



Nebraska's Eric Piatkowski guards Creighton's Matt Petty in action earlier this season. The Cornhuskers will try to follow up their upset of No. 3 Kansas when they play No. 23 Iowa State Saturday at Ames, Iowa.

## Buoyant Huskers head for Iowa St.

By Jeff Singer  
Staff Reporter

Home is where the heart is and that also is where the victories are for most Big Eight men's basketball teams.

This is true in the cases of both Nebraska and Iowa State. The two will meet in Ames, Iowa, at 1 p.m. on Saturday. The game will be televised by Raycom.

The Cornhuskers are coming off of Wednesday's 81-79 overtime upset against No. 3 Kansas at Lincoln.

The road has been a different season in itself for Nebraska. The Huskers are 1-3 in Big Eight play away from the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

The situation is similar in Ames. The Cyclones are undefeated in conference play at home, but have lost every Big Eight contest not played at the Hilton Coliseum, including a nine-point setback Wednesday at Kansas State.

Iowa State coach Johnny Orr said this seemed to be the trend throughout the conference.

"Missouri beats Nebraska by 30 and then Colorado beats (Missouri) by 17 and Nebraska comes back to beat Kansas. It's tough to play on the road in this conference," Orr said.

Although playing the Huskers in Ames this weekend doesn't guarantee the Cyclones a win, it's better than playing at Nebraska, where Iowa State lost 68-63 earlier this month, Orr said.

"It's not really an advantage playing here, but I'd sure rather be here than in Lincoln," Orr said.

Orr said his team must improve in certain areas to avenge the Cyclones' loss to Nebraska with a win on Saturday.

"We have to play with more intensity, which we didn't have in Lincoln," Orr said. "We've been successful because we've played with super intensity most of the time."

Iowa State is 4-5 and tied with the Huskers for fourth place in the Big Eight. The Cyclones, ranked No. 23 in the country, are the conference's most improved team with an 18-7 record, easily topping their overall record of 12-19 a year ago.

Saturday's game will feature two evenly matched teams with similar features, Orr said.

The Huskers' "biggest strength is their overall team play, because they're just like us in that any one of six or seven guys can do it in a certain game," Orr said. "It's going to come down to their size against our quickness."

Orr's comments on the similarities between the two teams equate on paper.

Both squads have four starters averaging in double figures, as well as point guards with more than 100 assists each.

Guard Justus Thigpen leads the Cyclone starters with an average of 16.5 points per game, followed by center Julius Michalik at 13.6, forward Fred Holberg with 13.4 and Ron Bayless who chips in 11.9 points along with his 100 assists.

Only the names and uniforms are different for the Huskers, as they too are led in scoring by their shooting guard. Eric Piatkowski heads the Nebraska attack with 14.3 points per game, followed by center Derrick

See CYCLONES on 8

## Husker wrestling team to meet tough Iowa squad

By Chuck Green  
Senior Reporter

After posting come-from-behind wins in their past two duals, the Nebraska wrestling team is looking for a little breathing room early.

Cornhusker coach Tim Neumann doubts his 10th-ranked Huskers will get it this weekend against No. 9 Northern Iowa.

The match will start at approximately 5 p.m. at the Bob Devaney Sports Center, following the competition of the state high school wrestling tournament.

The dual will be wrestled on two mats simultaneously, with the

118- to 150-pound weight classes on one mat, and the 158 to heavy-weight classes on the other.

Neumann said Northern Iowa has few weaknesses.

"Northern Iowa is tough in every weight class," Neumann said. "Not only that, but at the weights where we are really tough, they have guys ranked ahead of us. It will be a real opportunity for both Corey (Olson) and Chris (Nelson) to shine."

Olson, Nebraska's starter in the 177-pound weight class, will face top-ranked Rich Powers, while Nelson, the starter at 190, will have

See WRESTLING on 8

## NU women try to bury ISU

By Chris Hopfensperger  
Senior Editor

The second halves haven't been long enough for the Iowa State women's basketball team, Coach Pam Wettig said.

Almost all season, the Cyclones have fallen behind in the first half of games, Wettig said, only to fight back in the last 20 minutes.

But 20 minutes hasn't always been long enough, she said.

"We dig our holes so deep, sometimes we can't get out of them."

On Sunday, the Cyclones will try to keep from getting buried in the first half by Nebraska, Wettig said. The Cornhuskers travel to Ames, Iowa, to play Iowa State at 2 p.m. in Hilton Coliseum.

