

# Galligan ignites Huskers in win over Arkansas State

By Derek Samson  
Senior Reporter

The Nebraska women's basketball team was looking for a spark in Sunday's game against Arkansas State, but Kate Galligan provided a first-half fire that the Indians could not put out.

Galligan hit five 3-pointers in less than 10 minutes to help Nebraska, which had lost four of its past five games, defeat Arkansas State 86-64. Nebraska avenged an earlier season loss to Arkansas State and a 97-64 drubbing by Creighton Friday night.

Coach Angela Beck said Galligan's shooting may have answered many questions.

"We've been looking for a two-guard that can shoot for quite some time," Beck said. "Kate can stroke. She shows in practice that she can shoot the ball very well."

Galligan hit three consecutive 3-pointers to give her team an early 11-6 lead. After adding another 3-pointer with 14:11 left, she hit her final 3-pointer with 10:48 still left before intermission.

Galligan, who hit her first five shots, said her first shot was the most important.

"It was great for me because I've been kind of struggling," she said. "It was really nice to get that first one. That's the one I needed."

"I didn't know how long it would continue. I had a feeling in the second half that I might have used all of them up during the first half."

Galligan's efforts helped the Huskers score 15 unanswered points and go on a 27-5 run, which took up 11:33 of the first half.

That stretch "was probably the best basketball we've played execution-wise this year," Beck said. "I made an adjustment in that I decided we weren't going to run off of every-

thing. The thing that disappointed me was that we didn't play two halves of basketball."

Nebraska's Nafeesah Brown finished the game with a game-high 21 points and a personal-best 16 rebounds. Galligan finished with 19 points and eight assists, while Meggan Yedsena added 13 and seven assists.

Nebraska improves to 4-4 with the victory. Friday's Creighton loss broke Nebraska's 10-game home winning streak.

Beck said beating Arkansas State should get Nebraska headed back in the right direction.



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## Stricker

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did everything I could to promote good volleyball."

But it hasn't sunk in yet that her volleyball career is over, Stricker said.

"It hasn't hit me that it's over," she said. "I'll miss it. The experience as a whole I won't miss, but I wouldn't be the person I am today without it."

Stricker said she has developed a lot as a person.

"Obviously four years of college are going to make you grow a lot," she said. "You come to the realization that you play the sport because you love it, and you're going to do everything you can to do the best you can."

"Coming in four years ago, you were the star player in high school, and you want to do everything perfect. But it's a whole different world. To be the best you have to get better."

And Pettit said Stricker got better during her four years as a Husker.

"She improved in every aspect this season—her serving, her passing, her blocking," he said.

