


# Wallaby's

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## NU offense improves in practice

From Staff Reports

In Wednesday's spring practice, the Nebraska football team used the cold weather to warm up for the fall.

Cornhusker coach Tom Osborne said that the team's offensive execution had improved since the first scrimmage of the spring last Saturday. Despite injuries at I-back, Osborne said, the Huskers have worked out well.

After battling the flu on Monday, No. 1 I-back Ahman Green looked better Wednesday and played well in practice, Osborne said.

Two I-backs who were injured during last Saturday's scrimmage missed their second straight practice.

No. 3 I-back James Sims' pulled right hamstring continues to hold him out of practice. Reserve I-back Chad Eicher also missed practice because of an injured knee.

Top tight end Tim Carpenter is still out with a sprained knee, and No. 2 Will linebacker Ryan Terwilliger was held out with a pulled muscle in his right calf.

Osborne said Sims and Carpenter probably wouldn't return to the field this spring.

## NU pitcher baffles Oklahoma hitters

By David Wilson  
Staff Reporter

A struggling Nebraska baseball pitching staff received its best starting performance of the season Wednesday from junior left-hander Pat Driscoll.



Driscoll

Driscoll threw the Cornhuskers' first complete game of the season, holding the Oklahoma offense to two runs on six hits.

"It was a masterpiece," Nebraska coach John Sanders said. "He's asked us to get him in there, and he proved his point today. Pat certainly established himself as a bona fide starter."

Driscoll struck out seven Sooners hitters, including Damon Minor twice. Minor leads the Big Eight with 11 home runs and 50 RBI while maintaining a .374 average.

"The kid pitched a heck of a ball game," Oklahoma coach Larry Cochell said. "It all starts on the mound."

Driscoll said he threw mostly fastballs because his breaking pitches were hung up in the gusting wind.

"I was just spotting the fastball and mixing in the change every now

and then," Driscoll said. "Working in and out, that was the main thing."

But the gusting wind may have aided Driscoll and Oklahoma starter Joe Vicitry by preventing a few deep fly balls from leaving the park.

"I was nervous until I saw the wind blowing today. I like to see it coming in," Driscoll said. "John (Sanders) teaches us how to pitch with the wind — let them hit into it."

In his 10 previous outings for Nebraska, Driscoll was used in relief situations only and had allowed 12 earned runs in 13 1/3 innings.

Driscoll said he was used primarily as a starter at Neosho Community College (Kan.) in 1995, when he posted a 7-2 record with a 2.52 earned-run average. He was named NCC's male athlete of the year in 1995.

"At first I had a hard time relieving," Driscoll said. "Then I tried to take it as a start in the fifth inning. It's a little different, but I'm getting used to both roles now."

Driscoll said the win was an important one for the Huskers, who had fallen into last place in the Big Eight before the win against No. 21 Oklahoma.

"Especially after last night, I was really happy to see the way our team came out," Driscoll said. "We were a totally different team today, and that's what we need to see. But we still have a long way to go."

## Great Plains to announce affiliates

From Staff Reports

Paul Aaron of Great Plains Media Inc. has called a press conference for 11 a.m. today in Lincoln to announce the Lincoln affiliates for the new Nebraska Sports Network, which will begin broadcasting in August.

On Monday, Aaron announced that KKAR and KQGE in Omaha would be the Omaha affiliates for the Nebraska Sports Network, replacing KFAB, which had held exclusive rights to Cornhusker football and basketball since 1983.

KLIN (1400-AM), the current network affiliate in Lincoln, is expected to remain the city's AM affiliate. The rest of the network stations also will be announced today.

## Win

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game. Iowa State fell to 10-10.

The second game was canceled because of cold weather.

Husker sophomore Angela Blackwood picked up the win to improve her record to 9-3, while Nease took the loss to even her record at 3-3.

"She hit it a ton," Husker coach Rhonda Revelle said.

Other than Viola, the happiest player on the field Wednesday was Husker second baseman Heather Hanselmann.

Hanselmann, who was playing in her first game since breaking her finger against Texas-Arlington on Feb. 18, had a hit in her first-inning at-bat to score Viola.

But in the seventh inning, Hanselmann misfielded a ground ball hit by Nease that would have given the Huskers a third out and a 7-6 win. Instead, Iowa State's next batter, Kally Hogan, hit a double to score Nease and send the game to extra innings.

"(Hanselmann) came up to me later and just gave me a big hug and said, 'Thank you! Thank you!'" Viola said.

Because Hanselmann is still playing with a broken finger and because of the cold weather, Revelle said she could not blame Hanselmann for the error.

Besides, Revelle said, the Huskers had built a seven-run lead by the bottom of the fourth inning, but then gave up seven runs in the next three innings while committing four errors to let the Cyclones back into the game.

## Reive

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When Reive competed on the still rings in the Huskers' March 23 dual with No. 1 Ohio State, he competed for the first time since August 1994.

The 17-month hiatus was the longest time he had spent away from gymnastics in his life. When he was 3 years old, Reive began to practice tumbling and handstands at a local club.

Since then, he has been active in the sport every year. Being out of competition for so long made his return even more special, Reive said.

"It was great," Reive said. "But I still am only about 55 or 60 percent at the most. I'm anxious to get back to form and show people what I can do."

When Reive is completely healthy, Allen said, he could be the best gymnast in the nation.

But all of the praise from Allen and even the comparison to Hartung — who led Nebraska to four straight national titles — have not caused Reive to lose his focus.

"That's cool," Reive said. "Jim had a lot of pull around here. But I guess I'm just trying to do what I can for the team."

Even though Reive isn't 100 percent healthy, his presence still will help the Huskers in many ways, Allen said.

"With J.D. in the lineup, our whole team's confidence is better," Allen said.

Reive said he hoped to be healthy enough to compete in the U.S. Nationals in June, when the top 14 gymnasts advance to the Olympic Trials. The top eight at the trials will represent the United States at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

Despite performing with the Olympic dream in the back of his mind,

Reive said he had only one goal for the rest of the season.

"Right now, I'm just trying to go out and hit my routines and stay in one piece."

Allen said he hoped to add Reive to the starting lineup in parallel bars and vault for the Huskers' remaining meets.

Nebraska travels to Santa Barbara, Calif., for the Mountain Pacific Sports Federation Championships on Saturday. The Huskers then will play host to the NCAA West Regional at the Bob Devaney Sports Center on April 13.

The NCAA Championships will be held in Stanford, Calif., April 25-27.

"We're down to the nitty gritty of the season now," Allen said. "I'm tired of showing people we can compete. I want to win. J.D. is the kind of kid who can make about a 2 1/2-point difference for us."

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If unable to attend, contact Renee Swartz 472-4622 or Marlon Lozano 476-0076