



Staci McKee/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska's Alysen Madsen keeps a watchful eye on her putt at Mahoney Golf Course. Madsen is tied for 10th with 165 after two rounds in the three-round event.

Two NU golfers stay dry by finishing in top three

By Chuck Green
Senior Reporter

As the first trio to finish 36 holes in Monday's round of the Husker Classic women's golf invitational entered Mahoney Golf Course's clubhouse, heavy rains pelted the grounds — and the other golfers.

"You were lucky to finish in time," Cornhusker coach Robin Scherer said to the three women.

Cornhuskers Joanne Brooks and Steph Flood were two of the lucky three who escaped the rain.

But their luck extended beyond staying dry. Brooks entered the clubhouse in first place by one stroke, while Flood, a freshman, was tied for third with Kansas State's Denise Pottle with a 156 for 36 holes.

Flood had shot an 83 in the morning's 18 holes, which put her in a four-way tie for 12th. But she would cut off 10 strokes in the afternoon's game, shooting a 73.

Kari May, a sophomore from New Mexico, was in second — and was the other player in the first group inside.

Scherer said she was pleased with the performance of Brooks and Flood,

but not surprised.

"Stephanie was nervous in the first round of the tournament," she said. "But this afternoon, when the wind died down, she was fine."

During the morning's round, 30 mile-per-hour gusts of wind whipped through the course. Scherer said that hurt Flood's early play because she hits the ball high.

The wind didn't seem to bother Brooks, though, as she improved from her morning score of 79 to post a 73 in the second 18 holes.

Husker Cari Clesson finished the first day of competition tied for seventh place with a score of 162. Kim Leffler, Alysen Madsen and Melissa Odell were tied for 10th with 165; Melissa Busskohl, 17th with 166; Stephanie Hupp, tied for 20th with 172; Becky Young, tied for 23rd with 179; and Anne Rist, 25th with 206.

New Mexico leads the tournament by one stroke over Nebraska's first squad, with 634. Kansas State and Wyoming are third and fourth, while Nebraska's second squad is fifth.

The tournament will resume today with a final 18-hole round beginning at 8 a.m.

NU baseball adds game

The Nebraska baseball team has added a game against Washburn University today at 4 p.m. at Buck Beltzer Field.

Nebraska coach John Sanders said the game was scheduled in attempt to fill out the 60-game schedule. Nebraska will now only be one game short of the 60-game limit.

"It's also to get playing time and give some people an opportunity to play," he said.

The Ichabods, an NAIA school, are 23-19 this season, with an 11-5

loss to Nebraska in the Cornhuskers' season opener.

Sanders said he wasn't sure who would start on the mound for Nebraska, but said more than one pitcher would see action.

In another schedule change, the Huskers will travel to Cedar Falls, Iowa, to play Northern Iowa at 1 p.m. Wednesday. The doubleheader originally had been scheduled to be played in Lincoln.

--Nick Hytrek

An offensive trio

Huskers anticipate passing season

By Chris Hopfensperger
Senior Reporter

The Nebraska football team is going to hammer some people — on offense.

Receivers coach Ron Brown said the Cornhuskers have a trio of players at wingback with the size to compare to 1989, when Richard Bell and a young Nate Turner punished defensive players with their blocking skills.

This year, Turner leads a trio of wingbacks with the same potential, Brown said.

"Two years ago, we really hammered people at that position," he said. "And I think we're where we can do that again."

"It's a good threesome there."

Turner, a 6-foot-2, 225-pound senior, is second on the depth chart at the position. He is sandwiched be-

tween No. 1 Mark Dowse and No. 3 Vincent Hawkins.

"Nate is a great athlete," Brown said. "His major problem has been injuries."

Turner, who sat out three games in his sophomore season, missed the first three games of last season after breaking his collarbone in preseason drills.

He returned to the team to regain the starting wingback position for six games and ended the season as the fourth-leading receiver on the team with nine catches for 91 yards.

Brown said Turner and Hawkins match up physically, but Turner and Dowse have an experience advantage.

"Nate has explosive power and he's a big man," Brown said. "He can block, yet he has good quickness."

The Huskers' increased passing in the offensive gameplan favors all of

the receivers.

"We're spreading the ball out more," Turner said. "Being a receiver, you want to catch a pass."

