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Nebraska volleyball coach Terry Pettit instructs his players during a recent practice at the NU Coliseum.

VolleyBall 1992 NU volleyball finally home

By Jeff Singer Senior Reporter

The Nebraska vollcyball team wants a new NU Coliseum to lead to something else new — a national championship.

The Cornhuskers, who have won 16 straight Big Eight championships but never an NCAA title, will unveil the court in a match against Nebraska alumni on Sept. 1.

The volleyball court in the Coliseum, which was originally built in 1926, was renovated last season, which forced the Huskers to move into the Bob Devaney Sports Center for the 1991 campaign.

But to say the Huskers are glad to be back in the Coliseum is an understatement.

"I can't describe how happy we are to be here," Nebraska volleyball coach Terry Pettit said.

Nebraska All-American middle blocker Stephanie Thater said the Huskers' new home was a symbol of the sport. "This is our home," Thater said. "Everybody who thinks of the Coliseum thinks of volleyball."

Changes to the volleyball portion of the Coliseum include the installation of a new floor, additional seating, new coaching offices, renovated locker rooms and the addition of air conditioning.

Pettit said the modifications have helped make the Coliseum one of the best facilities in the nation.

"When you look at the total package — the arena, the coaching offices, the locker room facilities and the training room — I think it's as good as any volleyball facility in the country," Pettit said.

Pettit said the refurbished facility may also attract recruits to the Husker program.

"We have always been able to recruit here because of the strength of the program and the strength of the university, but I think it's only going to help us," Pettit said.

The Husker coach said Nebraska's ing," Pettit said.

years in the Coliseum have contributed to the success of the program.

"There is no way Nebraska volleyball would be where it is today had we not played in this facility," Pettit said. "I don't think we would draw near the crowds that we have if we had been in the Devaney Center all those years."

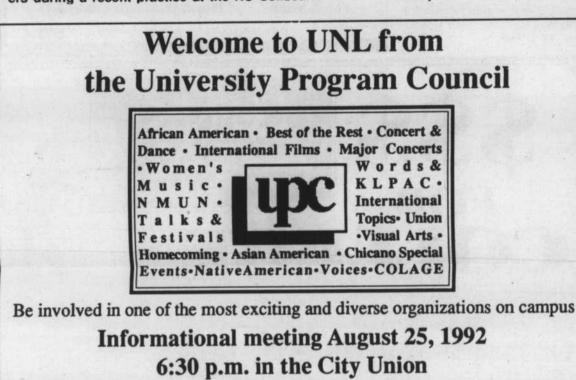
the Devaney Center all those years." The Devaney Center did help Nebraska set the NCAA attendance record, as 11,032 fans watched the Huskers lose in four games last season to eventual national champion UCLA.

Thater said returning to the Coliseum, which will now hold 4,500 fans, is the biggest reason for the Huskers' anticipation this year.

"The crowd here is loud and a tremendous help," Thater said. "It is the biggest reason why we like playing here."

Pettit said the Coliseum was a symbol of the Huskers' volleyball tradition.

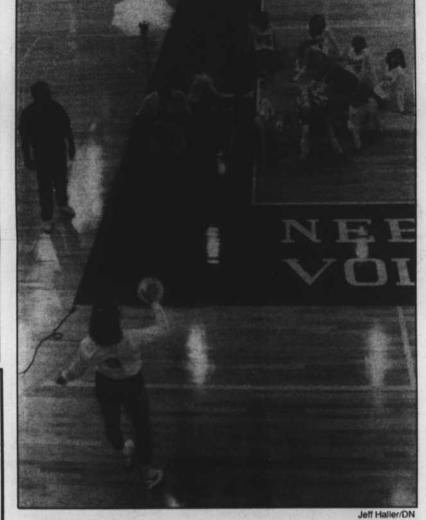
"When people think of Nebraska volleyball, they think of this building," Pettit said.



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Nebraska sophomore Tami Thompson looks at the cameras at the volleyball team's annual Photo Day, held Aug. 10.

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3	Kelly Aspegren	OH	5-11	So.	
8	Debbie Brand	OH	5-9	Sr.	Adelaide, Austrail
10	Rachel Errthum	MB	6-0		Dubuque, Iowa
5	Christy Johnson	S	5-9		Omaha
15	Laura Luther		6-0		Grand Island
22	Peggy Meyer	MB	6-1	So.	Moorhead, Minn.
7	Eileen Shannon		6-0		
12	Nikki Stricker	S	5-10	Jr.	Lincoln
2	Stephanie Thater	MB	6-2	Sr.	Union, Mo.
9	Tami Thompson	DS	5-8	So.	Sutherland
23	Kim Tonniges	OH	5-11	So.	Lincoln
18	Allison Weston	OH	6-0	Fr.	Omaha
4	Billie Winsett	OH	5-11	Fr.	Boonville, Ind.
Hea	ad Coach: Terry I	Petti	t (16	th ye	ear)
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