

# Road to NCAAs to be bumpy for NU

By Mitch Sherman  
Staff Reporter

In each of Nebraska's last three seasons, which all ended with NCAA tournament appearances, the Cornhuskers won at least seven Big Eight games and 19 overall.

This year, the Huskers are 14-7 overall and have four conference victories with only five games remaining.

So just how many wins will it take for Nebraska to qualify for one of the 32 at-large births in the NCAA tournament?

"I don't know the answer," Nebraska coach Danny Nee said. "I think it's crazy to talk about it now. In 10 days or two weeks, we are going to know exactly what has to happen."



The Huskers will find out quickly. Looming next on Nebraska's schedule is Oklahoma State, which has beaten the Huskers in seven out of their past eight meetings.

Following Saturday's game in Stillwater, Okla., the road doesn't get any smoother. Nebraska returns home to play Kansas, ranked second in the nation; Kansas State; and the Cowboys again.

To top it off, the Huskers finish out the regular season by facing red-hot Missouri in Columbia, Mo.

Nee stressed the importance of the Big Eight tournament, which will be held March 11-13 in Kansas City, Mo.

"I think the Big Eight tournament is going to have more of an impact on who gets in than any other year," he said.

**It's like maneuvering your way through a minefield.**

—Nee

NU men's basketball coach

Last season, Missouri finished the regular season with a 16-13 record. The Tigers won the Big Eight tournament in order to qualify for the NCAA tournament.

"It's like maneuvering your way

through a minefield," Nee said. "We will probably have to use the tournament to play our way in or out."

During the past four games, Nee

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## Seniors lead Nebraska to win over MU

By Derek Samson  
Senior Reporter

As the game clock ticked down in the Nebraska women's basketball game with Missouri Wednesday night, Meggan Yedsena and Nafeesah Brown perhaps saw their careers doing the same.

The two seniors, who will play their final home game Sunday against Colorado, led a late rally that allowed Nebraska to beat Missouri 77-72 in a must-win game for the Huskers.

Trailing 63-58 with 3:48 remaining, Yedsena made the first of two free throws to start the Huskers, now 15-11 overall and 6-6 in the Big Eight, on an 11-0 run to sink the seventh-place Tigers, who dropped to 3-8 and 9-14.

During the stretch, Yedsena had nine points, caused a jump ball and added a steal and assist. Brown, Nebraska's only other senior, scored four points and had a steal that led to a Husker basket.

"We talked in the Kansas game that we didn't have anyone take over, and that's why we didn't win it," Nebraska coach Angela Beck said. "We needed someone to take over for us. I thought Meggan did take over this game."

After Yedsena missed her second free throw with 3:48 remaining, Emily Thompson rebounded the miss and scored to pull the Huskers within two at 63-61.

After Yedsena made two more free throws to tie it, Brown followed with two straight baskets to put Nebraska ahead 67-63.

Yedsena finished the run by scoring the next four points to give Nebraska a 71-63 advantage.

"We have a thing where we don't want to lose at home, definitely not down the stretch like this," Yedsena said. "These close games are only going to help us. I think we're finally starting to realize the intensity it's going to take."

Despite Nebraska's eight-point lead, Missouri wasn't finished.

The Tigers' Erika Martin scored, stole the inbounds pass and scored again to pull Missouri to 71-67 with 42 seconds remaining.

Nebraska's Kate Galligan hit two free throws, but Missouri came back when Amy Fordham drained a 3-pointer to cut the Husker lead to 73-70.

See **SENIORS** on 8



Jay Calderon/DN

Nafeesah Brown looks for an open teammate during the first half of Nebraska's 77-72 victory over Missouri Wednesday night.

## Baseball coach views season with optimism

By Jeff Griesch  
Senior Editor

The Nebraska baseball team will have a lot to build on this year as it opens the 1994 baseball season against Oral Roberts University in Tulsa, Okla., at 2:30 p.m. Friday.

Oral Roberts should provide a solid test for the preseason 35th-ranked Cornhuskers.

The Titans, who will also play host to the Huskers in two 1 p.m. games Saturday and Sunday, have been tabbed in some publications as the third-ranked NCAA independent team behind Miami and Notre Dame, Nebraska baseball coach John Sanders said.

