

Sports Opinion



Trevor Parks

Endicott says volleyball makes for tough career

Playing volleyball makes for a nice career.

That is if you don't mind traveling to the far reaches of the world or leaving behind a husband for five weeks at a time.

So after awhile, someone with a hectic lifestyle like that just might have to say enough is enough. And that's what Lori Endicott is going to do in about a month.

Endicott, who was a two-time All-American at Nebraska in 1987 and 1988, won't admit it just yet. But there is more than a good chance that Friday night's exhibition match against the Cornhuskers was one of her last one's with the U.S. National Team.

And after eight years of plane rides, bus trips and smelly taxi cabs, who can blame her?

But who can't be jealous at the same time?

Hong Kong, China, Cuba, Korea, Spain. Wherever there was a country to be traveled to for a volleyball match, Endicott was there.

"I'll miss the actual experience and the opportunity of being able to travel," said Endicott, whose No. 2 is one of only three jerseys to be retired by the NU volleyball program. "Being away from home so often, that's hard, especially when you are married."

Now, Endicott has time to look forward to the future. She will also take a new name, that of her husband, Mark, becoming Lori Vandersnick. That's something she hasn't been able to do in the past because of endorsement deals.

She plans to take a new career path — take things easy for a couple of months, train other volleyball players in her tough Midwestern style or get involved with a club volleyball program.

But no matter what happens, volleyball will be a fixture in Endicott's life. "I've got so much experience that I can't imagine giving this up permanently."

So why not ask a player who spent eight years on the U.S. National Team and might become a volleyball coach someday if any current Huskers have the potential to represent their country in international play.

Maybe Lisa Reitsma, Endicott said. Reitsma has the front court blocking sense, the left-arm cannon, but she needs to develop the backcourt toughness that the players from the U.S. National Team displayed Friday night.

Reitsma admitted she has thought about putting on a blue U.S. jersey sometime in the future. But for now, Nebraska's All-American is content wearing Husker red.

Just like Endicott — I mean Vandersnick — once was.

Parks is a senior news-editorial major and a Daily Nebraskan senior reporter.

Coach: Tech to test NU

By **DAVID WILSON**
Staff Reporter

The 1996 Nebraska defense is one of the best in Cornhusker history on paper, Defensive Backs Coach George Darlington said Sunday, but after Saturday's 49-0 stomping of Baylor, statistics do not reveal the whole story.

Despite holding Baylor to 117 yards of total offense, Darlington said, the defense has a lot to work on before playing Texas Tech Saturday in Lubbock, Texas. The game will be televised regionally on ABC at 2:30 p.m.



Darlington

“This team is certainly the best opponent we've played, maybe all year.”

GEORGE DARLINGTON
NU defensive backs coach

“Baylor was certainly hampered by having some key players not there,” Darlington said. “We hoped we would be tested more.”

“We have to improve if we want to accomplish our goals. You can't drop interceptions in big games.”

Texas Tech (4-2 and 2-1 in the Big 12), which defeated Kansas 30-17 Saturday, could easily be an undefeated team, Darlington said. The Red Raiders, who are 3-0 at home this season, lost on the road to Kansas State and

Georgia by a total of 10 points.

“This team is certainly the best opponent we've played, maybe all year,” Darlington said.

In two Big 12 games this season, Nebraska has allowed 203 yards and three points.

In Lawrence, Kan., on Saturday, Tech tailback Byron Hanspard rushed for 197 yards on 37 attempts and scored a touchdown, helping the Raider offense to 381 yards.

“People in the secondary have to

tackle well,” Darlington said. “They have to fulfill their obligation. You have to put great emphasis in stopping the run, which we do for everybody.”

But Hanspard is not the only threat the Husker defense will face.

Tech quarterback Zebbie Lethridge is a threat to both pass and run. Lethridge ranks second on the team in total offense, behind Hanspard, averaging 162 yards per game.

“They have the best scrambling quarterback we've faced to date,” Darlington said.

Younger players like true freshman Ralph Brown, who has stepped up to fill a big role in the Nebraska secondary, must continue their efforts against Texas Tech.

“He's jumped it up the past two weeks,” Darlington said of Brown. “We're hoping that our young players will continue to do that.”

Korver leads Nebraska to rout of OU

Sixth-ranked NU looks ahead to matches with two South Division powers.

Oklahoma	11	7	0
Nebraska	15	15	15

By **TREVOR PARKS**
Senior Reporter

On a day when the Nebraska volleyball team was feeling ill, NU middle blocker Megan Korver was the cure.

Korver slapped a match-high 15 kills on 20 attempts, hitting a career-best .750 in the sixth-ranked Cornhuskers 15-11, 15-7, 15-0 win over Oklahoma Sunday afternoon in front of a crowd of 4,200 at the NU Coliseum.

Sunday was the first time since the third game of a Sept. 16, 1994 match against Texas Tech that the Huskers have shut an opponent out in a single game.

The win boosted NU to 14-2 overall and 6-0 in the conference, keeping pace with co-Big 12 leader Texas A&M. Oklahoma, which started the season 9-2, fell to 9-8 overall and 0-6 in the Big 12.

Lisa Reitsma added 10 kills for NU, which won its 23rd straight match at home and ninth straight match overall.

