Page 12

**Daily Nebraskan-Sports** 

EBRASKA VOLLEYBALI

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volleyball,

Coliseum

The Nebraska volleyball team

Nebraska coach Terry Pettit

We thought the Coliseum

Thursday, August 20, 1992





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VOLLEYBALL1992

Jeff Haller/DN Outside hitter Eileen Shannon serves during a recent practice at the NU Coliseum.

## Volleyball team aims for title

**By Jeff Singer** Senior Reporter

The Nebraska volleyball team has the Big Eight under its thumb.

Now, the Huskers just want to get their hands on a bigger prize.

The Cornhuskers, who have won 16 consecutive conference titles, will be trying to continue their dominance of the Big Eight again this season as well as shooting for a first-ever national title.

Nebraska lost All-Big Eight per-formers Janet Kruse and Cris Hall from last season's 27-5 team, but Nebraska volleyball coach Terry Pettit said he thought the Husker juggernaut would continue this year.

"We need to keep our fingers crossed," Pettit said. "But I don't see any reason that we shouldn't continue to be one of the best programs in the country.

'We still plan to do well and still plan to go to the Final Four, so our goals have not changed," she said. Thater, last year's Big Eight Player

of the Year, returns to the starting lineup, as do senior Eileen Shannon, juniors Nikki Stricker and Laura Luther and sophomore Kim Tonniges.

Pettit said that with this year's lincup, his offense would need to be faster than in previous years.

We need to be a more diversified team attack-wise, because we lost two terminal players in Hall and Kruse," Pettit said. "We're going to need to run a quicker offense.

But Pettit said his team's forte would be blocking.

'We should be an excellent blocking team," he said. "Luther and Shannon are very strong left-side blockers, and nobody's better than Thater blocking in the country.

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Two-time All-American middle blocker Stephanic Thater agreed with Pettit.

Pettit said the Huskers, who return both of their setters, should be stronger

See VOLLEY on 13

