

# SPORTS WEEKEND

Friday, August 25, 1995

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## SPORTS OPINION



**Nathan McKinney**

## Archery range offers release, fosters champs

Last year was the year of the national title.

After years of preparation and focus, the Cornhuskers took aim and hit the bull's eye for a championship.

But this column isn't about football. It's about archery.

Although I never have been close to a national title, many archers in the Lincoln area have made it to championships.

Archery has been a popular and highly competitive sport in the Lincoln area.

In fact, Lincoln has one of the oldest and largest archery clubs in the nation — The Prairie Bowmen.

The club was founded in the 1950s and spans more than 30 acres in the southwest corner of Lincoln.

The archery range at Prairie Bowmen contains two multi-target courses designed much like golf courses, except they are in wooded areas.

Each target is scored depending on where the arrow hits. During each shot the archer is faced with new obstacles, such as shooting around bushes, up hills or down from simulated treestands.

Many people picture archers standing in one place, shooting at one round target. However, after finishing a long archery course, a new picture will be gained of archery as a sport of mental and physical endurance.

It's an ancient sport requiring coordination of muscles, brain and vision.

Archery is a skill that even seems to involve a sort of mental telepathy guiding an arrow to its target.

Dave Ronono, a Nebraska graduate and competitive archer, said archery was a sport for men and women alike, with separate divisions for hunters and target archers, skilled or novice.

He said becoming nationally competitive might take some expensive equipment, but the beginning archer could get into the sport for next to nothing.

Ronono said archery was a great sport for students looking for a release from the daily grind.

When everything is working right, school is the furthest thing from anyone's mind.

If you would like to learn more about archery, Prairie Bowmen is having its annual jamboree Aug. 25 and 26.

If you are interested in competing in any of the events, call Daric Stadler at 475-2114.

Nebraska football will always be the biggest sport in town, but if you're looking for something to do on Sundays or another reason to put off homework, pick up a bow.

McKinney is a senior law student and a Daily Nebraskan columnist.

## Ellis vies for award, playing time

By Vince D'Adamo  
Staff Reporter

When Phil Ellis redshirted as a freshman in 1991, he just wanted a chance to play.

He wanted to show players, coaches, fans and most of all — himself, that he was one of the best linebackers at Nebraska and in the nation.

Now after four years of work, sweat and pain, the senior linebacker from Grand Island is being mentioned among the elite linebackers in the nation.

Ellis is on the preseason watch list for the Butkus Award, which goes to the nation's top linebacker.

Trev Alberts, now a linebacker for the Indianapolis Colts, was the last Nebraska player to earn the Butkus Award, and linebackers coach Craig Bohl said Ellis deserved to be mentioned in the same breath as Alberts.

Although Ellis has been put on the watch list for the Butkus, he will continue alternating with teammate Doug Colman at linebacker.

