

## Huskers need wins to reach Big 8 tourney

By Nick Hytrek  
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska Cornhuskers need at least three wins this weekend against Iowa State to keep alive their Big Eight baseball tournament chances, which are slim and getting slimmer.

The Huskers were in a similar situation last weekend at Kansas State but came away with two wins and two losses, one of the losses after Nebraska led 12-3 in the late innings.

Nebraska can't afford another series like that and still hope to make the four-team tournament. The Huskers are in seventh place and at the bottom of the conference with a 6-10 record.

Missouri, Oklahoma State and Oklahoma lead the conference, and the Cyclones are fourth at 10-10. If Nebraska splits this weekend, the Huskers would need to sweep Oklahoma next week to have any chance.

Husker coach John Sanders said his team will not feel pressure to come up with a series sweep against Iowa State.

"I think at this time of year the pressure is not to get wins and losses, it's playing well," he said. "Our guys aren't stupid, they know what they need to do."

Sanders said playing at home will help Nebraska.

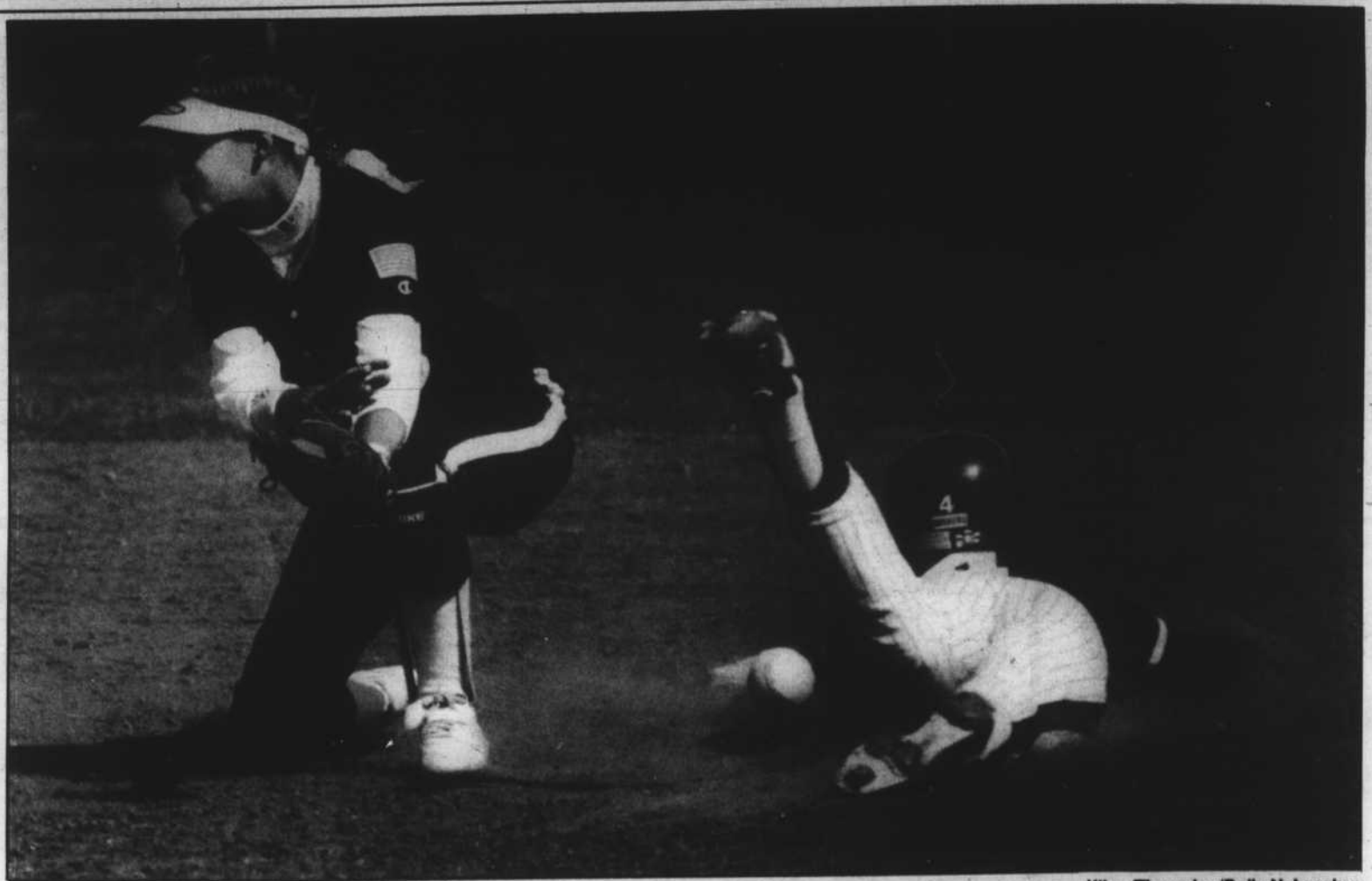
"It means that you get to come to bat in the bottom of the ninth or the seventh with a chance to win," he said.