Sanders said the road games would give him a chance to get a better look at his team.

After winning 23 of their final 30 games last season, the Huskers narrowly missed earning their first NCAA Regional Tournament berth since 1985.

Nebraska finished 35-23, and Sanders said he hoped the momentum the Huskers had last season would carry over into the new year.

"Last year, we finished up really, really strong, and we're using that as motivation this season," Sanders said.

Along with a strong finish, the Huskers will also have a talented group of returners on which to build.

Nebraska's pitching staff, which was suspect at times last season, should be a better all-around group this year, Sanders said.

The ace will be junior All-American Troy Brohawn.

Brohawn, a left-hander from Woolford, Md., was the most winning undefeated pitcher in the nation last season, posting a 13-0 record with a 3.16 ERA and 123 strikeouts.

Sanders said he expected even bigger things from Brohawn this season.

"Troy has promised to do even better this year," Sanders said. "I've told him he has to win 16 in a row or no scholarship."

The biggest bolster to the Huskers' staff could be the return of Sanders' son Craig.

Craig Sanders missed last season with a knee

See **BASEBALL** on 8

## Harding case taught us one thing: Get a good lawyer

Before I begin this week's festivities, I thought it was high time I told you, my expansive readership, a little about myself.

I was born in a small log cabin in Illinois ... no wait, that's Abe Lincoln. OK, now I remember. I was born 23 years ago. My father was in the Navy, and my brother was a cross-dressing, schizophrenic nun ... hold on, that's not right ... oh yeah, that's Kevin Ramaekers.

Forget it; let's talk Tonya.

I don't mean to beat a dead horse (or whack it on the knee), but I need to address the impending moral and legal issues surrounding the Tonya Harding/United States Olympic Committee conflict.

Hey, I'm in law school; these topics are important to me. Nawwwwww, that's crap. I'm only in law school to impress Jodie Foster.

Here's a brief synopsis of the affair: The USOC planned to have a hearing to decide whether Harding would be removed from the Olympic team. Harding got pissed and sued the USOC for \$20 million, and the USOC then decided to allow Harding to remain on the team without review.

Gee, I didn't realize U-S-O-C spelled "wussy."

No, no, no, I kid the spineless. The fact of the matter is that the removal of Harding from the team would be a gross infringement of her due process rights—whatever the hell that means. I heard it on Court TV.

Anyway, I'd like to go on the record by saying that I support the USOC from a legal perspective, but from a moral view, I have my reservations.

If Harding is guilty of participation in this crime, allowing her to remain on the team would be a huge miscar-



Beau  
Finley

riage of justice. It's not so much the crime but the fact that the crime was committed in the name of unfair competition. Basically, should we condone such methods of gaining access to our Olympic squad? I say, Good god, no.

Furthermore, I'd like to go on the record by saying that I think that Brian Boitano guy is just cute as a button.

But aside from these social issues, I'm principally concerned with how we explain this terrible affair to the youngsters.

I think you need to be cautious not

to speak over the kiddies' heads, because if they misunderstand this incident or fail to see the moral depravity involved, they may condone it.

That could be potentially dangerous. I don't want to see the day that teachers must fear for their shins because kindergartners have made Harding a role model.

Thus, we must explain the incident on a level they can easily comprehend:

Once upon a time there was this girl named Tonya that really liked to skate, drove a truck and married bald guys.

She didn't have many toys, but she worked very hard to get the ones she did have.

However, another little girl still had more toys than she had. No matter how hard little Tonya worked, the other little girl had more toys.

So she decided to whack the other

little girl.

That way, if the other little girl couldn't play, then little Tonya could have all the toys (and commercial endorsements).

However, her parents found out that little Tonya hurt the other little girl. They decided to not let little Tonya play anymore. So little Tonya hired an expensive lawyer and threatened to sue her parents. Her parents were wussies and ended up letting little Tonya play anyway.

The moral to the story is: Don't run away from competition by whacking your opponent.

But if you do decide to whack your opponents, make sure you have really good legal counsel.

Finley is a first-year law student and a Daily Nebraskan sports columnist.