

# Tennis duo livens up courts — verbally

By Jeff Singer  
Staff Reporter

When it comes to the Nebraska men's tennis team, it's easy to see why certain players start on a team that plays in one of the top college tennis conferences in the nation.

In doubles, the No. 1 pair of Joseph Rahme and Karl Falkland were top junior players in their native countries of South Africa and Sweden, respectively, before coming to compete in the United States.

Mike Garcia and Andy Davis make up the No. 2 tandem. Both are two of the top freshmen starting in the Big Eight and were recruited to play on the college level.

The final duo at No. 3 doubles consists of Troy Bray and Jay Segrist — and well, they both have fun on the court.

That's about all that could be said before the season about the Cornhuskers' No. 3 twosome. Both walked on at Nebraska knowing they didn't have much of a chance of getting playing time.

But because Matthias Mueller and Anthony Kotarac, two of Nebraska's top singles and doubles players, decided to use their redshirt seasons this year, Bray and Segrist have gotten their chance in the spotlight.

"We're just a couple of scrubbed-up walk-ons getting a chance to play," Bray said.

But what makes these scrubs entertaining to watch is not how they play on the court, but what they say.

The duo's verbal exploits have led to a reputation of one of the most confident doubles squads, not only in the conference, but throughout the country.

For example:

●South Bend, Ind. — At the Tom Fallon Invitational last fall, the pair was starting in one of its first matches after spending the previous two years on the bench. This didn't stop Bray and Segrist from letting an opponent know what they thought about his questionable calls.

After repeated calls that the Husker duo didn't approve of, their opponent thought he'd console the Nebraska players.

"I wouldn't cheat you guys," the opponent said.

"You'd cheat your own mother," Bray replied.

●Wichita, Kan. — In a dual with Wichita State last month, Bray was concluding his match at No. 5 singles after Segrist had just won at No. 6 singles.

Segrist's opponent decided to harass Bray. Bray turned to him on the court and said, "I don't know what you're mouthing about, since my boy just kicked your ass."

Later, one of the Shockers who was playing the twosome at doubles said the two were "enthusiastic, bordering on obnoxious." Bray added that "I just felt sorry for the guy because I'd already beat him in singles."

●Irvine, Calif. — The Huskers were wrapping up play in the UC-Irvine Team Tournament against Brown University, when some Bear

“Anytime I get the chance to make comments on the court, I do it. If anyone gives us any attitude on the court, we're going to get them.”

—Bray,  
NU men's tennis player

players showed disapproval of the pair's talking on the court.

One of the Brown players chastised the Huskers, and Bray replied, "Who are you, my daddy?"

After the Bear player said he was, Bray said, "I don't think so, because my mother's got better taste than that."

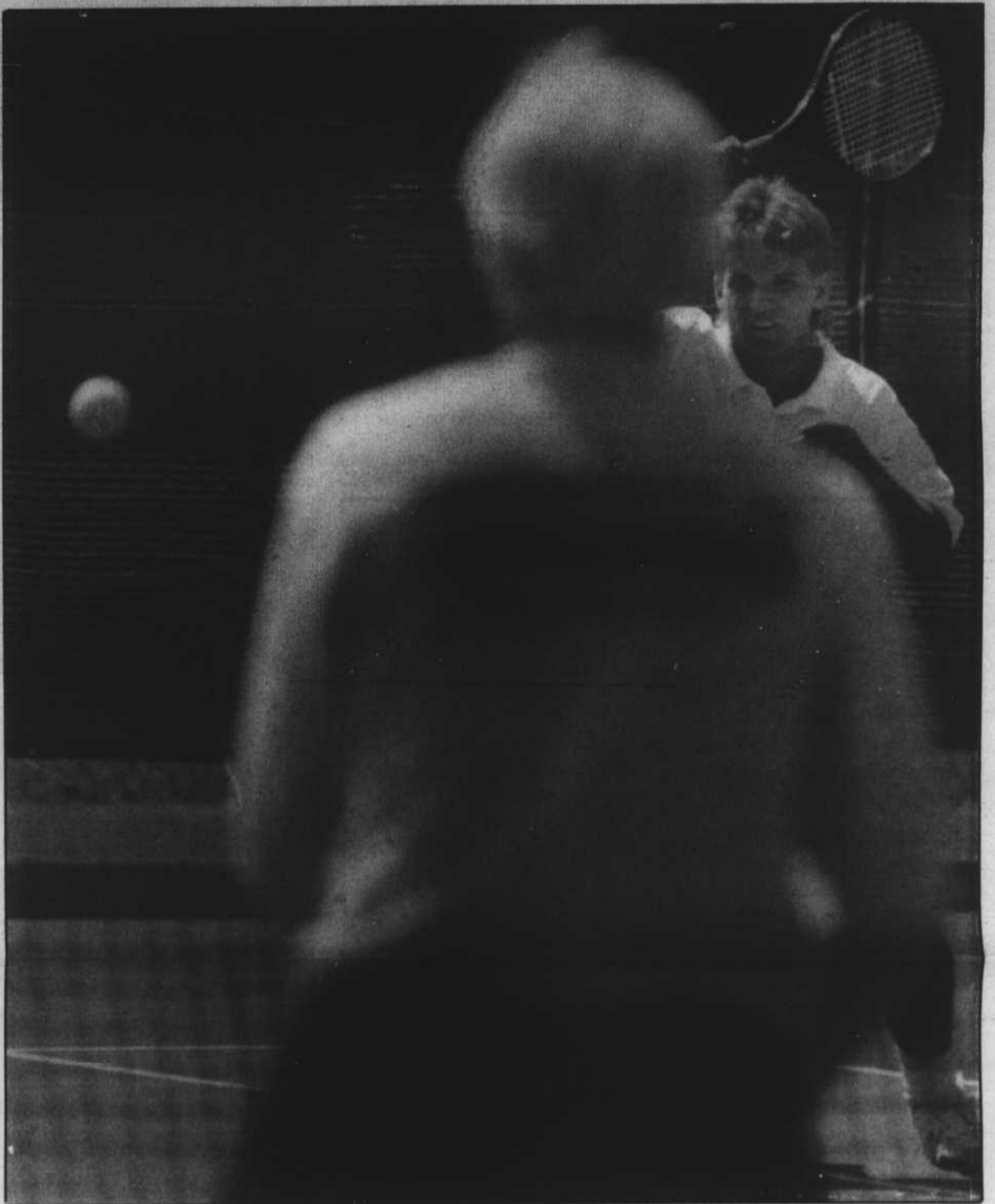
Bray said these are just examples of how the tandem refuses to be intimidated on the court.

