Stewart

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Stewart said that by being from northern California, there was but one thing for her to prove in high school.

People in southern California think they're in a completely different state or something," she said. "So it was kind of hard because I had to prove myself to those people.

Stewart then chose Nebraska because she noticed something special when she visited.

"Of all the schools that came to visit me, Nebraska was the only one that stressed academics," she said. "Even before they mentioned athletics they talked about school, and I liked that."

Now in her second full year of collegiate competition, Stewart said the team unity was something spe-

"The relationships on this team really make us more determined to do better," she said. "There's always someone to turn to, and that's good because sometimes the competition is so tough and the others help to relieve some of the pressure.

And her teammates have helped her to determine some goals, both immediate and long-term.

Stewart said her first goal was to go the NCAA Championships in the 100 hurdles, an event in which she already has a provisional qualifying

"I don't know how the system works," she said. "I'll just sit around and wait to see if I make it or not.'

Stewart also tried the heptathlon

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Snow doesn't fill the sports page

April is a mixed bag for sports. The Masters. Major league base-ball. NBA playoffs. The NFL draft. Snow delays. Yes, snow delays.

Being from Nebraska, it's no big surprise to see Nebraska baseball and softball rained out. But snowed out? Well, that's not too surprising, either.

Undoubtedly, many of you spent your Tuesday away from classes watching some sports on television.

But for those of us who were confined to the basement of the Nebraska Union, there was no joy in Daily Nebraskanville. At least not for those of us who would have rather been watching the game of the day instead of figuring out what to put on the sports page

So while I was racking my brains, rying to think of something ANYTHING — to put in this section, a lot of ideas came to mind. One of them was to write this column, and since I had no solid ideas, this column will be like April — a mixed bag of

First, let's talk about baseball. Did you notice that Milwaukee's Kevin Seitzer is near the top of the American League hitting standings? Kirk Gibson hit a grand slam for

Pittsburgh Monday night. Kurt Still-well is playing well for San Diego. What do these guys have in common? They all played for the Kansas City Royals last season.

So did Bret Saberhagen, whom they traded to the Mets. After Tuesday's action, the Roy-

als were 1-12. Coincidence? No, I don't think so. I find it funny that a team which

used to put so much pride in developing players through its farm system has sunk to the level of hitting the free

still productive. Major league baseball clubs can have success signing an occasional

Nick **Hytrek**

free agent, but the key to being really successful is minor league development. A team must be patient with the young players it has in its organization and let them develop into major league stars.

The NCAA men's gymnastics championships will take place at the Bob Devaney Sports Center Thursday through Saturday.

Unless you go to a Nebraska track and field meet, you won't get another chance to watch any other worldclass athletes competing on campus this year.

Nebraska coach Francis Allen said it's possible that the entire 1996 Olympic gymnastics team could be made up of gymnasts who will compete in the Sports Center this weekend.

It's also important to the future of collegiate gymnastics that a lot of people attend the meet.

Due to a growing lack of interest, the NCAA meet might be discontinued in the near future. The NCAA has guaranteed its existence through 1994, but beyond that, it's hard to tell what

And if the above reasons aren't

agent market, trading off talented enough, there's always the opportuplayers and releasing players who are nity to watch the most successful athletic program at Nebraska.

Allen has coached Nebraska to seven national titles, more than any other program on campus. The Cornhuskers enter this meet as the No. 1 team and stand a very good chance to add their eighth team championship trophy to an already full trophy case.

The NBA playoffs begin tonight, but I had to look in the paper to find

The NBA no longer offers enough variety to keep me interested.

It used to be the fast-breaking teams of the Western Conference against the slow, rough teams from the Eastern Conference. Now it seems that they all play the same type of game.

There are no more teams that rely on the fast break as a vital part of the game, forcing the break on teams instead of breaking only when the opportunity presents itself.

NBA officials should change the rules and allow teams to play zone defenses instead of just man-to-man. This would open up the game and provide more trapping options for defenses, which gives the offense more opportunities to break down the defense and score. Isn't scoring what fans want to see?

Or maybe the NBA could shorten the regular season, or the playoffs, or eliminate the playoffs or just eliminate the season altogether.

I don't care. I'm watching baseball and gymnastics this weekend.

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Hytrek is a senior news-editorial major and the Daily Nebraskan sports editor.

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I guess since every week-

end I've improved in my

running, I'm satisfied. I

don't know what will hap-

pen from here on out. I

may just keep showing

improvement or level off.

earlier this season, but she said that

"We're putting a hold on that right now," she said. "I'm just going to train and try it again next year. Be-

sides, I can't throw the javelin very

Despite all her success, Stewart

"Especially in the hurdles," she

"Coaches have always told me,

Now that she's settled in at Ne-

has remained realistic. She knows

there is still room for improvement.

said. "My knee drive over the hurdle

needs some work. Not the height, but

the extension of my leg. I extend too

'You're not jumping, you're hur-

braska, Stewart said, she just wants to

"I do go through mood swings just like everyone else," she said. "But

you can't really do anything about a

race once it's over. If you dwell on it,

stay happy and keep improving.

"It's just me, I guess."

NU women's track and field

Stewart

athlete

Who knows?

will have to wait.

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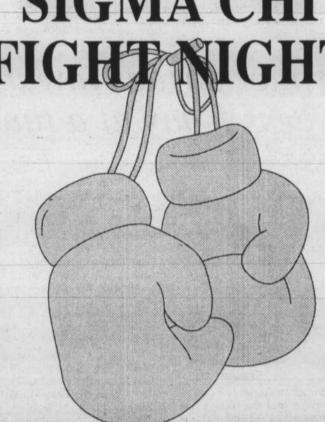
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