

SPORTS

Monday, April 17, 1995

Page 7

Baseball team on a roll with a double win

By Mitch Sherman

Senior Reporter

For the majority of the season, the Nebraska baseball team's pitching staff has not been its strongest feature.

Sunday it was.

The Cornhuskers, behind the previously unproven arms of Brian Zubor and Jason Allen, swept a pair of games from Louisville and Wyoming, allowing a total of three runs and 11 hits.

The Huskers won the opener 11-2 over Louisville and defeated Wyoming 3-1 in the second contest to improve to 25-14.

In the opening game, Nebraska was paced by Zubor. The 6-foot-3 freshman left-hander, who had pitched a total of 13 innings before Sunday, went the distance for the Huskers, giving up seven hits and two unearned runs while striking out eight Louisville batters.

The Husker bats provided the spark early, scoring eight runs in the first three innings before the Cardinals could get on the board in the top of the fifth. Senior third baseman Jed Dalton went 4 for 5 with three runs scored and an RBI.

Junior left fielder Darin Erstad, now batting .479 for the season, went 2 for 5, drove in three runs and scored twice against Louisville, which fell to 14-27. Center fielder Mel Motley and first baseman Todd Sears both added home runs for Nebraska.

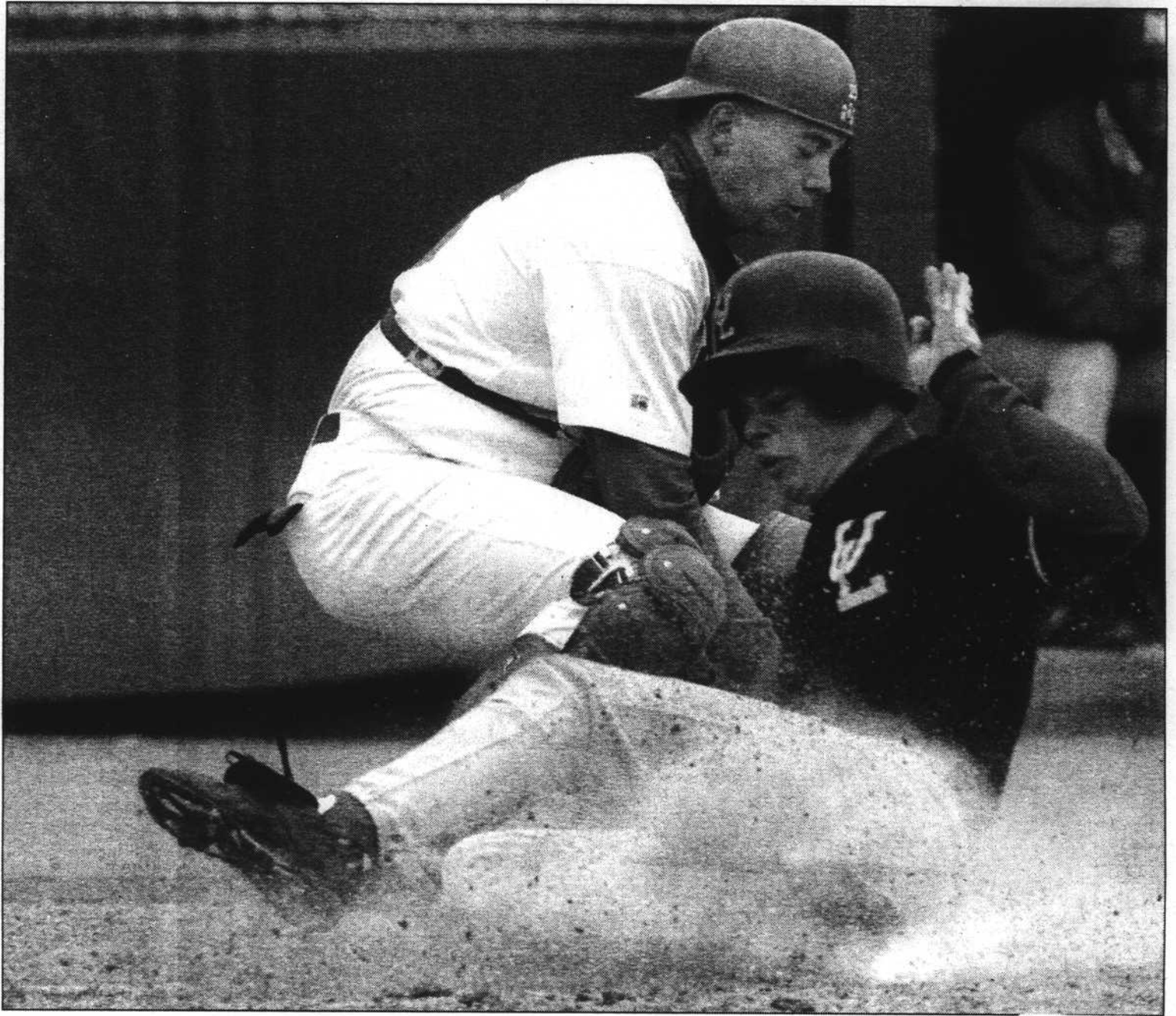
Husker coach John Sanders said he was pleased with the pitching of both Zubor and Allen, who shut down Wyoming in the second game.

"It was very important that we were able to get basically two complete games," Sanders said, "in a stretch where we have a bunch of games together."

Nebraska, which took three of four from Louisville over the weekend, has now won 10 of its last 13 games. The Huskers have scored in double digits nine times during that stretch.

"It's a great time of year to be on a roll," Sanders said. "In the past couple of years, we have had to play catchup. Now, we have a little margin of error and have a chance to finish in a solid win-loss situation."

In the second game, the Husker bats were not as productive, in part because of the cold weather, Dalton said.



