

# NU splits two with KSU

By David Wilson  
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska baseball team's six-game winning streak came to an abrupt end Friday night at Buck Beltzer Field against Kansas State, but the Cornhuskers started a new streak Saturday.

Freshman Seth Williams surrendered four earned runs in 1 1/3 innings Friday as the Wildcats pounded the Cornhuskers 19-6.

But Nebraska came back Saturday afternoon, backed by a strong pitching performance from junior Jonas Armenta, to defeat the Wildcats 14-4. Sunday's game was canceled because of snow.

The Huskers, who have won seven of their last eight games, improved to 17-19-1 overall and 6-9 in the Big Eight. Kansas State fell to 20-15 overall and 4-8, last in the conference.

"Overall, we hit pretty well through the lineup," Nebraska coach John Sanders said. "It's just been pitching.

When we get good pitching, we've got a chance to win. When we don't get good pitching, then we're always coming from behind."

Armenta, who allowed three earned runs on four hits in eight innings, improved his earned-run average to 7.21 and notched his first win of the season. "I think it's really positive for him," Sanders said. "He's pitched well enough to be in the win column. Baseball is crazy, though. You have to get runs with it."

The Husker bats ripped Kansas State starter Eric Yanz for six runs on nine hits in the first four innings.

"He (Yanz) did a good job with his change-up early in the game," Sanders said. "We needed a little more discipline. He got up in the zone the second time through, so we just had to be patient and not try to make it happen all at once."

Seven Nebraska hitters had multiple-hit games, including center fielder Francis Collins, who extended his hitting streak to 21 games — the third-longest in school history.

Senior left fielder Matt Meyer led Nebraska with four of the Huskers' season-high 19 hits. Sophomore first baseman Todd Sears finished 2 for 3 with a home run and two RBI.

"That was really positive for Todd to come up big," Sanders said. "And then Matt just had a big day."

The Wildcats struck first with two runs in the second, but Armenta, who walked nine, allowed only two runs over the next six innings.

"Jonas does that a lot," Meyer said. "I lived with the guy last year, and I know how he works. If he get two guys on, three guys on, the guy will just battle back. That's just the way he is. He's a competitor."

In his last outing against Oral Roberts on April 6, Armenta struck out 12 in seven innings. On Saturday, Armenta struck out seven and increased his total to a team-high 50 in 43 2/3 innings.

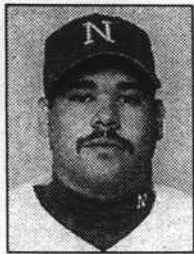
"He showed signs of a veteran today," Sanders said. "He got into some tough situations, and then he made a critical pitch to get out of it. That is really positive for the staff to see that."

Kansas State senior David Hendrix, who went 5 for 7 with a home run and five RBI on Friday, washed hitless on Saturday in four at-bats.

"It looked like he (Hendrix) hit the outside fastball pretty well," Armenta said. "So I was trying to come inside. He's a real good hitter. I tried to keep him off balance."

The Huskers will play Kansas on Tuesday in Lawrence, Kan., at 7 p.m. and Wednesday at 3 p.m.

"I feel it coming together," Armenta said. "We've been playing pretty well the last couple of days. Oh yeah, I definitely feel it coming together."



Armenta

## Loss

Continued from Page 9

trum was Nebraska, which competed without sophomore all-arounder Jim Kozio and freshman J.D. Reive.

Coach Francis Allen, who had hopes of winning his ninth national championship at the beginning of the season, was forced to use only four of a possible six gymnasts in three of the six events.

The defeat wasn't a total loss for Nebraska. Six Huskers qualified individually for the NCAA Championships.

Sophomore Bill Mulholland had a career-high 56.725 in the all-around, finishing in fourth place. The North Plainfield, N.J., native had season highs on the horizontal bar (9.65) and the rings (9.4).

Senior Jason Christie also qualified in the all-around with a 56.55.

Nebraska received first-place efforts from junior Ted Harris on the still rings (9.85) and freshman Marshall Nelson on the pommel horse (9.85). Nelson also qualified on the horizontal bar with a 9.65.

Junior Ryan McEwen and sophomore Don Kinison also qualified for Nebraska. McEwen made it on the pommel horse with a 9.675, and Kinison qualified in the floor exercise with a 9.6.

The team's inability to win the doubles matches hurt the team this weekend, McDermott said.

"It's really tough when you lose the doubles like we did," he said. "We had it, and they took it from us."

In singles play, the only Husker bright spots were Verzi and Thomas Wheat. At No. 4 singles, Verzi won 7-5, 6-2 Sunday and 3-6, 6-4, 6-1 Saturday. Wheat, at No. 5, won 7-6, 6-3 Sunday. On Saturday, No. 1 singles player Markus Bergerheim won 7-6, 6-3. Maizey and Verzi won 8-4 Saturday, and Fredrik Riesbeck and Roshan Fernando won by the same score at No. 3 doubles.

"As a team, we haven't had all six guys play great singles," McDermott said. "We knew we really had to play well. We gave it an effort."

The only bright spots for the women Sunday were in singles play, where No. 3 Lisa Hart won 1-6, 7-5, 6-3 and Jennifer Thoste won 6-7 (2-7), 6-4, 7-6 (10-8) at No. 2 singles.

"Once he gets over the intimidation of playing college basketball, he will be a great player," Johnson said. "He's a very well kept secret that not a lot of people know about."

Haggerty said Fields, who spent Sunday celebrating at Busch Gardens, would be a good player to complement point guard Tyrone Luc.

"He's something they can use, be-

cause last year, Nebraska was missing a consistent threat on the perimeter," Haggerty said. "He can free up the inside game so the opposing defense won't fall in on (Mikki) Moore."

Nebraska is also in the running for Kris Hunter, a 6-10, 210-pound center from Tallahassee, Fla. Hunter visited Auburn this weekend, and he plans a visit to Georgia next weekend.

# Tennis teams lose weekend matches

By Vince D'Adamo  
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska men's and women's tennis teams tried their luck at home this weekend but came up short.

The Cornhusker men (6-13 and 1-3 in the Big Eight) dropped a 4-3 decision Saturday to Oklahoma State and fell 5-2 to Oklahoma on Sunday. The women (4-13 and 1-5) lost 7-2 to the Sooners and were shut out 7-0 by Oklahoma State.

Sunday's matches were forced inside to the Bob Devaney Sports Center because of snow.

On the men's side Sunday, the top Nebraska doubles tandem of Dinko Verzi and Adrian Maizey continued its Big Eight dominance. They defeated Oklahoma's Phillip Farmer and Bradley Plokhoooy 8-5. That was the only doubles match the Huskers won, however.

"We found a way to lose," Nebraska coach Kerry McDermott said. "That seems to be the case in our close matches."

## Fields

Continued from Page 9

that was on the way up, and Nebraska is headed in that direction."

Fields, who moved to Tampa from New York two years ago, is still awaiting the results of the SAT he took two weeks ago. But Johnson said he wasn't worried.

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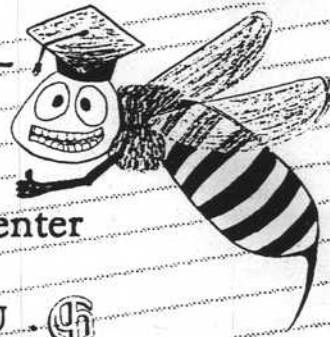
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