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Softball team looks to sweep UMKC

By Derek Samson
 Senior Reporter

The Nebraska softball team has lost 21 times this year. Sixteen of those losses have come at the hands of an opponent ranked in the top 20.



Revelle

So when 6-22 Missouri-Kansas City faces Nebraska for two games Thursday at 5 and 7 p.m. at the NU Softball Complex, Nebraska coach Rhonda Revelle is expecting her 13-21 Huskers to jump all over the opportunity of playing a weaker opponent. "We've played a very tough schedule, and had we not played so many rated teams, our record certainly wouldn't be what it is," Revelle said.

"These two are extremely important. It's an opportunity that we feel like we should, and we can, get a sweep. Anything less than a sweep will be a disappointment."

The Huskers don't just need a sweep, Revelle said. They need to develop a different attitude.

"We need to have a little more of a killer instinct," Revelle said. "When you have someone on the ropes, you have to put them away. When you're down, you have to fight, scratch and claw your way to get back up."

"Having that kind of intensity is something where we've been slipping. Hopefully, we can change that."

Nebraska's contest with UMKC also will serve as a warm-up for the Huskers' four games with third-ranked Oklahoma State in Stillwater, Okla.

Revelle said tonight's games took on an added importance after Monday's doubleheader with Creighton was rained out.

"I think it's really important that we get these games in," she said. "First of all, I don't want to go a whole week without playing and then have to go to Oklahoma State. Secondly, I think that we definitely have the edge (against UMKC), and at this point we need to get some wins."

Revelle said she hoped her team received its wake-up call last week against Northern Iowa, another team the Huskers were expected to sweep.

After rolling to a 8-0 victory in the first game, Nebraska was creamed 7-0 in the second game and was denied the sweep.

"I think this is similar to Northern Iowa, but if you look at our roster you see how young we are," Revelle said. "If you look at the fact that Melanie (Raimondi), a freshman, has pitched in 24 of our 34 games, you see how young we are. There are a lot of experiences we've gone through, and hopefully, we've learned from them."

NEBRASKA Softball

NU vs. Missouri-Kansas City

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NU baseball team sweeps Wildcats

From Staff Reports

The Nebraska baseball team took both ends of a doubleheader from Kansas State at Manhattan, Kan., Wednesday.

The Huskers, 21-16, exploded for 29 total runs as they beat Kansas State 14-4 and 15-1.

David Crain belted two home runs in the first game.

Veland

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all have missed some practice time because of injuries.

Veland, who has yet to practice this spring while he rehabilitates his knee, said he wanted to concentrate on the safety position. But if prodded, he said he might consider returning to quarterback.

The 6-foot-1-inch, 200-pounder from Omaha Benson has a pretty good idea of what it will take to satisfy him this season.

"Number one — I have to stay

healthy," he said. "Number two — I have to start. And number three — I have to perform well and play to my potential. If those things happen, I'll be happy."

When counting his injuries at Nebraska, Veland had to pause for a moment before beginning.

Veland has been hampered by ankle, elbow and shoulder injuries, a broken collarbone, a torn patellar tendon, tendinitis in both knees and a groin pull.

"They say that injuries build character," he said. "Well, if that's true, I feel like I'm a pretty strong person by now."

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