"Anytime I get the chance to make comments on the court, I do it," Bray said. "If anyone gives us any attitude on the court, we're going to get them."

The self-proclaimed "cock-daddys," — named because of their cocky attitude on the court — are just trying to have fun on the court, Segrist said.

"Our comments that come out when we're talking smack is just the way we are," Segrist said. "We don't purposely try to put on a show out there, but it just happens."

See PARTNERS on 8



Shaun Sartin/DN

Nebraska tennis player Troy Bray (right) competes in a doubles match against Colorado Saturday afternoon. Bray and doubles partner Jay Segrist have gained confidence through their talk on the court.

## Coach says game to keep team in shape for weekend series

By Nick Hytrek  
Senior Editor

The Nebraska baseball team will have a chance to steady itself for the weekend when it faces Washburn University today.

The 4 p.m. contest at Buck Beltzer Field will enable the Cornhuskers to stay sharp for this weekend's series against Oklahoma State, Coach John Sanders said.

"We want to make sure we get as much preparation as we can to get in good shape for Friday," Sanders said. "We just want to do everything well."

The 21-11 Huskers are coming off

“We need to be prepared to play well. We need to play with a lot of enthusiasm and play sharp.”

Sanders,  
NU baseball coach

a 9-2 win over Wayne State Monday. Sanders said he saw some good things from his team in that game.

"On defense we played errorlessly," he said. "We want to continue that

### Nebraska-Washburn Series Notes

**All-Time:** This will be the eighth meeting between the two teams. Nebraska leads 7-0.

**Last season:** The two teams played twice, Nebraska winning 11-5 both times in Lincoln. The first meeting was the season opener and Mike Zajeski picked up the win. Jeff Nollette was the winning pitcher in the second meeting.

**This season:** Washburn was 10-18 entering action yesterday and was in last place in the Missouri Intercollegiate Athletic Association standings.



Scott Maurer/DN

We need to continue to pitch aggressively.

"The main thing is to stabilize all areas."

Washburn, a Division II school, was 10-18 going into a doubleheader Tuesday. Last season the Huskers had two 11-5 wins over the Ichabods.

Despite playing Washburn twice last year, Sanders said he didn't know a lot about this season's team.

"I know they're well-coached and they'll come up here like any other

non-Division I team and try to make a mark," he said.

"We need to be prepared to play well. We need to play with a lot of enthusiasm and play sharp."

Today's game will be the second for the Huskers without Marc Sagmoen, the Huskers' leading batter at .446.

The junior center fielder broke his wrist while making a diving catch in last Sunday's game against Evansville.

See BASEBALL on 8

## NU softball team plots attack on Wichita State

By Susie Arth  
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska softball team will be on the attack Wednesday when it faces Wichita State.

The two teams will play a doubleheader at the NU Softball Complex beginning at 5 p.m.

Coach Ron Wolforth said his team must return to an aggressive style of play to turn the season around.

"In the past, we always went down swinging and we always attacked until the last out of the game," Wolforth said. "We need to get back to that style of game against Wichita State."

Wolforth said he planned to be aggressive on offense by stealing, calling hit and runs, and maybe even squeezing.

But Wolforth said it was especially important for his team to start being more aggressive defensively.

"Without consistently excellent pitching, a team must become scrappy and resourceful on defense," he said. "To this point, we haven't done that."

Wolforth said he planned to start freshman pitcher Lisa Shandy against the Shockers.

Although Shandy picked up three losses last weekend in the Big Eight Round-Robin at Stillwater, Okla., Wolforth said she probably pitched her most consistent games of the season.

Wolforth said the matchup with Wichita State was interesting because the two teams were similar in that both have good hitting and sub-par pitching.

Both Nebraska and Wichita State, he said, have lost key players and have had a difficult time recovering.

"Now we both just hope to finish strong," he said. "We both want to go into our conference play on the upswing."

Wolforth said he thought the way to get a strong finish out of his team was to forget about its 8-19 record.

It is dangerous, he said, for his players to focus on the record because they start to fear mistakes rather than play aggressively. He said his players needed to start thinking in a different way.

"We need to go up to the plate to get a hit rather than to not get out," he said. "We need to start pitching to get an out instead of pitching not

See WICHITA on 8