

# Wrestlers young but seasoned, coach says

**By Clay Short**  
Staff Reporter

Nebraska wrestling coach Tim Neumann came into last season with a young, untested team.

This year most of that young Cornhusker team returns with a full year of experience. But one key wrestler from last year's team is gone.

Justin Ware, who started at 142 pounds last season as a redshirt freshman, is no longer at Nebraska. Ware dropped out of school at the end of last year.

However, Neumann is confident he can replace Ware.

"We have 10 returning lettermen, including an All-American from two years ago, Mike Eierman," Neumann said.

Eierman had a rough season last year and lost his starting position to Ware after the winter break. Eierman said last year he thought about leaving Nebraska.

But he's back and will challenge Joe Stephens for the starting spot at 142 pounds.

"Our whole starting team for this year has started one of the past two years," Neumann said. "Some started two years ago and redshirted last season."

This year's Husker squad has only

one senior: Steve Baer. Baer won three matches at last year's nationals and should be ranked among the top six in the nation at 126 pounds.

The only "green spot" on the team may be at 177 pounds, Neumann said.

No wrestlers return at 177, but the Huskers were blessed with the acquisition of two redshirt freshmen, Kalin Makaiwi and Kenny Mbah.

"Kalin Makaiwi was the fourth-rated recruit in the country at 177 pounds," Neumann said. "Kenny Mbah was the top-rated recruit in the nation at 190, and fortunately for us he is able to wrestle at a lighter weight."

Gone from the team is All-American Frank Velazquez. Behind him is a more than able replacement, Jason Reitmeier, who was 16-5 as a redshirt.

"Jason Reitmeier was a top recruit last year. He wrestled behind Frank and earned a fourth-place finish at the Midwest Championships," Neumann said.

Temoer Terry returns at 150 after finishing second in the Big Eight as a freshman last year. Jason Kraft, a 158-pounder, also placed second in the Big Eight in his first college season.

Redshirt Michael Roller comes to the Cornhuskers from Oklahoma.

"I think Michael was really overlooked. He is a seven-time national champion in junior high and high school," Neumann said. "In all that talent down there, once in a while, a quality athlete gets overlooked. I think that is the case with him."

Returning after tearing his anterior cruciate ligament injury last year is 167-pounder Chad Nelson, who will receive an immediate starting battle with Eric Josephson, the junior college national champion at Iowa Central in 1993.

Ryan Tobin, a sophomore from Brandon, S.D., will start at 190 pounds, and Tolly Thompson is the heavyweight for Coach Neumann. Last season, Thompson set the Husker record for wins by a freshman.

"It's obvious that we are still young, but we have so much experience," Neumann said.

Along with experience, Neumann was encouraged by his team's off-season condition.

"They are all pretty self-motivated. They had a great summer, and that is really important," he said. "In this sport, if you take the five months that we aren't wrestling off, you're finished."

"You have to stay in form, and by working hard this summer these guys have done that."

## Nebraska Wrestling Schedule

Nov. 6	Iowa State Open	All Day	Ames, IA
12	Wyoming Open	All Day	Laramie, WY
19	Omaha Open	All Day	Omaha, NE
26	Mat Town Invitational	All Day	Lock Haven, PA
Dec. 3	Iowa State	7:30 p.m.	Lincoln, NE
17	Cal State-Fullerton	12:00 noon	Fullerton, CA
17	Cal Poly	8:00 p.m.	San Luis Obispo, CA
18	Fresno State	12:00 noon	Fresno, CA
18	Cal State-Bakersfield	7:30 p.m.	Bakersfield, CA
Jan. 4	Wyoming	7:30 p.m.	Bassett, NE
7	Great Plains Invite	9:00 p.m.	Lincoln, NE
7	Great Plains Finals	8:00 p.m.	Lincoln, NE
10	Minnesota	7:30 p.m.	Lincoln, NE
21	Nat. Duals First Round	9:00 a.m.	Lincoln, NE
21	Nat. Duals Quarter Finals	1:00 p.m.	Lincoln, NE
21	Nat. Duals Semi Finals	8:00 p.m.	Lincoln, NE
22	Nat. Duals Consolations	TBA	Lincoln, NE
22	Nat. Duals Finals	4:00 p.m.	Lincoln, NE
27	Oklahoma State	7:30 p.m.	Stillwater, OK
29	Oklahoma	2:00 p.m.	Norman, OK
Feb. 4	Clemson/J. Madison/Ohio St.	10:00 a.m.	Clemson, SC
10	Northern Iowa	7:30 p.m.	Cedar Falls, IA
12	Nebraska-Omaha	7:30 p.m.	Lincoln, NE
15	Missouri	7:30 p.m.	Columbia, MO
Mar. 5	Big Eight First Round	11:00 a.m.	Lincoln, NE
	Big Eight Semi Finals	12:00 noon	Lincoln, NE
	Big Eight Finals	8:00 p.m.	Lincoln, NE
	16-18 NCAA Championships	All Day	Iowa City, IA

DN graphic

# Utah freshman scoring goals for Huskers

**By Matt Olberding**  
Staff Reporter

When Nebraska soccer coach John Walker talks about freshman striker Jamie Riley, he uses words like desire, passion and bravery.

Riley, who is from Centerville, Utah, has been a "pleasant surprise," Walker said.

Though she is a scholarship athlete, Walker said he had moderate expectations for her for the season. Riley has progressed a lot faster than

he expected, he said.

