



DN file photo

Nebraska's Derek Brown rushes in a game last year. Brown, one of six players taken in the NFL draft, was picked in the fourth round by the New Orleans Saints.

Draft

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that Shields was still available in the third round.

"What I like about him is he's a kid with a purpose and he's a kid with the willingness to work hard," Schottenheimer said. "I like the way he plays; he plays with intensity and he has a feel for the game."

Lynn Stiles, Kansas City's vice president of player personnel, said he hopes Shields can do for the Chiefs what he did in his career as a Husker.

"He's a fine young man and he represents the University of Nebraska and their football program very well," Stiles said.

Nebraska's offensive line coach

Milt Tenopir said the Chiefs can expect good things from their first pick in the draft.

"As far as ability, Will Shields is as good as we've had around here," Tenopir said. "We know what he can do; they have to find out what he can do."

Hughes will be returning home when he suits up for the Saints in the fall. The New Orleans native played both split end and defensive back towards the end of 1992, and his versatility is considered an asset for the NFL.

Lewis will be trying to make the Colts roster with his 6-foot, 225-pound size. The native of Scott City, Kan., ran for 482 yards and five touchdowns and blocked for the Jones and Brown tandem in helping Nebraska to last

season's national rushing title.

A knee injury suffered by Hill in the Orange Bowl dropped him from a possible Top 10 draft selection to the seventh round. But the Browns are still hopeful that the All-American from Pearland, Texas, can regain the form that helped him lead the Huskers in tackles and sacks before the injury.

"We just felt that with a seventh-round pick, it was extremely good," Cleveland coach Bill Belichick said about the selection of Hill.

Mike Lombardi, the Browns' director of pro personnel, said if Hill can rehabilitate his knee, he may prove to have been a steal that late in the draft.

Hill's coach at Nebraska, outside linebackers coach Tony Samuel, said he should do well with the Browns.

Dukart's hot bat helps Huskers back into thick of league race

By Susie Arth
Senior Reporter

It's been nothing but drives and dingers for Derek Dukart over the past few days.

And as far as the Cornhusker baseball team is concerned, he couldn't have picked a better time to get hot.

The Cornhusker third baseman, who has tallied four home runs, 11 RBIs and eight hits in three games, said he couldn't have timed it better if he tried.

"I'm just fortunate that things happened when they happened," Dukart said. "We're right in the thick of things in the Big Eight, so this is the perfect time to get things going."

His hot streak included two home runs and four runs scored in the first game against Peru State Monday afternoon at Buck Beltzer, which the Huskers won 21-9. Nebraska also won the nightcap 12-3.

Nebraska coach John Sanders said

he was pleased with Dukart's offensive success.

"He's playing exceptionally well," he said. "He shortened his swing and he's being more selective."

Dukart said he couldn't credit his success with any one thing, but perhaps confidence has something to do with it.

Dukart, a junior from Milwaukie, Ore., said he has developed a better attitude when he goes up to the plate.

"I have just been seeing the ball real well lately," he said. "I think my approach to hitting is a lot better than it was, and I'm starting to get my confidence back."

With the confidence came the flood of success.

He's raised his batting average by 32 points during the past three games, and he's doubled his home runs for the

Peru State

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Ophus lasted only 1 1/3 innings and gave up nine runs on five hits and walked seven.

Sanders said he was hoping Ophus would have a better outing against the Bobcats to gain confidence.

"He is in a rut," Sanders said. "It becomes more of a mental challenge

than a physical one, and he just needs to go out and experience success to get out of the rut."

David Gappa pitched 5 2/3 scoreless innings in relief of Ophus to pick up his first career win. Gappa allowed only two hits, walked five and struck out four.

In the nightcap, Nebraska got a much stronger pitching performance, as four Husker pitchers scattered seven hits in a 12-3 win.

Jason Pflughaupt earned his first

year from five to 10 over the past five games.

Better concentration may also have something to do with the sudden success, Dukart said.

"I've been in a slump lately," he said. "And I'm starting to break out of it."

But Dukart said he's not the only player who is starting to get things together. The rest of the team seems to have caught on fire, too.

