

# NU shoots for another win over Gophers

By David Wilson  
Staff Reporter

The undefeated Nebraska basketball team will attempt to win its seventh straight game Saturday at 6 p.m. against Minnesota.

This will be the second meeting between the two teams this season. Nebraska beat Minnesota 96-85 in the championship game of the Big Island Invitational Nov. 26.

"Nebraska is a very talented veteran team," Minnesota coach Clem Haskins said. "They have excellent perimeter players, and their big guys shut down our inside game last time."

The Golden Gophers return only two seniors from last year's 19-12 team, including captain David Grim, who is only averaging 7.8 points a

game. The Golden Gophers' probable starters for Saturday's game include two juniors, two sophomores and one freshman in what could be their youngest group of players on the court this season.

Haskins said that his team would have to do a better job of rebounding Saturday against Nebraska. All four of Minnesota's wins have come in games where they have outrebounded their opponents.

The Cornhuskers outrebounded the Gophers 43-24 in their first meeting this season, led by junior Mikki Moore, who had eight rebounds.

This Saturday will be the 55th game between the two teams. Minnesota leads the series 43-11. The Gophers have not lost to the Huskers at

home since 1977. Minnesota will enter this Saturday's game with a record of 4-1 after an eight-day break for finals. The Gophers' only loss this season came against the Cornhuskers just 12 days ago. Nebraska's 96 points is the most any team has scored against the Gophers this season.

The Huskers, who average 91.3 points a game, will be up against a Minnesota team averaging only 78.8 points a game. The Gophers are led by sophomore Sam Jacobson, who is averaging 17 points a game.

"Sam Jacobson's performance so far this season has been a little spotty at times, but overall has been very good," Haskins said.

In Minnesota's only two games since the Big Island Invitational,

Jacobson is averaging 24 points and 6 rebounds a game.

Senior Jaron Boone will enter the game as Nebraska's leading scorer, averaging 20 points a game. Boone has led the Huskers in scoring in five out of six games, including 17 points against Minnesota. He also has scored in double figures in 30 consecutive games.

Although the Huskers are only two wins away from having their best start under Coach Danny Nee, Nee said the team needed to improve.

"We have a lot of potential," he said. "I think we have some talented players. We have to get that chemistry and work it all together."

## Heisman

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"Obviously, he's meant a lot for our program," Coach Tom Osborne said. "If I were to choose one player that has had the most impact on the greatest number of games over the longest period of time since I've been at Nebraska, it would be Tommie Frazier. He's started for four years, and he does so many different things that can affect the outcome of a game."

"It might be a run. It might be a pass. Or it might just be a decision. He's a great competitor and, one way or another, he's going to figure out how to get it done."

This season, Frazier accounted for 31 touchdowns (17 passing, 14 rushing), averaged 178 yards a game in total offense and has a 156 passing efficiency rating (second in the Big Eight).

But Frazier, who also has 1,362 passing yards and 604 rushing yards, said he didn't know if his versatility was enough to win him the Heisman.

"I don't think anything is mine," he said. "It's up to other people to vote for me. I can't say that it's mine when I have no idea what people are thinking about. I think it's going to be a close race. I feel I have a good chance."

While Frazier — 32-3 as a starter — has the career consistency in his favor, Wuerffel has posted huge numbers this season.

Wuerffel, a junior, leads the nation in passing efficiency rating (178) and touchdowns (35). He has thrown for 3,266 yards this season, and his efficiency rating is the best ever by a Division I-A quarterback.

Five candidates — Frazier, Wuerffel, Ohio State's Eddie George, Iowa State's Troy Davis and Darnell Autry of Northwestern — will be present for the Heisman Trophy festivities and presentation.

If Frazier wins the award, he will win it for the entire team, according to his teammates.

"It's real important to us," split end Brendan Holbein said. "It's not just for him, but for the whole program. He represents all of us. We feel like we're part of it. We'll all be gathered around the TV that night because we know if he wins it, we've helped him do it."

## Coach Beck expects improvement, pressure

By Antone Oseka  
Staff Reporter

As the Nebraska women's basketball team comes off a win over Kent State on Wednesday, Coach Angela Beck said her team was looking toward improving rather than changing the scheme for its upcoming game against Michigan.

"I can't say we are going to change things; we're going to get better at some things," she said. "Mainly, our post-up game and inside opportunities for our guards."

Nebraska will play Michigan at 7:30 Friday night at the Bob Devaney Sports Center. Michigan comes in 4-1 on the year after a disappointing 8-19 season last year. One of those losses included a 99-81 loss to Nebraska. Overall, the Huskers lead the series 3-0 over the Wolverines.

"They're looking to rebound off last year," Beck said. "They had a lot of freshmen last year, and they have a good interior game with (sophomore forward Tiffany) Willard and (sophomore center Pollyanna) Johns. They like to pound it in there."

Besides the interior game, Michigan likes to play an up-tempo game with a run-'n'-gun type of

fense, and pressure the ball a lot, Beck said.

"They do a good job of pressure," she said. "I expect 94 feet of corner to corner type basketball."

After the 80-71 win over Kent State, Beck said her team needed to concentrate on a couple of key areas. One of those areas, turnovers, has plagued the team for the first part of the season.

"We need to establish a limited turnover ratio," Beck said.

Nebraska committed 29 turnovers against Kent State, and had 26 turnovers in an 89-65 final game loss to Oregon State in the Gazette Times Classic last weekend.

Beck said that she saw a lot of improvement on the team, but certain players had stepped up. Senior center Pyra Aarden, junior forward Tina McClain, and sophomore guard Anna DeForge were key players whom Beck mentioned. But the Huskers don't rely on those three players exclusively, Beck said.

Rather, Beck sees the bench play for the Huskers as a main factor in their success.

"It's not a singular player; everyone seems to be contributing."

## Wuerffel

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of the praise he has received.

"Danny's the man," Doering said. "He's been the leader all season, and nobody had been able to shut him down. I would be surprised if any team could stop Danny Wuerffel."

This season Wuerffel has won all 11 games he started. In those 11 wins, he set an SEC record with 35 touchdown passes and 3,266 yards for an average of 296.9 yards a game and completed 65 percent of his passes.

Even though Wuerffel said he would accept the trophy if he wins,

*"Winning the national championship is our biggest goal."*

**DANNY WUERFFEL**

Florida quarterback

he has a more important goal he would rather achieve.

"Winning the national championship is our biggest goal," Wuerffel said. "I'll be happy if I win it (the Heisman), but I'm more happy we're 12-0 and headed to Tempe for the championship."

## NCAA

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in last season's tournament puts the Nittany Lions in a situation they like to be in, Pettit said.

"I think Penn State's mentality is that they are always the underdog, and I think it serves them well," Pettit said. "He's got several players that play significant roles, and that has helped them to the past two Final Fours."

If Nebraska defeats Penn State, the Huskers will play the winner of the Ohio State-UCLA match at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at the NU Coliseum.

With 22-7 Ohio State and 22-8 UCLA in the other semifinal, Pettit said this region could be the most dif-

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**TERRY PETTIT**

NU women's volleyball coach

icult to win.

"It might be certainly as strong as any other region, and if a team can win this region, they would be in good position to compete well in the Final Four," he said.

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