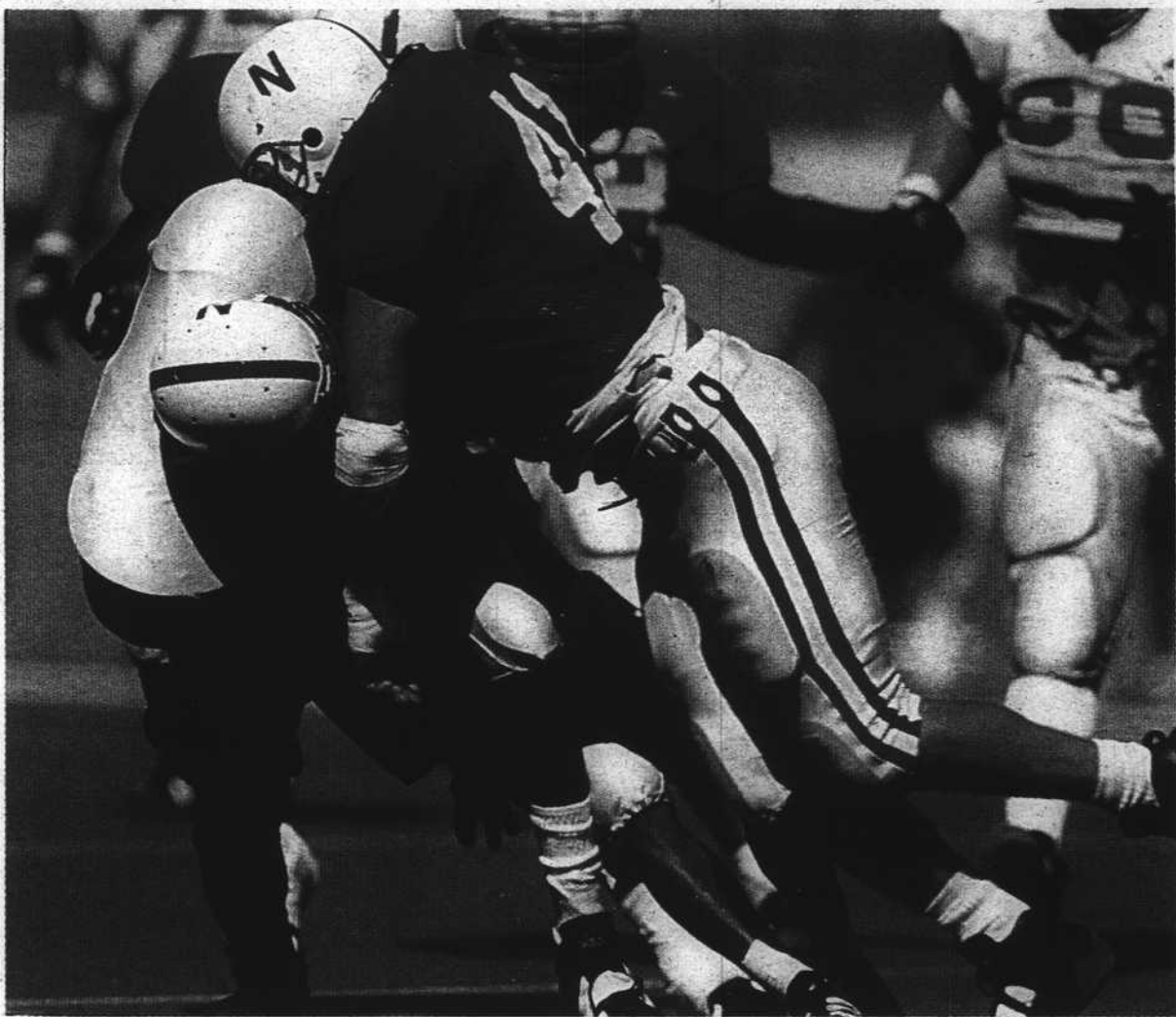
Ellis said the internal competition for playing time was one of the main reasons he had continued to improve as a player with the Huskers.

"There's always pressure to perform, whether I start ahead of Doug, or he starts ahead of me," Ellis said. "But it makes us perform better. Plus the coaches know that both Doug and I can get the job done. So it's a good situation."

After being inserted as the starting middle linebacker for the final five games, including the Orange Bowl, Ellis blossomed last season.

He recorded 33 tackles during that

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Nebraska linebacker Phil Ellis tackles wingback Jacques Allen during the Cornhuskers' second scrimmage of the season on Aug. 17. Ellis has been named to the preseason watch list for the Butkus Award.

## Tourney presents classic matches

By Trevor Parks  
Senior Reporter

Nebraska volleyball coach Terry Pettit said the best volleyball might not be played at the State Farm-NACWAA Volleyball Classic.

But he said the tournament would be filled with quality athletes doing extraordinary things.

No. 2 Nebraska opens the season against Penn State at 7:30 p.m. Friday at the NU Coliseum. The Lady Lions ended Nebraska's season a year ago with a 3-1 win in the Midwest Regional.