The Huskers have won their past five games with sweeps over both Iowa State and Peru State. They have raised their record to 21-18.

"The team is starting to come together and we're playing the way we should have been playing the whole year," he said. "We're starting to come out of our slump and come together."

Dukart said he was uncertain what has caused the team's turnaround during the past few days.

"I'd like to think I had something to do with it," he said.

win of the season, allowing one run on two hits in three innings of work.

Darin Petersen had four of Nebraska's 19 hits to lead the Huskers. McKenna, Garcia and McKay each added three hits for Nebraska.

McKay provided the biggest blow of the game with a lead-off homer in the fourth inning off losing pitcher Mike Fitzpatrick.

The Huskers return to action on Wednesday with a doubleheader at Missouri.

Husker women take sixth spot at tournament

By Tim Pearson
Staff Reporter

Coming into the outdoor season, Nebraska women's tennis coach Scott Jacobson was hoping for a finish in the upper half of the Big Eight.

Going into the Big Eight Championships, Jacobson was hoping to do better than the Cornhuskers' seed of seventh.

The Huskers made one of Jacobson's wishes come true last weekend at the Big Eight Championships in Prairie Village, Kan.

Nebraska didn't achieve its mark of finishing in the upper half of the Big Eight, so the Huskers settled for a sixth-place finish.

Nebraska beat Iowa State on Saturday to advance into the fifth-place match, where the Huskers lost to Kansas State on Sunday 5-1.

Jacobson said he was happy with the win over the Cyclones.

"Our goal was to finish higher than our seed, and we did that by finishing sixth," Jacobson said. "We were happy to beat Iowa State, and the Kansas State match was closer than the score indicated."

The play of Ann Flannery and Zarina Galvan was the key to the win over Iowa State, Jacobson said.

"We got good play out of Ann and Zarina against Iowa State. They picked it up a bit," he said. "They won at No. 1 doubles. Those two kind of carried the load for us."

The Huskers lost to Oklahoma State in their first match 5-0. Jacobson said he wasn't disappointed with the Huskers' effort against the Cowgirls.

"Oklahoma State is at a different level than we are. They are on the verge of being a top 20 team," he said. "Our kids went out and gave 100 percent effort."

Against Kansas State, to whom the Huskers lost to 5-4 earlier in the season, Nebraska junior Tina Coutretsis picked up the Huskers' sole point at No. 4 singles with a 1-6, 6-1, 6-3 victory over Lindy Neethling.

"We had our chances against Kansas State," Jacobson said. "We were up in a couple of positions, but Kansas State just played a little bit better than we did."

Husker sophomore Frauke Hachtmann played well all weekend, Jacobson said. Hachtmann won her first set against the Wildcats' Amelia Van Der Merwe, but ended up losing 3-6, 7-6, 6-3.

Overall, Jacobson said that the Huskers performed well on the season, but were victimized by losing several close matches they could've won.

"We played five 5-4 matches, and we lost four of them," he said. "The girls put forth 100 percent effort, but I was a little disappointed we couldn't reach our goal of finishing in the upper half of the conference."

Tennis

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1989 teams also finished second at the Big Eight Championships.

McDermott said that this year's team ranked right up there with the '88 and '89 teams.

"Those teams were probably stronger at the end of the four, five and six spots," he said. "We struggled a little in those spots this year. We can't afford that."

The Huskers advanced to the championship match with victories over Oklahoma State and Kansas, who had beaten them earlier in the season.

McDermott said that he expected to win against the Cowboys and the

Jayhawks.

"We felt like we played a bad match against Kansas earlier in the season. We felt we could beat them because the courts were slower," he said. "We weren't worried about Oklahoma State, but they were a little tougher than expected."

Matthias Mueller and Jan Anderson were the only Huskers to make the All-Big Eight team.

Next season McDermott said that Nebraska will field a solid team, which will be bolstered by the addition of Fredrick Riesbeck, a recruit from Ljungsbro, Sweden. The Huskers will lose Mueller, Karl Falkland and Jay Segrist to graduation.

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