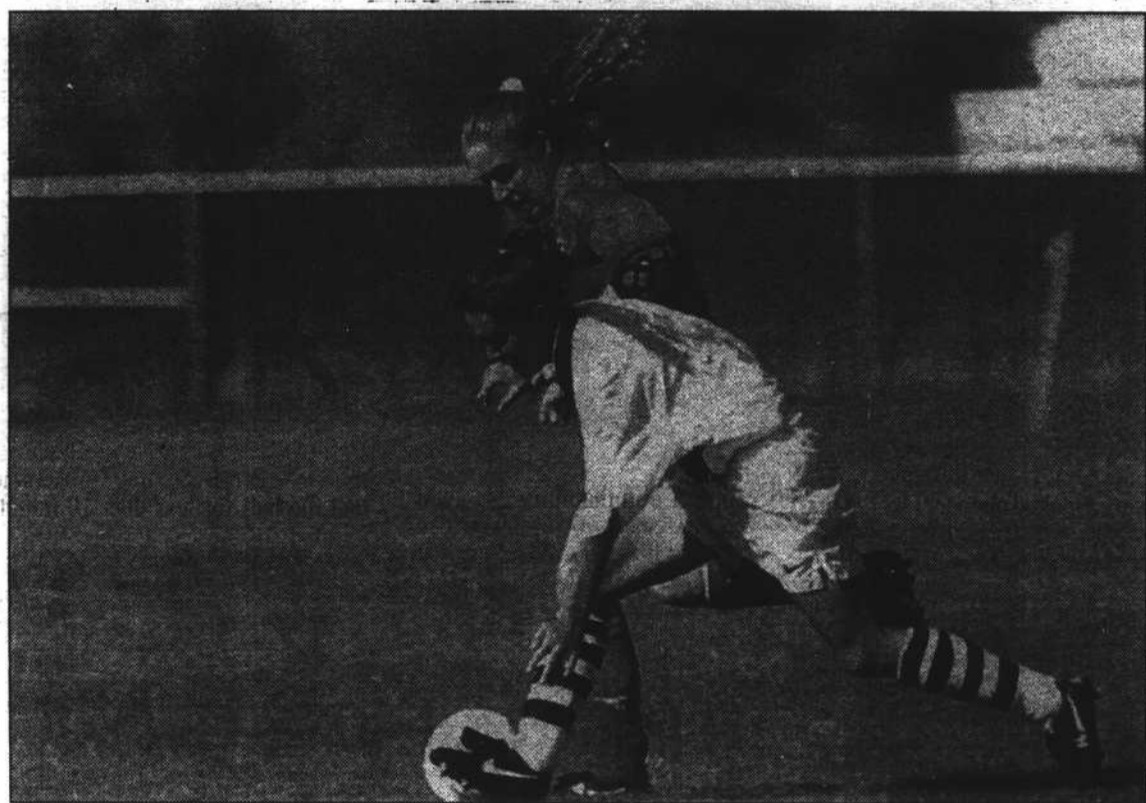
Nebraska needed a superhuman effort out of Korver, a 6-foot-1 sophomore, because the Huskers have been hard hit by the flu. Saturday, five of NU's 11 healthy players — Mandy Monson, Renee Saunders, Jaime Krondak, Stacie Maser and Kim Crandall — missed practice.

Monson, who started her first career match Sunday, had five kills. Saunders played in all three games and Crandall played in one game. Krondak served the final two points of the second game in her only appearance, and Maser did not attend the match.

“I wasn't apprehensive,” Korver said of NU's limited lineup. “Everybody wanted to step it up because of that.”

After battling to win the first two games, Korver said, NU wanted to play sharper in game three.

The Huskers hit .750 in the third game with nine kills and no hitting errors. Oklahoma was just the opposite with two kills, seven errors, a hitting



MARNI SPECK/DN

MARIS DILLMAN of Colorado (front) fights for a loose ball with Nebraska striker **Kristen Gay** Sunday in NU's 10-2 win.

Nebraska shatters records in blowout win over Buffs

By **VINCE D'ADAMO**
Staff Reporter

The sixth-ranked Nebraska soccer team ended its 10-game homestand this weekend with two resounding victories over Big 12 Conference opponents.

On Friday, the Cornhuskers roped Oklahoma State 6-0. On Sunday, before a school-record 1,378 Uppinghouse fans at the Abbott Sports Complex, Nebraska (13-0 and 5-0 in the Big 12) slaughtered Colorado 10-2.

The 10 goals set an NU record for the most ever scored in a game, breaking the old record of nine set against Loyola Marymount earlier this season.

“I thought we had good flank play,” Husker Coach John Walker said. “Our crosses were pretty good, too. I certainly didn't think it would be 10-2. The first half was just dynamite.”

Oklahoma St.	0
Nebraska	6

Despite the commanding wins, Walker said, the team cannot forget how it has become dominant in such a short time.

“We just have to keep working on everything,” Walker said. “Just push, push, push. That's how good teams become very good teams.”

Junior midfielder Kari Uppinghouse scored two goals on Friday, breaking Danielle Boswell's record for points in a single season.

“It's definitely a nice honor,” Uppinghouse said. “But I thought more about the team accomplishment because it means more to me.”

On Sunday against Colorado (4-6-1), the Huskers scored six goals in the first half, tying a school record set against Kansas last season. The eight-point triumph also tied the team record for largest margin of victory, a record set last season when the Huskers blanked Wyoming 8-0.

Uppinghouse, who now has 37 points for the season, and Lindsay Eddleman scored three goals

Colorado	2
Nebraska	10

apiece, both tying a single-game mark. All of Eddleman's scoring came in the first half, tying Boswell's record for goals in the first half.

Isabelle Morneau added two goals, and Sharlota Nonen and Kim Ratliff also scored. Ratliff, a senior, played her final regular-season home game as a Husker.

Nebraska has now outscored its 13 opponents 63-8.

Before the game, the Nebraska coaches presented flowers to Ratliff.

“She's really been an excellent leader,” Walker said of the first senior in the history of the three-year program. “She epitomizes everything we set out to do.”

Ratliff said she could not have picked a better way to finish the home season.

“It was the icing on the cake,” Ratliff said. “I didn't think the emotion would come out, but once we took the field, the tears started coming out. I'll definitely remember this year the most.”