

Matt Miller/DN

Nebraska's Jami Kubik, a sophomore guard, has been both a starter and a reserve this year for the 17-8 Huskers.

Kubik sparks NU in different roles

By Jason Brunz
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska women's basketball team not only has a talented starting lineup, but also a secret weapon on the bench.

Sophomore Jami Kubik has shown that she has what it takes to play as a starter and as a reserve. The 5-foot-11 guard has played a key role in Nebraska's 17-8 season.

She has been put into close games in crucial situations to increase the quickness of the Husker squad. She also started six games this year in place of senior Pyra Aarden to allow Nebraska to match up better with smaller opponents.

"We went with the smaller lineup so we could be quicker on defense," Kubik said.

A Cambridge native, Kubik was a member of the Class C-2 1993-94 state championship team in high school. As a senior, she averaged 23.6 points per game, and set the state tournament one-game scoring record with 36 points.

She also averaged 7.8 rebounds per game as a senior and was named Ms. Nebraska basketball in 1994.

In her freshman year at Nebraska, Kubik continued to improve, playing in every game and averaging 17 minutes of play per contest. She started in 12 of the 27 contests and scored 4.1 points per game, seventh on the team.

Kubik became the top reserve this season, playing about 19 minutes a game. She got a chance to start when Nebraska coach Angela Beck changed the lineup against Oklahoma State and Oklahoma earlier this month.

"I needed Jami to give us a boost," Beck said.

Beck's decision proved to be beneficial. Kubik has helped a great deal on the defensive end of the court. In Nebraska's 53-43 victory over Oklahoma State on Feb. 2, Kubik added seven rebounds. Against Oklahoma on Feb. 4, she recorded 10 points and seven rebounds, helping secure a 71-52 Husker victory.

After losses to Kansas and Kansas State, Beck started Aarden against Colorado's taller and more physical team. Nebraska won 83-75 in double overtime on Feb. 14. Kubik said she didn't mind coming off the bench.

"As long as we're winning, it doesn't matter whether I start or not," Kubik said.

Even out of the starting lineup, Kubik remained an important part of Nebraska's game plan. In the victory over the Buffaloes, Kubik scored four points and added four rebounds. She dealt the Buffs a major blow when she made a layup in the second overtime, giving the Huskers the lead.

Kubik said she had her sights set on the NCAA Tournament. The Huskers have missed the tournament each of the past two seasons. Remaining on Nebraska's schedule before next month's Big Eight Tournament in Salina, Kan., is a game Friday night at the Bob Devaney Sports Center against 16-7 Iowa State.

Kubik said a win, which would be Nebraska's third in a row, would help the team as it moves into postseason play.

"By winning these games, we'll head into the Big Eight Tournament with a lot of confidence," Kubik said. "Hopefully we can take the tournament."

NU swimmers named academic All-Big Eight

From Staff Reports

Six Nebraska men and eight Cornhusker women landed spots on the first-team academic All-Big Eight swimming and diving honor roll.

Bjom Moller, Mark Bennett, Conny Wennberg, Joshua Fry, Derek Ahl and Keith Ebbert were the Nebraska men honored. Nebraska had more selections than any other conference school. Iowa State and Kansas each had five student-athletes selected.

The first-team Husker women included Jane Glazebrook, Melanie Dodd, Julia Russell, BriAnna Wilkins, Karla Ahl, Erin Carew, Janet Danburg and Juli Jones. Missouri and Kansas also had eight honorees.

Moller, Dodd and Glazebrook are three-time selections, and Jones is one of three four-time award winners.

Pitching

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ters, the Wildcats downed Nebraska 13-10.

Senior Jason Allen allowed four runs in four innings when the two teams met again in the consolation game on Sunday. Allen leads Husker starters with a 5.40 ERA this season.

"We're going to break down our staff and analyze what we're not doing," Sanders said. "We are going to try to hit our spots better. We're missing locations."

The team had a scrimmage Tuesday night, with umpires calling balls and strikes, to help the pitching staff overcome its difficulties. Sanders said.

Fish and Siriani will start for Nebraska in the first two games of a three-game series against No. 30 Oral Roberts this weekend in Tulsa, Okla. Junior Sergio Betancourt is expected to make his first start of the season on Sunday.

Pitching Problems

Through seven games, the Nebraska baseball team is averaging 10 runs per game, but has won only twice.

Pitcher	Innings	ERA	Record
Jason Allen	8 1/3	5.40	0-1
Jay Siriani	10	8.10	1-0
Steve Fish	9 2/3	9.31	1-1
Jonas Armenta	7 1/3	11.05	0-2
(All others)	24 1/3	11.10	0-1

Softball

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The Huskers dealt with adversity well in their 2-1 loss to Oklahoma in the semifinals of the tournament last weekend. Revelle said. Trailing 2-0 in the fifth inning, Revelle was ejected from the game. Even though the Huskers lost 2-1, she said she was pleased that the team played hard and had a chance to tie the game in the seventh inning.

Nebraska will travel to Omaha for a doubleheader against Creighton on Saturday afternoon.



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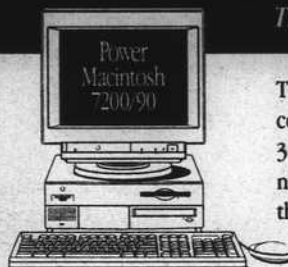


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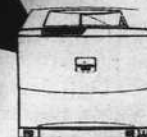
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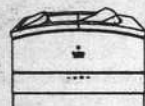
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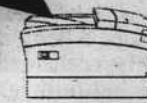
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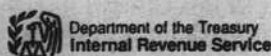
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