Riley, though, always sees room for improvement in her game.

"There's always a potential to do better," she said. "If you give the effort, things are going to go your way."

Riley said she always wanted to play Division I soccer, but she didn't want to go just anywhere to play. The academic support given to athletes, she said, brought her to Nebraska.

Riley learned about the new Nebraska soccer program from her Olympic Development coach in Utah,

who had played soccer in Canada with Walker. Walker watched Riley play and then offered her a scholarship.

In high school, Riley led her team to the Utah 5A state championship, scoring 23 goals. She was named Utah player of the year last season.

Now, Riley is a key player for the Huskers.

The 5-foot-10 freshman is the Huskers' second-leading scorer with two goals and nine assists. She has started all 14 games for the Huskers.

Riley said what most impressed

her about the Huskers was that after only 14 games together, the team had developed unity.

Riley's goals for the season, she said, are to improve with every game and to learn from each game — both the wins and the losses. She also wants to make sure she never loses her intensity and love for the game.

Walker doesn't see that as a problem.

"I have no hesitation in saying that if every player played with the same passion, we would be in a very good position."

# Injuries cripple NU women's basketball

**By Jeff Griesch**  
Staff Reporter

The Bob Devaney Sports Center looked more like the Health Center last week as the Nebraska women's basketball team opened fall practice.

Junior guard Lis Brenden sprained her ankle less than a half hour into the Huskers' first practice but she wasn't Nebraska's first casualty of the season.

Dina Hasclip, a junior forward from Oregon City, Ore., had arthroscopic knee surgery on Sept. 10, and will be out until January. Emily Thompson, a sophomore center from Springfield, Mo., was lost for the season later in September after tearing an anterior cruciate ligament in her knee.

And Brenden was far from the last

victim of the injury plague that swept through the Nebraska practices last week.

Junior guard Tanya Upthegrove missed last week with a pulled groin, and Belinda Bynum, a junior guard from Kansas City, Mo., strained her left shoulder and could not shoot.

Sophomore guard Chirs Dillavou left practice early last Wednesday with shin splints and center Pyra Aarden has also been feeling the pain of shin splints but continued to practice.

The Huskers were so strapped by injuries last week that at one point, Coach Angela Beck had only seven scholarship players healthy enough to practice.

"I have been around this game my whole life and I have never seen anything like this in my life," Beck said

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**ANGELA BECK**

NU basketball coach

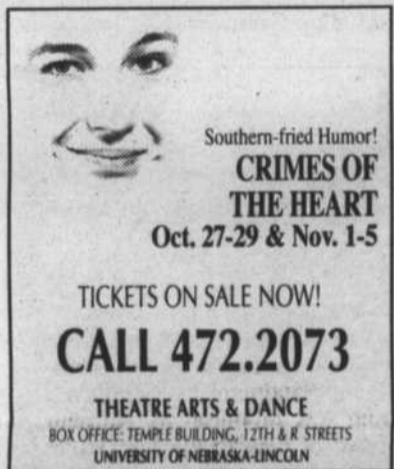
last Wednesday. "I have tried to remain positive because I would rather have players hurt before the season starts than during the season. At least there is hope that we will get some people back."

But this week things have begun to look up for the Huskers.

Dillavou and Bynum have returned to practice and, Brenden is expected

to return by Friday while Upthegrove's groin condition has improved enough for her to run during practice.

"It is good that we are getting some players back, and it will definitely help us have better practices," Beck said. "We will be a much better team once we get some more experience back on the floor for practice."



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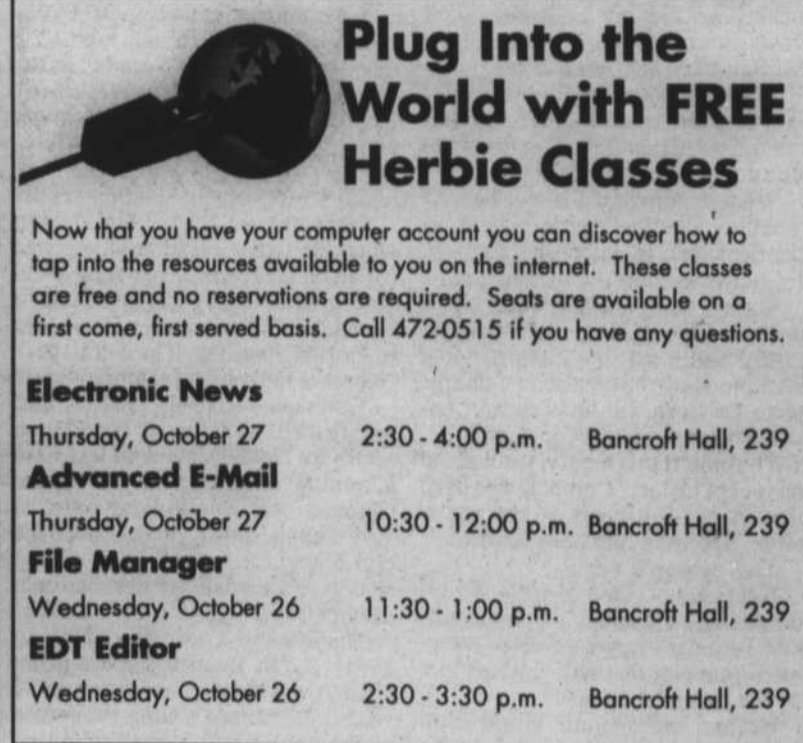
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