

Coach's softball jersey will be retired Sunday

By Trevor Parks
Staff Reporter

Nebraska softball assistant coach Lori Sippel wondered why her sister didn't tell her she was coming to Lincoln.



Sippel

Then after talking with Coach Rhonda Revelle, Sippel found out why. Revelle said Nebraska was going to retire Sippel's No. 16 jersey Sunday when the Cornhuskers play host to Missouri.

Sippel said she had tried to get her sister, Shelley Cole, to come to Lincoln for a long time and was surprised when Revelle told her why she was on her way.

"Rhonda knew before everybody that she was coming in to see my jersey get retired, but I had no idea," Sippel said. "I looked at Rhonda strange, and when I found out they were going to retire my jersey, I got pretty emotional."

For Sippel the award may have been a long time in coming.

Sippel's success came when she pitched for the Huskers from 1985-88. She became an assistant coach in 1990.

During her playing career, she had 73 wins, 838 strikeouts, 39 shutouts, 13 saves, 80 complete games, 10 no-hitters and a 0.54 ERA.

Sippel holds 10 season and career pitching records for the Huskers.

In her four years, Nebraska competed in the College World Series during three of those years.

She also pitched the only perfect game in Nebraska history with a 2-0 win over Drake in 1986.

Sippel's playing career has been prolonged by playing for the Canadian National team.

In 1994, she helped the National team finish fourth at the World Tournament to earn a berth in the 1996 Olympics.

Sippel said if she stayed healthy, she would be the probable starting pitcher for the team.

"It's a thrill because any athlete has dreamt of competing in the Olympics someday," Sippel said. "When you're growing up, you didn't know if they had softball in the Olympics so when you get one shot at it, it is a dream come true."

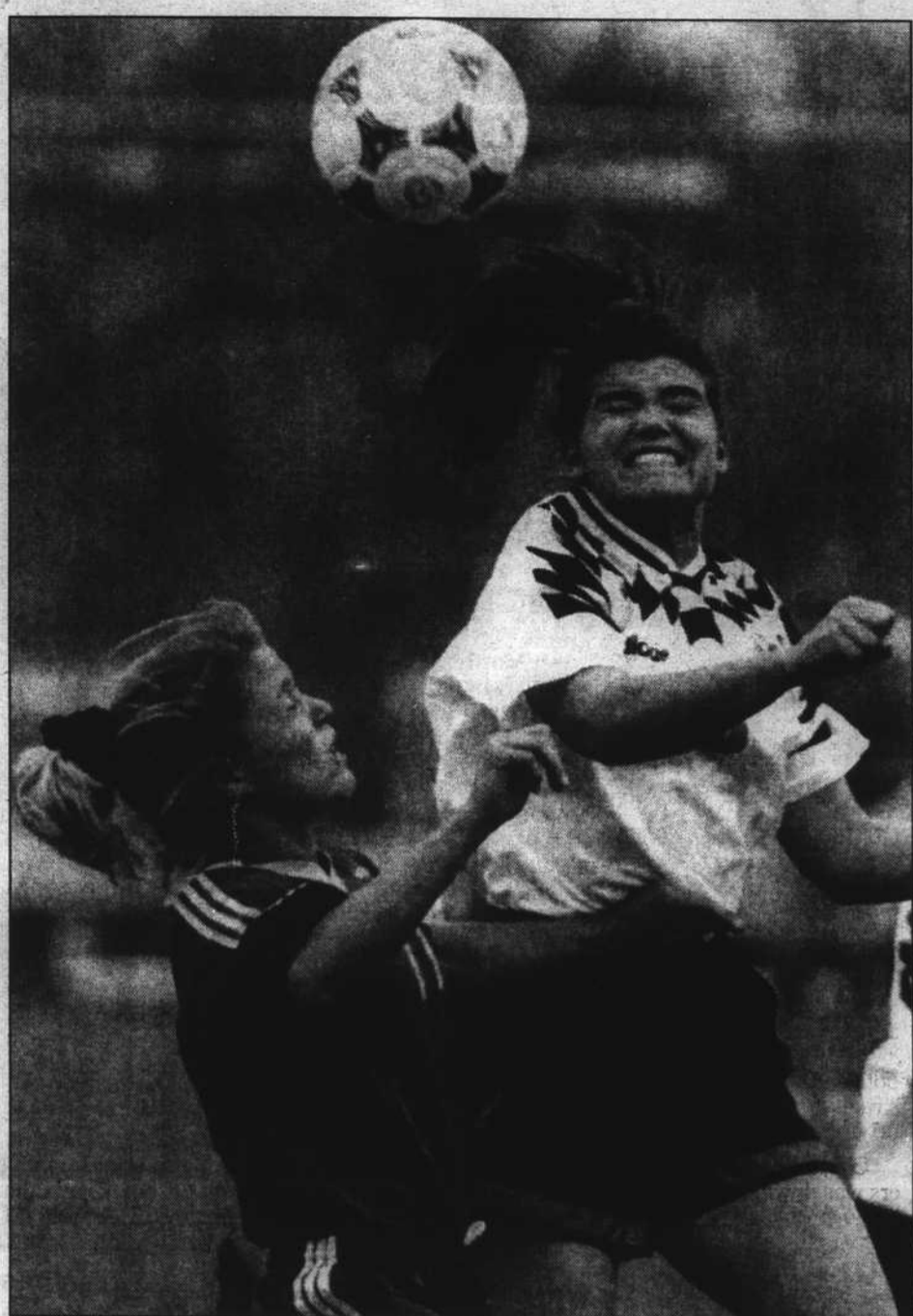
For now, Sippel has her sights set on this weekend.