Jon Waller/DN

Nebraska catcher Patrick Johnson tries to tag out Louisville's John Weidemann during the eighth inning. Weidemann was safe on the play and scored Louisville's second run.

See WINS on 8

NU tight end awarded Lifter of the Year

By Trevor Parks

Staff Reporter

Mark Gilman wouldn't allow himself to have a letdown after winning a national championship.

The tight end on the Nebraska football team said he knew in January that he and the rest of the Cornhuskers had work to do in hopes of repeating as champions.

"We celebrated, and the coaches were very concerned with that natural drop-off after such a climax of success," Gilman said. "They stressed the fact that we can't let down one inch because people will be gunning for us twice as hard."

Gilman's efforts were recognized Saturday when he was chosen by his teammates as the 1995 Lifter of the Year.

"I was just happy to be at least recognized in the top five," Gilman said. "If I could put some of the other guys' names on this, I'd be happy too."

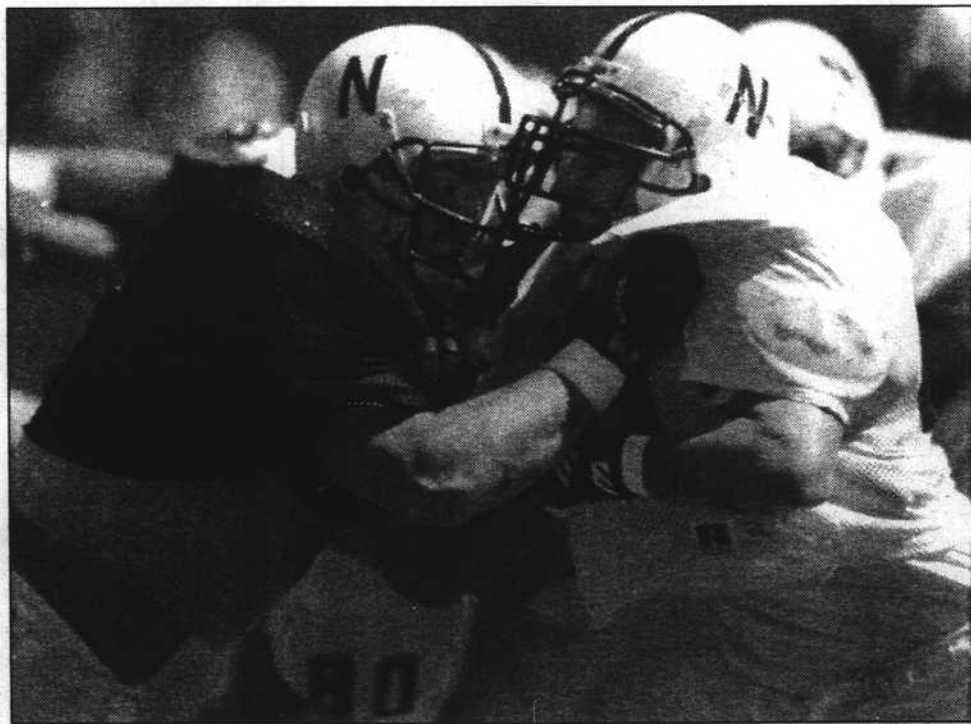
Gilman, along with defensive tackle Christian Peter, cornerback Tyrone Williams, outside linebacker Jared Tomich and rover Mike Minter, was one of five nominated as finalists.

The award was presented before Saturday's scrimmage, and Gilman said it was awkward to be honored.

"I was walking on air when I went up to get it," Gilman said. "My name's singled out, but it kind of represents the whole team and how hard everybody works."

The only other tight end to win the award was Mitch Krenk in 1982.

Since the Orange Bowl, Gilman has made great improvements during winter condi-



Jon Waller/DN

Nebraska tight end Mark Gilman, left, blocks a defender during Saturday's scrimmage. Gilman was named Lifter of the Year before the scrimmage.

tioning.

He improved his 10-yard dash time from 1.74 to 1.7 and his 40-yard dash time improved from 4.95 to 4.82.

Gilman increased his vertical jump by an inch to 32.5. He also increased his squat 82 pounds to 490.

Perhaps his biggest accomplishment on

the field was catching a 19-yard touchdown pass in the second quarter against Miami in the Orange Bowl, Gilman said, but this award ranked close to that.

"This is the biggest award for the off-the-field workouts, and the touchdown was the biggest award for on the field," Gilman said. "It's kind of the same feeling, but it's two different situations."

Huskers look promising in spring practice

By Derek Samson

Senior Reporter

As Nebraska completed only its third week of spring practice with a scrimmage Saturday, Tommie Frazier looked as though it was the middle of fall.

Frazier completed six of eight passes for 118 yards and two touchdowns. He also rushed four times for 14 yards.

Nebraska coach Tom Osborne said Frazier's strong performance wouldn't go unnoticed.

"We chart everything," he said. "Even if we don't scrimmage, we still chart their completion percentage. If, over a period of time, a guy is a 70-percent passer and another guy is a 60-percent passer, it's something you look at. We look at accuracy more than completions."

Frazier led the first-team offense against a mixture of second- and third-team defenders on an opening drive, which covered 65 yards in six plays and ended with a 25-yard touchdown pass to Reggie Baul. Frazier also completed a 24-yard pass to Riley Washington during the drive.

In the first-team offense's next possession, Frazier hooked up with Baul for a 38-yard completion.

Brook Berringer then came in for Frazier but could not get the Cornhuskers in the end zone, as the offense only managed four yards in the next four plays.

On the next possession by the first-team offense, Frazier led the Huskers 65 yards against the first-team defense and capped the drive with a 32-yard touchdown pass to Clester Johnson.

See FRAZIER on 8