"We're definitely playing better than we did at the beginning of the conference," Wettig said.

But one hole the Cyclones might not be able to dig themselves out of is in the league standings. After losing eight straight games to start the Big Eight race, Iowa State has won two of its past three games.

Tied for seventh in the Big Eight race, Iowa State is 4-19 overall and 2-9 in the conference. Nebraska is 17-7 and 7-4.

Wettig, who announced her resignation earlier this month, said the Cyclones' record doesn't reflect their season.

"In spite of the disappointing season in terms of wins and losses, this year has been anything but disappointing," she said. "We're very young, and we're getting better."

Iowa State's biggest game of the season was last week at Oklahoma State, Wettig said. The Cowgirls, who beat Nebraska at Stillwater, Okla., fell to the Cyclones, 55-50.

"That ended a horrible, horrible slump for us," Wettig said.

The Huskers' biggest game of the



## NU women's basketball starter update

Nebraska 17-7 (7-4)		PPG	RPG
G 24	Meggan Yedsena 5-8 So.	11.0	3.3
F 41	Carol Russell 5-10 Sr.	4.8	2.9
F 51	Karen Jennings 6-2 Jr.	25.5	9.7
G 25	Sara Offringa 5-10 Sr.	6.0	2.5
F 23	Shawn Collains 6-0 Jr.	1.4	2.5
Iowa State 4-19 (2-9)		PPG	RPG
F 21	Shanda Fitzgerald 5-11 Jr.	5.6	4.3
F 50	Barb Gordon 6-1 So.	5.4	4.9
F 23	Melanie Young 5-11 So.	3.9	3.7
G 5	Tynetta Rasheed 5-10 Sr.	12.4	4.3
G 4	Leslie Maple 5-7 Sr.	9.1	3.0

Scott Maurer/DN

season could have been Wednesday night at Kansas. A win would have put the two teams in a tie for the Big Eight lead, but Nebraska lost by two, 67-65.

Coach Angela Beck said the season is no longer a race for first place. It is a race for a good position in the Big Eight Tournament.

"It's a race for seeding," she said. "We don't want to draw a tough team in the first round."

The emotional effects of the loss won't mean the Cyclones will have an easier time against Nebraska, Wettig said.

"If anything, they're going to be worse," she said. "You can use the psychology both ways. Either they lose and they're hungry, or they win and they're riding an emotional high. I see (Nebraska) as a team with

tremendous strength and a lot of balance."

The Huskers have two players, including the league's leading scorer, averaging in double digits. They are led by junior Karen Jennings' 25.5 points and 9.7 rebounds a game.

Iowa State is led by senior Tynetta Rasheed. She is averaging 12.4 points a game.

Beck said she hadn't determined her lineup for Sunday's game. After juggling the starting five to emphasize rebounding against Kansas, Beck said, the Iowa State game may require a different group.

"Whoever matches up the best (with the Cyclones)," she said, "that's how I'll determine the starters."

At least one Husker may not figure into the lineup, Beck said. Senior Sue Hesch has a bruised bone in her leg.

## Women's gymnastics teams evenly matched, coach says

By Robert Birkeland  
Staff Reporter

When the Nebraska women's gymnastics team takes on Iowa State this weekend, the similarities will be striking.

The two teams will meet for a dual Sunday evening at Ames, Iowa.

Nebraska coach Rick Walton said Iowa State is on an even keel with Nebraska. Both teams are in similar shape and have a similar number of injuries.

Cornhusker gymnasts Robin Richter and Karla Cash have sat out for the season because of injuries.

"If you put Robin back on the floor, I don't think Iowa State can stay with us," Walton said.

"(Iowa State) can potentially win this weekend with the situation we are in right now," Walton said. "They have been getting better every year

that I have been here."

Walton said the Cyclones recently traveled to a meet in Florida where they competed against Florida and Georgia. He said that meet should prepare them for this weekend.

"If they didn't get intimidated with those (teams), they won't get intimidated with us," Walton said.

Walton said the strengths and weaknesses of both teams were similar.

"We are inconsistent on bars and they appear to be hitting their routines," Walton said. "But we both are the same because we are inconsistent."

Walton said the team that stayed on the beam would win the dual.

Walton said the Cornhuskers must put a meet together and then go on to win. He said if his team was to do that this weekend, it would be beneficial for the rest of the season.