

Huskers lose to Cowgirls

From Staff Reports

The Nebraska softball team dropped a pair of games Monday to Oklahoma State, 11-2 and 9-6, in Stillwater, Okla.

The Cowgirls came from behind in the first game to score six runs in the seventh, highlighted by a Regina Attenbury grand slam.

Nebraska, losers of five straight, is now 31-18 overall and 5-7 in the Big 12. Oklahoma State improved to 29-15.

The Cornhuskers will be back in action Wednesday against Creighton in a doubleheader beginning at 6 p.m. at the NU Softball Complex.

Perino

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team quarterback, and although he never competed for the starting job, he said he learned a lot from Berringer.

"In practice, I wasn't competing against him, but I practiced with him and he'd give me some pointers," Perino said. "He was a pretty good role model for me."

Despite his backup role as a senior, Berringer never thought of himself as anything less than a top-rate quarterback, Perino said.

"He never thought that he was going to be secondhand to anybody," Perino said. "He knew he had the ability to do it, and you've got to respect a guy for that. He just kept trying to be No. 1."

Huskers sign 13 recruits

From Staff Reports

The Nebraska men's and women's swimming and diving teams gained 13 recruits in the spring signing period, Coach Cal Bantz said Monday.

The Cornhusker women inked 11 swimmers while the men signed two.

The women's nine signees include: Amanda Bodzek (freestyle) of Omaha, Ann Enoch (freestyle/butterfly) of Carmel, Ind., Ingrid Gotchel (backstroke) of Glen Mills, Pa., Katie Hoffman (breaststroke) from Beatrice, Beth Hunsicker (freestyle) of Ottumwa, Iowa, Beth Karaica (butterfly/freestyle) of Natrona Heights, Pa., Terrie Miller (breaststroke) of Norway, Helene Muller (freestyle) of South Africa, Tania Oosthuizen (individual medley) of South Africa, Stacey Seplacek (breaststroke) of East Galesburg, Ill., and Chris Troy (backstroke) of Australia.

Miller and Muller have qualified for the 1996 Olympic teams in their respective countries.

Joe Mitchell (freestyle) of Australia and Michael Windisch (butterfly) from South Africa were signed by the men's team.

Rush ends give NU depth

By Antone Oseka
Staff Reporter

After the Nebraska football team's spring game on Saturday, it was evident that the Cornhusker defense will be solid.

The first- and second-team defensive units kept the usually high-scoring Husker offense at bay all day.

The offense was limited to 37 points in the red team's last-second 20-17 victory.

A shining spot in the bright defense, Coach Tom Osborne said, is the strength at the rush end positions.

"At the rush end spot, we have four players there that are really very good," Osborne said.

Last year's starters, senior-to-be Jared Tomich and junior Grant Wistrom, will return to anchor the Cornhusker defensive line. The next two on the depth chart, sophomores Mike Rucker and Chad Kelsay fill in more than adequately when Tomich and Wistrom leave the field.

Kelsay, from Auburn, said he never thought about playing anywhere but Nebraska.

The biggest adjustment he's made is practicing with speed and intensity every day, he said, just to keep his spot on the depth chart.

Rucker, second behind Wistrom at right rush end, said he stayed on his toes constantly, knowing that Wistrom or Tomich could go down at any second and he would be called on to fill in.

Even though he is not a starter, Rucker said he viewed his backup role as an important one.

"If you just had one line that was good, you wouldn't have much of a team," Rucker said.

Nebraska's defense will be the strong point of the team next fall, and the defensive line is the Blackshirts' deepest area. Of the four starters on last year's defensive line, which allowed opponents 2.5 yards per rush, only Christian Peter completed his eligibility.

"We had a good day out there," Rucker said of his and Kelsay's performance Saturday.

Kelsay and Rucker teamed for a sack on the last play of the game, taking down Jeff Perino, who was attempting a Hail Mary pass.

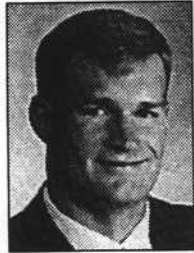
Rucker had five total tackles Saturday, including three unassisted stops. He also broke up a pass.

Rucker, from St. Joseph, Mo., had more tackles than Tomich and Wistrom. The starting tandem combined for four assisted tackles on the day.

Kelsay said the time on the sidelines when Wistrom and Tomich were playing helped prepare the backups for the time on the field later in the game.

"We make the plays," Rucker said. "We set the tempo for the game."

With four of the best rush ends in the country, Nebraska's tempo is fast and furious. Wistrom said rush ends coach Tony Samuel liked a four-man rotation, so expect to see numbers 57 (Kelsay) and 84 (Rucker) on the field even more next season.



Kelsay



Rucker

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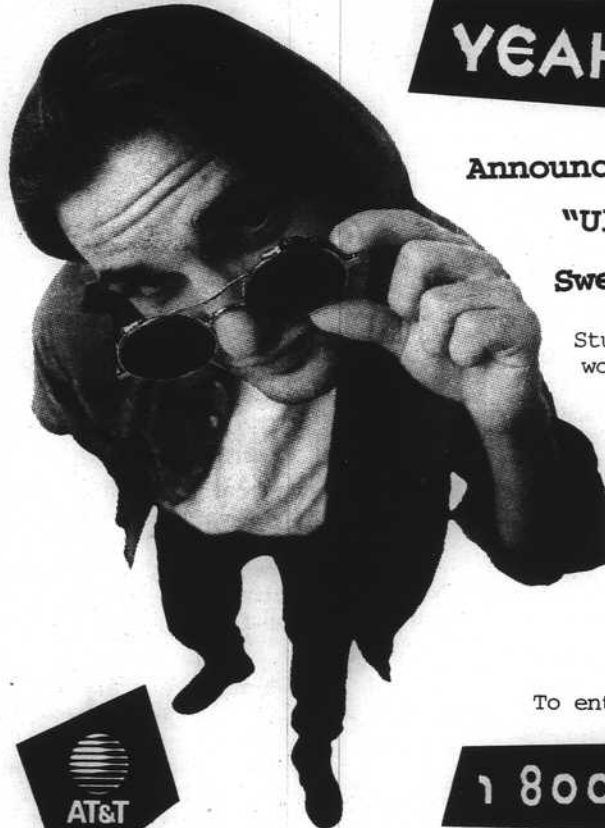
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