fla., leads the team in tackles while Raemakers, a defensive tackle, is third behind defensive tackle Bruce Moore.

Seizys, a 5-foot-8, 166-pound freshman from Seward, is the team's leading receiver with eight catches for 114 yards and a touchdown.

"David's a really fine wing-back," Thorell said.

Thorell said an obstacle in the Huskers' way to putting another check in the win column is the team's injury situation.

Starting middle guard Jerry Irons, who was seventh on the team in tackles, tore a ligament in his knee in the

win against Iowa Central. No. 1 I-back Shane McClanahan, who was averaging seven yards a carry, injured his knee in the first quarter of the same game.

Nagging knee injuries have held linebacker Daren Williams and nose guard Ryan Berry out of practice, Thorell said.

"It's tough to practice when you've got a few guys on the sidelines," Thorell said.

Thorell said the Huskers are interested in some players on the Waldorf squad.

"They do have a couple of guys we'll look at," he said. "Whether or not we'll offer them scholarships depends entirely on what we need."

Thorell said Nebraska will be watching one player in particular.

"He's an outside linebacker," Thorell said. "I can't mention his name, but we'll take a good look at him."

## Games not difficult, 'just different'

# Texas road matches a challenge, volleyball coach says

By Darran Fowler  
Senior Reporter

Nebraska volleyball coach Terry Pettit expects a strong challenge this weekend when his team travels south to play two non-conference matches in Texas.

Pettit said the matches will be challenging because the third-ranked Cornhuskers will be on the road facing defending national champion Texas at Austin tonight, then travel to College Station for a Saturday match against Texas A&M.

Both matches start at 7:30 p.m.

"Texas has always been a real competitive situation for us," Pettit said. "They're similar to us and they're always well prepared to play."

"But the thing we have going for us is we're a lot more experienced."

Texas leads the series with Nebraska 7-2 after the teams split a pair of matches last season. The Longhorns are 18-6 overall and 6-0 in the Southwest Conference this season.

Texas A&M, which has a 4-3 series edge, is 9-12 this season while posting a 1-4 mark in the Southwest.

Pettit said the Lady Aggies are inexperienced, and after playing Texas Friday night, he hopes the Huskers are ready.

"They're a younger team," he said. "Their best talent is in their younger class."

"The key there is coming off an intense match the night before and then going to College Station and being prepared to play."

Pettit said this will not be Nebraska's stiffest road test this season

because he is counting on the Huskers surviving regional play and reaching the Final Four in Hawaii in December.

Also, in mid-September, the Huskers competed in the Reebok Classic in Minneapolis, Minn., against then 20th-ranked Minnesota. The Huskers defeated the Golden Gophers 15-9, 15-6, 8-15, 15-7.

Minnesota now has moved up to the No. 12 position in the NCAA National Volleyball rankings with a 14-5 record.

"It was a challenge at Minnesota and we were missing Virginia (Stahr) and at that point Cris (Hall) and Eileen (Shannon) were still pretty banged up," Pettit said. "I don't know if this challenge will be any more difficult, just different."

"It'll just be a matter of executing. Whatever team executes is going to win."

Nebraska, which is 18-1 and leads the Big Eight with an 8-0 mark with three conference matches remaining, has compiled a .310 hitting percentage, while averaging a nation-leading 17.38 kills-per-game. Husker opponents have an attack percentage of .150 and are averaging 12.21 kills per game.

Shannon was named the Big Eight player of the week for her performances against Iowa State, Oklahoma and Missouri last week. The freshman outside hitter collected 50 kills, three service aces, five blocks, 27 digs and posted a .450 hitting percentage.

It marked the fifth time the Hus-

ers have received the award this season in the 10 times that a player has been chosen. Val Novak, Janet Kruse and Virginia Stahr also have been recipients of the award with Kruse being recognized twice.

Kruse, a sophomore outside hitter, leads the Huskers in kills with 301 and a .359 hitting percentage. Shannon's kill total is 294 while hitting .299.

Stahr, who has 139 kills this season, is second nationally in hitting percentage with an average of .468. Her career total of 146 service aces is four short of establishing an all-time mark, which is held by former Husker Lori Endicott.

Novak, the Huskers' junior setter, leads the nation with 13.90 set assists per game. She leads the team in service aces with 38.

# Nebraska player remains loyal to NU despite original Colorado preference

By Cory Golden  
Staff Reporter

John Parella won't make the trip to Boulder, Colo., this weekend with the Nebraska football team, but that doesn't mean he lacks special feelings for the Buffaloes.

Parella, a redshirt sophomore defensive end, signed a letter of intent to attend Colorado following his senior season at Grand Island Central Catholic High School. He was ready to become a Buffalo until Colorado coach Bill McCartney informed him that his grade point average was not high enough.

"They said I needed a 2.4 or 2.5 grade point average," Parella said. "I had a 2.4, but they said my GPA wasn't high enough."

That's when Parella turned to Nebraska coach Tom Osborne, who re-offered the dejected tight end a scholarship. He said he has been an

Osborne fan ever since.

"Coach Osborne is a winner," Parella said.

Parella said he originally chose Colorado over Nebraska and all the other Big Eight schools because he was ready for a change.

**'Bill McCartney's inconsistent. They're an up-and-down team. That's why they're getting all the attention this year.'**

--Parella

"I've lived in Nebraska all my life and I just wanted to try something different," Parella said. "Nebraska

was the better team, but I wanted to try something else."

Parella has made a different change this season, as he has moved from tight end to defensive end. He said he does not mind the change.

"I like it," said the 6-foot-4, 250-pound Parella. "It was tough adjusting at first, but it's all right now."

Parella said he's happy he ended up at Nebraska because the Huskers are traditionally a better team than Colorado. He declined to make a specific prediction about the showdown between the two teams.

"I'd rather not comment on that," he said. "I think we'll win. I hope we do."

Parella said play-calling and preparation might separate the two teams. He said Nebraska possesses a superior coaching staff.

"Bill McCartney's inconsistent," Parella said. "They're an up-and-down team. That's why they're getting all the attention this year."

## Sig Ep A team tops ratings; playoff schedules available

**MEN'S FLAG FOOTBALL**

**TOP TEN**

BY CRAIG CHRISTENSEN

1. Sig Ep A 3-0
2. Abel 7 6-0
3. ATO-A1 5-0
4. Brew Crew 5-0
5. Bellevue Crew 4-0
6. Fourth & Goal 4-0
7. ATO B-1 5-0
8. Beta A 4-0
9. Beer Nuts 5-0
10. Harper 4 5-0

Craig Christensen, relations director at the Office of Campus Recreation, said Thursday that playoff schedules for all University of Nebraska-Lincoln flag football teams will be available at 3 p.m. today.

Christensen said team representatives need to pick up their playoff schedules as soon as possible in order to avoid confusion. He said several softball teams forfeited their games because they did not pick up their schedules in time.

Schedules are available at the Office of Campus Recreation, which is located in Phase II of the Student Recreation Center. The center is located behind the NU Coliseum at 14th and Vine streets.