



Nebraska catcher Kris Vucurevic, left, makes the tag on Dana Way of Missouri in the second game of Sunday's doubleheader.

## Power, speed help leadoff batter hit Huskers home with a punch

By Chris Hain  
Staff Reporter

Designated hitter Amy Offenbacher put a little punch into Nebraska's offense this weekend against Missouri, with a couple of home runs from an unlikely position.

Offenbacher, Nebraska's leadoff hitter, started off Nebraska's win against Missouri, Saturday, with a home run that took a while to get out of the park.

Nebraska softball coach Rhonda Revelle said Offenbacher muscled that ball out, which tied the game 1-1, but got a clean cut on the ball she took out of the park in Nebraska's second game Sunday.

In the third inning of Nebraska's 4-1 win Sunday, Offenbacher hit her second solo home run of the weekend to boost the Husker lead to 3-0 over the Tigers.

“If I can make the pitcher lose her confidence a little I think it helps out the team.”

— Offenbacher  
UNL designated hitter

“It's a great feeling,” Offenbacher said, “except I wish I could get someone on base when I hit one.”

Offenbacher leads the team in home runs with four. That ties her for 10th on Nebraska's all-time charts for most home runs in a season.

She says she likes the fact that she doesn't fit the leadoff hitter's traditional mold.

“I think it's a big advantage,” Offenbacher said. “Generally leadoff hitters are seen as the quick, little singles hitter.”

Offenbacher does fit one quality of

a leadoff hitter — the ability to get on base. She had two walks in game one on Saturday, and leads the team with 19, a number that also places her on the Husker all-time charts.

“She has a real good eye,” Revelle said. “She's tough on pitchers and has good speed.”

Offenbacher says she likes to work the count a lot, and that aspect, combined with her power, can really throw opposing pitchers off balance.

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