13th & Q Street

Dukart's slam may turn NU around

By Mitch Sherman Staff Reporter

State, the Nebraska baseball team had were the biggest, he said. lost six straight games.

of Saturday's game against the Cow-boys, the Huskers trailed 7-0 and looked like they were headed for seven losses in a

Then up stepped third baseman need to do.' **Dukart** Derek Dukart.

The 6-foot-4-inch, 205-pound senior from Milwaukie, Ore., launched a grand slam over the right center field fence to ignite the Huskers. Alvie Shepherd followed Dukart's homer with a solo shot, and the rest was history

Nebraska won Saturday's game 8-7 and thumped the Cowboys 10-3 on Sunday to climb out of the cellar in the Big Eight and improve its record to he gets back on 14-15 overall and 2-6 in conference out quite a bit.

coach John Sanders said. "It really helped, and it builds confidence.'

The Huskers needed the offensive confidence. During their six straight losses, the Cornhuskers had amassed a total of 17 runs, while giving up 44.

Dukart again homered Wednesday

night to help Nebraska win the second game of a doubleheader at Iowa State.

Dukart, who leads Nebraska with a Heading into Saturday's game .383 average, has hit five home runs against eighth-ranked Oklahoma this season. His four RBI on Saturday

es. "We were kind of struggling," And going into Dukartsaid. "Nothing was really hapthe seventh inning pening for our team, and it was kind of an emotional lift.'

As a senior on a young team, Dukart said, providing a key hit is part of his

"I feel like I need to step up in big situations," he said. "Whether it is getting an RBI when we need it or cading off the inning by getting on base, that's what the team leaders

At this point in the season, somebody needed to spark the Huskers. Dukart said. And with All-American Troy Brohawn on the bench with a broken foot, he said, the Huskers weren't feeling like winners.

But now Brohawn is back, and Nebraska may have finally turned the corner after a 12-15 start.

'Having Troy out of the lineup really hurt," Dukart said, "and when half like we did last year, and hopehe gets back on the mound, it will help

"I think it's a psychological edge "That big inning was the kind of for us that we came back strong last thing that we really needed," Nebraska year. Now, with two straight wins over a good team, we can get on a

The Huskers won 23 of their final 31 games last season but were shut out of regionals. This year, Dukart said,

they want to play in the postseason. "Our goal is to win games," he Huskers split with Cyclones

From Staff Reports

Nebraska exploded for eight runs in the nightcap to salvage a doubleheader split at Iowa State Wednesday.

After managing just three hits in a 1-0 loss in the opener, the Huskers came back to win the second game 8-7.

In the nightcap, Alvie Shepherd, Derek Dukart and John Strasser homered for Nebraska, 15-16 overall and 3-7 in the Big Eight. Cory Winget, 3-3, earned the win for the Huskers.

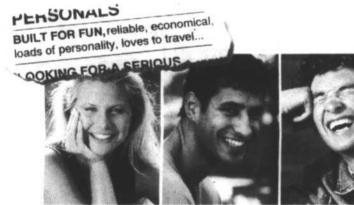
The only run in the opener came in the first inning when the Cyclones' Mark Eisinger scored from second base on Darrin DeReu's single.

said. "We have got to have a second fully we will get in this year.'

He stressed the importance of Nebraska winning close games down the

During the Huskers' six-game skid, four of the losses came by three runs or

"It has been really frustrating losing some of the games that we have lost," Dukart said. "Our pitching has been there, but we haven't had the



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Frazier

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more of a big deal."

More times than not last season, Frazier battled injuries, ranging from his ankle to his shoulder. He sat out part of the Kansas game and played in pain during the Colorado game be-cause of the shoulder injury.

With Nebraska's lack of depth at quarterback — the Huskers have just two scholarship quarterbacks this spring-remaining healthy is a must,

Frazier said.

"Only a couple days earlier I thought about how I really needed to stay healthy," he said. "Once it (the ankle) gets healthy, all I have to do is keep it healthy. I shouldn't have any more problems with it once it heals.

"It won't be the type of injury that keeps bothering me. I just have to try to make this the last time I have to worry about an injury.

Osborne earns coaching award

From Staff Reports

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne was named Wednesday as one of eight 1994 Giant

Step Award winners.

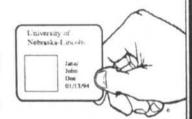
Giant Step Awards are given annually to individuals and/or organizations who exemplify the ideals for student-athletes to achieve academic and athletic excellence.
Off the field, Osborne and

his wife, Nancy, created Teammates, a program with the Lincoln Public Schools where students are teamed with Cornhusker football players. The goal of the program is to get the

Students to stay in school.

Osborne will be honored at a Nov. 2 banquet in Boston.

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