That whole weekend could be pretty emotional not only for Sippel, but for the rest of the Huskers.

It will be the final home game for Nebraska's two seniors, Amy Offenbacher and Sandra Brown. Sippel said having those two end their career with wins over the Tigers would be the perfect ending to a perfect day.

Sippel said she had tried not to think about the final home games of the season.

"It is also our last game at home, so it will be pretty emotional," Sippel said. "I will enjoy it a lot more if our team wins two games."



Scott Bruhn/DN

Nebraska's Tara Herbrick heads the ball as Minnesota's Merritt Davis defends during the Huskers' spring soccer game Saturday.

Beck signs new contract but says she's not thrilled

By Jeff Griesch
Senior Reporter

Nebraska women's basketball coach Angela Beck has signed a new three-year contract for the 1995-96 season.



Beck

Beck, whose career record at Nebraska is 153-109, agreed to a \$63,000 annual salary with a possibility of a \$1,600 bonus based on every 500-person increase in average attendance.

The Huskers averaged 1,610 people at the Bob Devaney Sports Center last season and a regular-season attendance of 1,529 in 1993-94.

Beck's new contract is retroactive to last season, so she will have two more years remaining on this contract.

Her 1993-94 salary was \$50,650.

Beck led Nebraska to its best season ever in 1992-93. The Huskers went 23-8, finished second during the Big Eight regular season and conference tournament. Nebraska also reached the second round of the NCAA Tournament.

She also led the Huskers to a Big Eight regular-season championship in 1987-88.

Although she signed, Beck said she disagreed with the basic structure of her contract.

"I signed the contract, but I don't agree with the methodology," Beck said. "I don't believe my performance as a basketball coach should be judged on our attendance."

"But Bill Byrne's my boss, and it is his philosophy to get people in the gate, so I guess I have to go along with what he says. I don't really like it, but I'm not going to sit here and complain about it. I am just going to have to go out and win more games next year, and I think we're going to do that."

Women's soccer coach pleased with spring practices, schedule

By Todd Walkenhorst
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska soccer team concluded its first spring practices last weekend, and Coach John Walker likes the change of pace.

"For the first time we've been able to work on long-term development," Walker

said, "and it's the first time we've been able to work in an unpressured situation."

