

Huskers work out in half pads

From Staff Reports

Nebraska's second practice of the spring and first in Memorial Stadium ended with no surprises or injuries Wednesday, Cornhusker coach Tom Osborne said.

And even though the defending national champions practiced in helmets and shoulder pads, they were still able to retain most of their aggressiveness from Monday's first practice.

"They did better today," Osborne said. "The thing you worry about is your running backs. If they get knocked down every play, and they're out there running 60 or 70 plays, sooner or later something is going to happen. They're still pretty aggressive considering it's half pads."

The Huskers have practiced the first two days in half pads because of statistics gathered by the NCAA, Osborne said.

Those records show that if a team cases into contact during spring practice, it will help reduce injuries.

Osborne said the Huskers would practice in full pads on Friday and would hold their first scrimmage Saturday.

He said he had been pleased with the retention the team had shown on both offense and defense. So far, he said, the Huskers have put in two-thirds of their offense and half of their defensive sets.

NU gymnast takes honors second time

From Staff Reports

Nebraska gymnast Jim Koziol has been named the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Athlete of the week for the second time this season.

The sophomore from Millard South split the award with Trent Wells of California. Koziol scored a career-best 56.95 in the all-around last Saturday, helping Nebraska to a season-high score of 229.025. The Cornhuskers lost the meet to top-ranked Ohio State.

Koziol is currently ranked as the nation's No. 10 all-around with a 56.43 average.

The Huskers are next in action at the Mountain Pacific Championships, April 6 in Santa Barbara, Calif.

NIT

Continued from Page 9

which the Huskers started 15-4, then lost nine straight games and 10 of 11 contests before backing into the NIT.

Nebraska began its current four-game win streak March 14 at Fort Collins, Colo., beating Colorado State 91-83 in a first-round NIT game.

Coach Danny Nee said this year had equaled three seasons rolled into one. Nebraska has shot better than 50 percent and scored more than 80 points in all four of its NIT games.

To get to this point, Strickland has stepped up his play. In the four NIT games, the guard from Bellevue West is averaging 18.5 points per game.

After making a commitment to play as a team before the NIT began, Strickland said, the Huskers' ride to the NIT title game hasn't come as a surprise.

But earlier in the season, when Strickland and eight other Huskers boycotted a practice on Feb. 13, he said he didn't envision the Huskers still playing in late March.

"I was at a low where I didn't want

to play basketball anymore," Strickland said. "I just turned my focus around because we were still a good team."

True freshman point guard Tyrone Lue said he would like to win the NIT in his first year at Nebraska.

"We've played well," said Lue, who scored 15 points and had three assists in Nebraska's 90-78 win over Tulane Tuesday, "but we didn't come all this far to lose. We've got to get the job done Thursday night, and we've got to play hard."

St. Joseph's has beaten Iona (82-78), Providence (82-62), Rhode Island (76-59) and Alabama (74-69 in overtime Tuesday night) to reach the championship game.

Nee compared St. Joe's to Iowa State and Kansas State. The Hawks feature good guard play from Mark Bass, Rashid Bey and Terrell Myers, Nee said. The three average a combined 34 points per game.

First-year St. Joseph coach Phil Martelli said the Huskers reminded him of NCAA Tournament participant and Atlantic 10 rival George Washington. Minus GW's 7-foot-1 center

"Not many people are here, and it's very special to me."

ERICK STRICKLAND

Nebraska guard

Alexander Koul, Martelli said, Nebraska and George Washington — which lost to Iowa in the NCAA first round — are similar teams.

"They're older and they're stronger," Martelli said. "Strickland and (Jaron) Boone have the opportunity to make money playing basketball."

Playing in the Atlantic 10, which sent Massachusetts, George Washington, Temple and Virginia Tech to the NCAA Tournament, the Hawks finished 9-7. St. Joseph's took No. 1-ranked Massachusetts to overtime twice this season, losing both times.

The 35-1 Minutemen play Saturday just 8 miles west of Madison Square Garden at the Meadowlands against Kentucky in the NCAA Final Four.

STUDENT TRAVEL

London.....	\$566
Paris.....	640
Madrid.....	763
Frankfurt.....	721
Copenhagen.....	849
Rome.....	861
Athens.....	1009

All fares are roundtrip from Omaha. Tax not included. Some restrictions apply.

800-777-0112

STA TRAVEL
We've been there.

http://www.sta-travel.com

UPDOWNTOWNERS



Friday, March 29
5 to 9:30 p.m.

Win a trip for two to Las Vegas
Drawing will be held

Friday, March 29th, 1996 at 6:30 p.m.

Noodles Comedy Club-228 North 12th

Additional Door Prizes Will Be Awarded

Must be present to win • Bring your suitcase

ADMISSION ONLY
\$5 EACH

Includes One Raffle Ticket

Bring your suitcase.

JOKER

BREAK

SPRING BREAK
Guys everywhere. Girls everywhere. Insanity everywhere. Mom and Dad were right. It is a madhouse. You call them up. Tell them you're safe. And sound. They're relieved. And proud. You hang up. Then you continue playing strip poker.

1-800-COLLECT
Save The People You Call Up To 44%.