Brown said the Huskers are not completely changing the offense.

"It's not going to be a thing where we are one-dimensional," he said. "We still have a lot of great running backs and running quarterbacks."

"The kinds of passes we're throwing, however, are high percentage passes."

While catching the ball is nice, Turner said, "it isn't the only thing the wingbacks are responsible for."

"We have a lot of statistics that don't show up in the paper on Sunday," he said. "Every time someone scores on a long run, we are a part of it. Somebody threw that downfield block."

Rangers will win, someday . . .

One day when I was really young, my dad picked me up by the diaper.

I hadn't done anything wrong, and I wasn't in for a spanking. Nor was I crawling to an imminent death in an overly crowded street or into the hands of a scary stranger.

My dad picked me up, looked at me for a second while I was dangling in the air, and said, "You will live, breathe, and love the Texas Rangers."

No doubt the Rangers sucked then, as they have ever since. They were probably at least 20 games under .500, choking away a doubleheader even as he spoke. But my dad (a Texas native) can be intimidating, especially to the eyes of a startled infant who would really rather listen to mommy. So I obeyed, making the first blunder of my young life.

I've paid the price ever since.

It took me awhile to realize that I wasn't like the other little boys growing up around me. Every spring, they would put on their Royals, Twins or Cubs caps and tell me how their team was destined for World Series glory. They knew the players, and even planned to attend a game or two that summer.

I wasn't like the rest. There were no Texas Rangers' baseball caps to be found in the Nebraska Sandhills. To get any information about my heroes from the Deep South, I would buy scads of baseball cards, discarding Willie Stargells, Mike Schmidts and Reggie Jacksons just to reach the bottom of the heap and find a Bump Willis or an Al Oliver.

The other kids watched their teams on NBC's Saturday "Game of the Week." Vin Skully and Joe Garagiola would shout with glee when Reggie Jackson took one out of Yankee Stadium to beat the Royals. Even the



John Adkisson

Twins and Cubs merited a few appearances, no matter how bad they were.

Texas was never on. Instead, my dad bought me a radio and tuned it to 820 AM, the Home of the Rangers. About 9 p.m. every night, Mark Holtz and Eric Nadell, the voices of the Rangers, would come filtering through the hog market reports.

By the time I could pull in the game, the contest already was in the seventh inning, the Rangers would inevitably be trailing by a huge margin. The announcers would laugh, sometimes at the Ranger players, and sometimes go off into a fantasy "What if we had a really good team?" routine.

Meanwhile, I suffered because of my Ranger addiction. When I'd wear my big "T" cap to school, kids would ask me if the Rangers were a minor league team, if I could name more than three Ranger players, if they had drawn more than 500 fans the night before.

A couple of times, I got to attend games in Arlington Stadium. I went crazy, especially having 30,000 fans around me who knew who the Rangers were and actually liked them. Texas would only win one out of every three games I saw, but I left ecstatic.

When I returned, however, I had nobody with which to share my enthusiasm. No matter how I embellished the story about how my team rallied to win, any Ranger tale was

labeled a yawner.

The seasons always ended the same way — with me sitting in front of the television watching a couple of teams I really didn't care about battle for the pennant. All other fans had their year in the sun: The Royals in 1985, the Twins (for God's sake, the Twins) in 1987 and the Cubs even won a couple of division titles before losing in the playoffs.

Texas has never won the American League West, much less anything else. The closest was five games behind California in 1986. Arlington Stadium, incidentally, is the only pre-1980s baseball stadium never to have hosted an All-Star Game.

The Rangers are the team nobody cares about.

Ageless Nolan Ryan has brought a little notoriety (Did you see the Sports Illustrated baseball issue?) but it quickly fizzles when Nolan's picture is put next to the Rangers' record. Although Texas might have one of its best teams ever this season, they will end up buried beneath new and old powers like Oakland, Chicago, Kansas City and California.

I knew that when this season began, the Texas Rangers weren't going to win anything. But nevertheless, I listened to them last week just like I was 10 again.

With the talent they have now, the Rangers are going to win the damn division before the turn of the century. I and every other closet Texas fan will come out, wave red and blue pennants and laugh all the way to the Series.

It will happen someday; I can feel it.

Right, Dad?

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Amie DeFrain/Daily Nebraskan