Walker said that last year — his team's inaugural season — his team had only two weeks to prepare for the season. This year's spring practices are allowing the team to work on some basics.

"We worked entirely on attacking and

See WALKER on 13

A year-end compilation of Husker sports milestones

Eight months ago, the Nebraska football team waltzed into East Rutherford, N.J., and kicked the tar out of West Virginia, thus setting into motion the string of events that will go down in Nebraska sports history.

In the last year, we have witnessed crushing defeats, incredible victories, disappointing moments and fabulous milestones. It would be impossible to list them all. But here's an attempt to pick out a few of the highlights and a few of the lowlights.

Any year in review cannot begin to exist without documenting the run of the Cornhusker football team, so let's start with August 28.

It was a warm summer afternoon in New Jersey. Two national powers were set to battle, kicking off the new college football season. The game, which was anything but a battle, was history early in the first half. Nebraska fans suddenly grew optimistic over the team's title hopes, 31-0 Nebraska.

September 6: The birth of

Nebraska soccer. Call it gender equity. Call it a great moment for Husker sports. Nebraska loses 3-1 to Creighton in its premier contest.

September 27: The entire state of Nebraska learns of quarterback Tommie Frazier's blood clot. Mass depression follows. Grown men cannot sleep. People quit their jobs. Tom Osborne stays calm. "This is the most disturbing quarterback situation I've ever had," Osborne admits.

October 8: With a three-game sweep of Oklahoma, the Nebraska volleyball team sets a school record by opening the season with 15 straight wins. The early-season streak is only a sign of things to come. The Huskers win 31 consecutive matches before going down.

October 29: A day that could not be left out of any year in review. No. 3 Nebraska trounces second-ranked Colorado 24-7 before the 200th consecutive sellout at Memorial Stadium. Brook Berringer leads the way. The



Mitch Sherman

Huskers leap over Penn State to take over the No. 1 spot in the polls, where they remain for the rest of the year.

November 25 and 26: The Nebraska football and volleyball teams each win the Big Eight title in convincing fashion. Tommie Frazier returns to the Husker sidelines, wearing jersey No. 17. Let the quarterback controversy begin. Husker fans moan in unison when it is announced Nebraska will play Miami in the Hurricanes' home stadium on Jan. 1.

December 10: The 31-0 Husker volleyball team is shredded by Penn State before a raucous NU

Coliseum crowd. In the process, Nebraska is denied a trip to Austin and the Final Four.

December 31: The men's basketball team improves to 11-1 after a 108-71 win over Appalachian State. This proves to be the high moment of the season.

Jan. 1: Nebraska fans invade the Orange Bowl, outcheering the Miami fans and celebrating well into the night after Nebraska's 24-17 win over Miami clinches the school's first national title in 23 years. In perhaps the most memorable sight of the year, signs made by Husker fans outnumber Miami-made signs at least 30 to 1.

February 25: The Husker basketball team hits rock bottom, losing to Colorado by six points at home. The Buffs had previously lost 99 of their last 101 Big Eight road games. "We just didn't play well, and I can't tell you why," Nebraska coach Danny Nee says.

March 4: The women's basketball team loses 77-67 to Oklahoma in the first round of the Big Eight

Tournament in Salina, Kan. The 13-14 Huskers, who were decimated all year by injuries, look to next year, when a great recruiting class could pay immediate dividends.

March 5: A great day for the Husker wrestlers. Nebraska wins its second Big Eight title in the last three years at the NU Coliseum. Steve Baer, Temoer Terry, Jason Kraft and Tolly Thompson capture conference championships.

March 21: Penn State mercifully puts an end to the men's basketball season. The Nittany Lions, not exactly a basketball powerhouse, whip the Huskers 65-59 at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

April 8: Three weeks after beating Washington 35-15, the Nebraska baseball (yes, baseball) team loses 37-18 to Oklahoma State in Stillwater, Okla. Pitching anyone? Wait 'til next year.

Sherman is a sophomore news-editorial major and a Daily Nebraskan senior reporter.