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Four time Olympic gold-medalist diver Greg Louganis speaks at UNL tomorrow. His triumph despite struggles with dyslexia, depression, racism, his sexuality and AIDS has touched and inspired millions.

Tomorrow, April 10, 8 p.m. Tickets go on sale at 6:30 Centennial Room 2nd Floor, Nebraska Union \$4 w/student i.d., \$8 public

Sponsored by the University Program Council, The Nebraska AIDS Project and the Department. Call the University Program Council at 472-8146. An interpreter will be hearing impaired.

NU football team 'thin on corners'

From Staff Reports

The Nebraska football team returned to the practice field for a two-hour workout in full pads on Monday. No. 2 I-back Damon Benning sat out because of a sore shoulder. Benning sustained the injury in last Saturday's scrimmage. Cornhusker coach Tom Osborne said the injury was not believed to be serious. No. 3 right cornerback Jerome Peterson missed practice because of a groin injury. "We're pretty thin on the corners," Osborne said, "so it's not a good situation."

No. 3 I-back James Sims returned to practice after sitting out the last week with a pulled hamstring. Osborne said No. 1 defensive tackle Jeff Ogard practiced Monday despite nursing a sore heel. While the offense is still looking for consistent play, the defense continues to progress nicely, Osborne said.

Volleyball team eyes second straight title

By Trevor Parks Senior Reporter

Don't expect the 1996 Nebraska volleyball team to set a goal lower than the one that was accomplished last year.



McFadden

Through-out the spring season a year ago, the Cornhuskers were focused on beginning the drive to the Final Four and winning the national title. "Last year a big thing was taking risks," said Jen McFadden, one of three seniors next fall. "There's no point in setting a goal lower than what we can accomplish."

Nebraska completed its mission by beating Texas on Dec. 16 in the national championship match at Amherst, Mass. But the core of that team, Allison Weston, Christy Johnson and Billie Winsett have exhausted their eligibility after leading the Huskers to a 63-2 record over the last two seasons. "The big plus in spring ball is to try and get some people out on the court who are going to be playing next year," Coach Terry Pettit said. "Fiona (Nepo) has really benefited from it, and all this experience is going to give her confidence."

Nepo, a sophomore in the fall who started one match at setter last season, must step in for Johnson. "The setter is always a major factor, but she has what it takes to be one of the great setters who have ever played here," Pettit said. Now, as a white banner that reads, "National Champions 1995" in red writing, hangs from the rafters of the NU Coliseum, the Huskers are trying to remain focused.

On Saturday, they beat Wisconsin, Iowa State, Colorado State and Kansas State in a tournament at the NU Coliseum. Over spring break, Nebraska took four of six games from Florida and five of six from South Carolina at a tournament in Gainesville, Fla. The Huskers conclude the spring with a Big 12 tournament in Manhattan, Kan., next weekend. But the real season starts on Aug. 23 in Normal, Ill. Nebraska once again will be in the State Farm/NACWAA Volleyball Classic, opening the season with a match against Illinois State. McFadden, who missed last spring because of back surgery, said the team needed to jell before that opening match. "Once we have a lot of time to work together and get everyone healthy, we can actually click."

Health is a problem this spring. Jamie Krondak is suffering from tendinitis in her foot, Maria Hedbeck has a sore back, redshirt freshman Lisa Avery is suffering from tendinitis in her knee. Stacie Maser had fluid drained from her knee and Renee Saunders is still bothered by a foot injury that plagued her last season. "I find myself sometimes in practice just shutting up for a drill to see how loud it gets. And it doesn't," McFadden said. "We need them to pick up the loudness because when we play in the fall and the Coliseum's packed, there is no way we will be able to hear each other."

When the team becomes more comfortable with each other, that should change, Pettit said, just as last year's team adapted.

Music stars at 'Night of Champions'

From Staff Reports

Nebraska Athletic Director Bill Byrne announced Monday that country music group Sawyer Brown will perform on April 19 at the "Night of Champions," which will honor the national champion Nebraska football and volleyball teams. The Husker marching band also will be honored, along with national champion track athletes Nicola Marital and Angee Henry and swimmer Penny Heyns. Sawyer Brown will perform as the grand finale at the event, which will begin at 7:30 p.m. at Memorial Stadium. Tickets are available for \$3 at the Nebraska ticket office. Because of construction in the East Stadium, attendance at the "Night of Champions" will be limited to 50,000.

The Nebraska baseball team's game on April 19 against Kansas has been moved from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. because of the "Night of Champions." The April 20 game also has been pushed back from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. because of the football team's spring game. Any person with an admission stub from the "Night of Champions" or from the spring game will be admitted free to the baseball games.

Blackwood

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The 5-foot-10 sophomore from Broken Arrow, Okla., said she strived to pitch in pressure situations. "Coming in in a situation like that is very nerve-racking," Blackwood said. "I like to be in pressure situations like that. I like to know I'm the pitcher, and there's no other pitcher who's going to come in the game."

Blackwood said her desire for pressure situations came from wanting to control the game, which is why she chose to be a pitcher and to play at Nebraska.

Hesse

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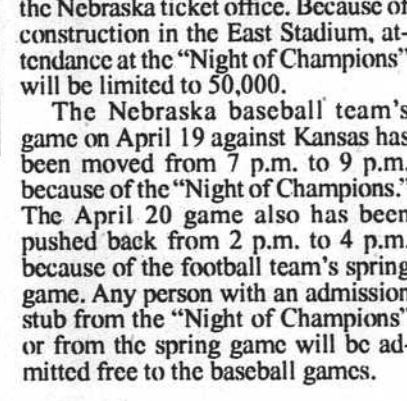
Nebraska linebackers coach Craig Bohl said Hesse made a valuable contribution to the Blackshirts when Ellis missed three games with a broken foot. "Jon's had to be patient," Bohl said. "He showed us in the fall and the spring that he has the strength and explosiveness to be a force this season."

The brute strength of the front seven in Nebraska's 4-3 defensive alignment last year was the key to success, Hesse said, and this year's defense will have that same kind of power. A graduate student in psychology, Hesse earned a spot on the Big Eight Academic Honor Roll in 1994 and 1995 with a 3.94 cumulative grade-point average. Bohl said Hesse's maturity and experience had allowed him to develop into one of the team's leaders.

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