No. 1 Stanford plays Cal-State Northridge at 5 p.m. in the first game Friday. The winners advance to play at 7:30 p.m. Saturday with the consolation game set for 5 p.m.

Pettit said teams might not be at a top level.

"These are obviously great matches, but I would be surprised if any of the teams come in playing flawless volleyball," Pettit said. "It's

the first match of the year, and players are usually geared up and excited about that."

Nebraska middle blocker Allison Weston said she was very excited about the tournament and playing Penn State.

Weston said she had thought about the Penn State loss every day since Dec. 10.

"I haven't forgotten about it," Weston said. "It's a rather unpleasant memory."

The memory of the 12-15, 15-11, 15-9, 15-8 loss to the Nittany Lions still lingers, but Weston said the two

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**TERRY PETTIT**

Nebraska volleyball coach

matches this weekend would push the Cornhuskers.

Pettit said the Huskers planned to use 11 players in the tournament.

Setter Christy Johnson and Weston should play the entire match. Stacie Maser and Jen McFadden both should see playing time at middle blocker.

Billie Winsett, Kate Crnich and Jaime Kronak will be at the outside hitter position. Lisa Reitsma, Renee Saunders and Fiona Nepo also should play.

Maria Hedbeck will be a defensive specialist rotating in for Maser or McFadden in the back row.

Stanford returns four of six starters from last year's 32-1 national championship team.

A fifth starter, Kristin Folkl, is touring with the U.S. National team and will return to the Cardinal in mid-September.

The Lady Lions return two starters, Zeynep Ton and Terri Zemaitis from last season's 31-4 team.

Coach Russ Rose said a different team would take the court against the Huskers this year.

"In my 17 years at Penn State this team has the greatest potential for growth," Rose said. "We've got some good players, but they are very young."

Weston said the tournament should be a measuring stick for the Huskers.

"Obviously we want to play good and win the tournament, and we want to tell everyone around the country, 'We can play with Stanford, we can play the best, we can be the best,'" Weston said. "I think we can, but it is so early in the season that we have a lot of things to work on."

## Frazier gets starting nod at quarterback

By Derek Samson  
Senior Reporter

The quarterback grades from spring and fall football are in, and both Tommie Frazier and Brook Berringer passed with flying colors.

But Frazier flew a little higher.

Coach Tom Osborne announced after practice Thursday that Frazier once again would start the season as Nebraska's top quarterback.

Osborne said all the grades were final after reviewing films of Nebraska's scrimmage Wednesday — its final scrimmage before opening play Thursday at Oklahoma State.

"We told them today during the meeting, after we watched the films," Osborne said. "I think going in (to Wednesday's scrimmage) Brook realized he was going to need to have a heck of a day, or Tommie would have to have an awful bad day because of the grade to make a significant difference."

Although the race for the top spot was tight, quarterbacks coach Turner Gill said the decision shouldn't be controversial.

"It was fairly close," Gill said. "But it was pretty decisive that Tommie graded out better — counting both the spring and fall."

Osborne said the deciding factor in the grading was consistency.

"Both of them played very well in spring ball and in fall camp," Osborne said. "They are both players you can win with. But the grading goes into consistency. What usually figures into that is turnovers. Brook had three or four more during scrimmages than Tommie. So consistency is a big issue."

"As far as pass completions and percentage, it was pretty equal. Mental mistakes was pretty equal, with Tommie having a slight edge. One thing that did show up is that Frazier improved his passing a great deal."

Frazier declined to discuss the decision with reporters, but Berringer said he already was looking down the road.

"My attitude this year is that it is important that both of us get to play," Berringer said. "In my eyes, it's not who starts, but it's who finishes. If I don't get to finish, then I'll be disappointed."

Osborne said Berringer would get his chance, beginning sometime in the first half against Oklahoma State.

"We think Brook has played well enough, and he deserves the opportunity."

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