Sanders said Iowa State's offense, which didn't produce many runs early this year, has become capable of scoring a lot of runs lately. The Cyclones have scored 10 or more runs in 10 of their past 16 games.

The two teams will play double-headers at Buck Beltzer Field on both Friday and Saturday. First pitch both days is at 4 p.m. In case of a rainout, makeup games will be played Sunday at 1 p.m.

Sanders said the status of infielder Tim Seaton is still unknown. Seaton collapsed between games at Creighton Wednesday. The Creighton team doctor said Seaton was suffering from oxygen loss but didn't know the cause.

Sanders said doctors were still waiting for test results. Sanders would not rule out the possibility of Seaton playing against Iowa State.



Kiley Timperley/Daily Nebraskan

Nebraska's Jennifer Stevens slides safely into second base last weekend as Oklahoma shortstop Julie Dobbs misses the ball, but Stevens was called out for leaving first too early.

## NU softball team enters Big 8 tournament

By John Adkisson  
Staff Reporter

Don't even think about the next game.

That is the message Nebraska softball coach Ron Wolforth is trying to send to his team as the Cornhuskers enter this weekend's double-elimination Big Eight Softball Tournament in Oklahoma City.

Nebraska will play a first-round game at 3 p.m. today against Iowa State, a team the Huskers beat 9-1 earlier this season.

Wolforth said the Cornhuskers' previous trouncing of the Cyclones will mean nothing today.

"I've heard a lot of our players talking about (possible second-round opponent) Missouri," Wolforth said. "I can tell you right now that any talk about Missouri is premature."

Top-seeded Missouri and second-seeded Oklahoma State, both ranked in the Top 20, are the favorites to win the six-team tournament, Wolforth said.

"Both Missouri and Oklahoma State have the pitching to win it all," he said. "After that, Kansas has a chance, and our team would have to be considered a dark horse."

The Huskers enter the tournament with a 3-5 Big Eight record, their worst in Wolforth's five years as head coach. Add that to "a lack of intensity" in this week's practices, and Wolforth said his team will have to play extremely well to win the tournament.

"This team relaxes too much," Wolforth said. "In past years before the Big Eights, the players were intense. They haven't been as intense this year."

But despite downplaying his team's readiness to win the tournament, Wolforth has seen his pitching pick up leading into the tournament.

Last weekend, the Huskers rebounded from a loss to Oklahoma, the last-place team in the Big Eight, to defeat No. 18 Kansas 1-0.

In that game, junior pitcher Marie Bowie threw six shutout innings and worked out of jams all game to record her ninth win.

"Marie has been coming on a little bit for us," Wolforth said.

Senior Stephanie Skegas, who leads the team with 12 wins and ranks third on the all-time win list, will start every tournament game for Nebraska, Wolforth said. Bowie will be used strictly in relief.

"I know that if I see Stephanie starting to tire, I'll have no hesita-

tion at all in going to Marie," Wolforth said.

Offensively, Wolforth's main concern is his team's lackluster hitting of the rise ball, a pitch he said will be extensively used in this weekend's tournament.

"We've worked for an hour and a half each day this week on trying to hit the rise ball," he said. "Right now, teams know we can't hit it, and that's all we'll see."

Nebraska's relative tournament inexperience — as many freshmen as seniors will start for the Huskers — also worries Wolforth.

"When you're putting two freshmen in the outfield for something like a Big Eight Tournament, you're putting a lot of pressure on them," he said.

## Ryan steals Rickey's flame on historic day in baseball

The Associated Press

There have been big days in baseball, like last June 29 when Fernando Valenzuela and Dave Stewart each pitched no-hitters.

There have been historic days, such as the same afternoon in 1985 when Tom Seaver got his 300th career victory and Rod Carew got his 3,000th career hit.