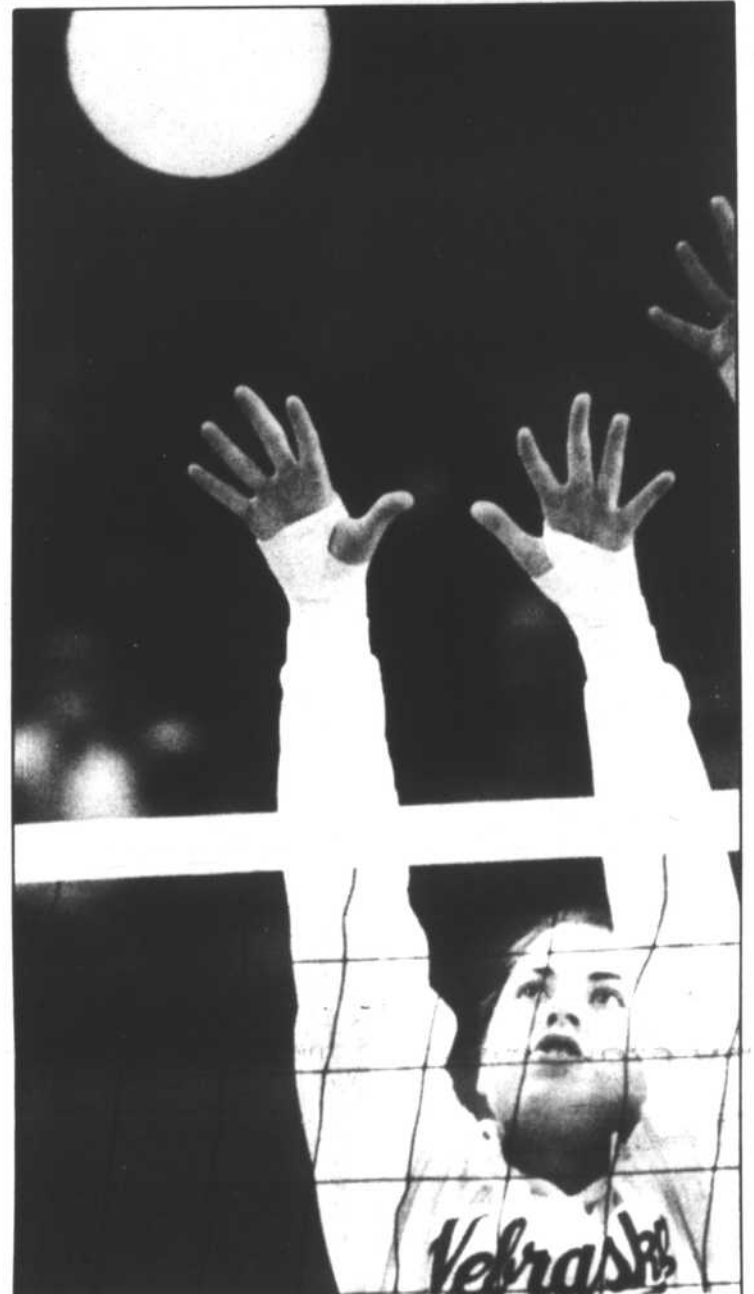
Stricker said she will miss volleyball, but she's not going to let that affect her.

"I'll miss it a lot, but it's not my life," she said. "I'm going to graduate in May with a degree in elementary education and I'm looking forward to teaching."

"I really see it as a great four years. I've had some great experiences and it has been invaluable."

Volleyball could possibly be an option in the future, but Stricker's not counting on it.

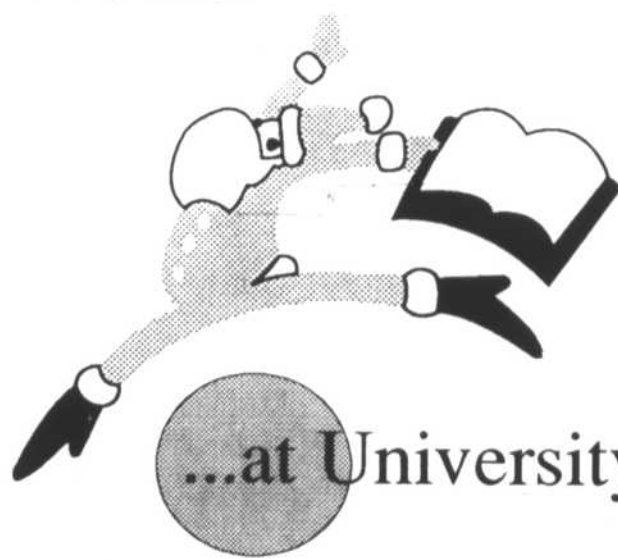
"I don't know what my opportunities are," she said. "It's up in the air, but I don't want to hang onto it."



Kiley Timperley/DN

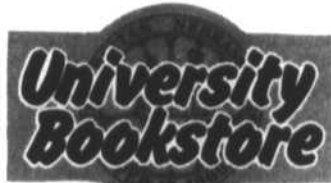
Nikki Stricker, who holds the school's all-time set-assist record, just completed a memorable career at Nebraska. "It hasn't hit me that it's over," she said. "I'll miss it."

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