

## Probable Starters

### Nebraska vs. Kansas State

Bob Devaney Sports Center, 3:10p.m. Saturday  
TV: Raycom (Channel 7) Radio: KLIN 1400

#### Nebraska (15-8/5-6)

Pos.	Player	Ht.	PPG	rpg
F	Terrance Badgett	6-6	9.7	4.6
G	Jaron Boone	6-6	11.9	2.3

#### Kansas State (17-8/4-7)

Pos.	Player	Ht.	PPG	rpg
G	Anthony Beane	5-10	11	2.9
F	Ron Lucas	6-7	5.5	3.6
F	Demond Davis	6-4	6.3	5.9

DN graphic

# Huskers closer, not finished yet

By Jeff Griesch  
Senior Editor

One down and two to go.  
At least that is the way the Nebraska men's basketball team is approaching the remainder of its season.

The Cornhuskers got a crucial 96-87 win over Kansas on Wednesday night, but Coach Danny Nee said the Huskers still needed two more wins to receive an invitation to the NCAA tournament.

Nebraska will be looking for win No. 2 at the Bob Devaney Sports Center Saturday against a Kansas State team that is playing with the same motivation as the Huskers. The 3:10 game will be televised on Raycom (Channel 7).

Like Nebraska, the Wildcats are on the NCAA tournament bubble. Kansas State is 17-8 and 4-7 in the Big Eight and has won three straight

games, including a 89-76 win over Oklahoma last Saturday.

The Wildcats had lost four straight games before breaking out of their slump against Western Kentucky.

Kansas State used the momentum from its win over the Hilltoppers to pummel the Sooners at Manhattan, Kan.

The Wildcats hit a Big Eight-record 16 consecutive field goals against Oklahoma—a feat that caught Nee's attention.

"I was impressed with the way Kansas State played against Oklahoma," Nee said.

The Wildcats also have a two-game winning streak in Lincoln. Kansas State beat the Huskers 66-64 last season and 70-66 two years ago at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

But Nebraska guard Eric Piatkowski, who scored 33 points and grabbed 11 rebounds in the Huskers' win over Kansas, said Nebraska was focused on ending the Wildcats' streak.

"I don't think there is anything to worry about Saturday," Piatkowski said. "We are going to be ready for them because we have to beat K-State."

## NU swimmer looks ahead to new goals, new places

By Tony West  
Staff Reporter

From having people look at her differently to driving on the other side of the street, Melanie Dodd has done a lot of adjusting.

Dodd, a sophomore from Sydney, Australia, came to Nebraska in the summer of 1992 to swim for the women's team and Coach Cal Bentz. Nebraska took some getting used to, Dodd said.

"It was very much a culture shock. People look at you weird when you talk with an accent. You have to change your language around to talk to other

people. And just how people drive on the right side of the road is different."

After almost two years at Nebraska, her life has become a bit more normal, Dodd said.

"I'm getting to know a lot more people. And I feel more comfortable."

While it took her some time to adjust to college life in Nebraska, it didn't take Dodd long to get into the flow of college swimming.

She is the returning 1993 Big Eight Women's Swimmer of the Year. Dodd set conference meet records in the 50-, 100- and 200-meter freestyle events last season, and she holds the Nebraska school record in the 100 and 200.

Dodd and the Husker swimming and diving teams will try to add to their success at the Big Eight Championships in Oklahoma City, which

See DODD on 8



Sandy Summers/DN

Nebraska's Eric Piatkowski said he wasn't looking ahead to a possible shot at the NBA. "I have tried to block that out as much as possible," he said.

## As scouts watch ... Piatkowski keeps his mind on NU games

By Mitch Sherman  
Staff Reporter

No player in the history of Nebraska basketball has played on more NCAA tournament teams than Eric Piatkowski.

But the 6-foot-7-inch forward from Rapid City, S.D., isn't satisfied.

As the Cornhuskers charge down the stretch run of the season with three regular season games remaining, Piatkowski has decided it is time for him and the rest of the seniors to take matters into their own hands.

"We're the ones that have to step up and make the big plays," Piatkowski said. "We're not going to have another chance. There's a lot riding on this."

Against Kansas on Wednesday, Piatkowski, the No. 3 scorer in Nebraska history, did his part to get

the Huskers rolling by scoring 33 points in Nebraska's 96-87 win.

The 1993 All-Big Eight first team selection is also the Huskers' all-time leading three-point shooter and ranks in the top five in assists and blocked shots.

NBA scouts pile in to watch him play almost every game, but Piatkowski remains quiet — yet confident — about his chances of making it in the NBA next season.

"I have tried to block that out as much as possible," he said. "I really have no control over that, and if I start to worry about that or think about that, it will hurt my game."

"Right now, I am just going to enjoy my last few college basketball games and hope for the best from there."

As far as Huskers in the NBA, Piatkowski is staring at a deck that is not stacked in his favor.

Only four Nebraska players have

been drafted since 1980. Rich King, the former Husker center who has been on and off the Seattle Super-sonics' injured list during the past two seasons, is the lone Husker currently playing in the NBA.

Piatkowski said he had been able to stay focused, and with only three regular season games remaining, he was putting everything on the line.

After Saturday's game at home against Kansas State, the Huskers play host to Oklahoma State next Wednesday and travel to Missouri next Saturday.

"We feel comfortable that we can win these games," Piatkowski said, "especially the ones at home. We still feel that we have a very good chance to make the NCAA."

"If we can make a run, then go to

See PIKE on 8

## NU track teams look to capture Big Eight indoor titles

By Trevor Parks  
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska men's and women's track and field teams are looking to keep a season — and a tradition — of success going as they compete at the Big Eight Indoor Championships in Oklahoma City this weekend.

The women are looking to win their 15th consecutive Big Eight championship, and the men are going for their sixth championship under Coach Gary Pepin.

The women's streak has motivated them for the meet, Pepin said.

"I think it gives a little confidence to the team. Somebody is going to have to be pretty

good to beat us."

The women are led by defending Big Eight champions Shanelle Porter and Kwani Stewart. Porter, the 1993 Big Eight Indoor Championships MVP, will be defending her 55-, 200- and 400-meter titles.

Stewart will try to repeat her first-place finishes in the long jump and 55-meter hurdles. This year, Stewart has the sixth longest jump in the country and leads the Big

Eight in the event. She also leads the conference in the 55-meter hurdles.



Pepin

The only other champion from last year is Nicola Martial, who won the triple jump with a leap of 40 feet, 2 inches.

Kathy Travis, who redshirted last year, won the 55- and 200-meter dashes in 1992. She has the fastest 55-meter time in the Big Eight this year at 6.9 seconds.

"We have a team that is very well-balanced," Pepin said. "If we can go down there and perform the way we have all year, I think we'll be in good shape."

The men are looking to win their first conference championship since 1992.

The only individual champion returning for the men is Pat Trainor. Trainor won the 600-

yard run last year. He also helped the 4-by-400-meter relay team to victory.

Shot putter Andy Meyer, who finished third at last year's championships, has the longest throw in the Big Eight this season at 60 feet, 1/4 inch.

This will be the first year since 1976 that the conference meet will be held on a neutral track.

Pepin said the track was a small bank-board track that would make the meet interesting.

"The facilities at Oklahoma City will make it a bit different meet than we've had before," Pepin said.

Events start Friday at 3:30 p.m. Saturday, the meet begins at 11:30 a.m.