Then there was Wednesday. Rickey Henderson started it early in Oakland, becoming the all-time stolen base leader by stealing No. 939 and breaking Lou Brock's record.

The Chicago White Sox and Milwaukee kept it going, playing into the early evening before the Brewers won 10-9 in the 19th inning, the longest American League game since the same teams played 25 innings in 1984.

But Nolan Ryan saved the best for last. He wrapped up the night with his record seventh no-hitter.

"I don't think what I did will take away from what Rickey did," the ever-humble Ryan said after pitching Texas past Toronto 3-0. "He did it in grand style."

"This is the best," the 44-year-

old Ryan said of his no-hit collection. "This is my most overpowering night."

Ryan (3-2) tied his own team record for strikeouts. He threw 122 pitches, 83 for strikeouts, and mixed a 96 mph fastball, a sharp curve and a pinpoint changeup.

Manuel Lee threatened to break up Ryan's gem in the sixth with a looper to center field. But five-time Gold Glove winner Gary Pettis made a running catch at his shoetops.

The no-hitter gave Ryan his 305th career victory. He tied Eddie Plank for 17th place on the all-time list.

Five times Ryan has lost a no-hitter in the ninth inning. He took care of business in quick fashion this time, retiring Lee and Devon White on routine grounders and striking out a swinging Roberto Alomar on a 2-2 pitch.

Henderson finally ended the waiting, stealing third base in the fourth inning against New York pitcher Tim Lincecum and catcher Matt Nokes.

Ryan struck out 16, walked just two and did not permit either runner to get past first base.

## Knicks' coach joins Notre Dame

NEW YORK (AP) — John MacLeod resigned as coach of the New York Knicks today to become the coach at Notre Dame.

MacLeod said he hasn't signed a contract with Notre Dame yet but will leave for South Bend, Ind., on Friday to finalize a five-year deal. He replaces Digger Phelps, who resigned on April 15 after 20 seasons with the Fighting Irish.

"As much as I enjoy pro ball, I always felt that if a good college opportunity came along, I would be

receptive to it," MacLeod said.

In 18 seasons as a coach with Phoenix, Dallas and the Knicks, MacLeod was 707-657. He was 32-35 with the Knicks after replacing the fired Stu Jackson on Dec. 3.

The Knicks were eliminated from the NBA playoffs Tuesday night and MacLeod told the players Wednesday he was leaving.

The only college coaching experience for the 53-year-old MacLeod was six seasons at Oklahoma almost

20 years ago. He was 80-79 with the Sooners, including a 19-8 record in 1970-71.

Dave Checketts, president of the Knicks, said a coaching search would begin immediately. Among those reportedly under consideration are former NBA coaches Pat Riley and Mike Fratello.

Notre Dame is coming off a 12-20 season. Before MacLeod's acceptance, Xavier's Pete Gillen and Georgia Tech's Bobby Cremins declined chances to coach the Irish.

## NU tennis recruits to vie for top spot

By Jeff Singer  
Staff Reporter

Nebraska men's tennis coach Kerry McDermott has three recruits to try to take the place of team leader Matthias Mueller, who will redshirt next season.

The Huskers signed high school standouts Andy Davis and Mike Garcia and junior college transfer Glenn Henderson to compete in the fall.

Davis, from Scottsdale, Ariz., is ranked third in singles in the Southwest Tennis Association's 18-and-under rankings.

Garcia, a product of Lincoln Southeast, was the state singles champion in 1990 and runner-up this year.

Henderson played for McCollan Junior College for two years and was brought to McDermott's attention by former Husker standout Steven Jung, after Jung battled Henderson in an open tournament last December.

"These guys are going to come in and have an impact on our program right away," McDermott said. "We've got some open spots that they will need to fill."

One of those open spots is Mueller's slot at No. 1 singles, along with the vacancy at No. 1 doubles. McDermott said Mueller's sitting out for the 1991-92 season is mainly due to economics.

He said that with Mueller redshirting, the German can be on scholar-

ship for his final undergraduate year as well as his first year of graduate school.

"Since we're getting the most out of him from tennis, we should give something back to him in education," McDermott said.

McDermott also said he thinks this will help Mueller, who finished sixth in last weekend's Big Eight tournament, when he plays in his last year for Nebraska during the 1992-93 season.

"I'm in favor of him taking a year off, since he doesn't seem to be mentally at the top of his game," McDermott said. "I'm hoping his sitting out will make him really hungry for tennis."