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Tomich continues to improve as a senior

By **SAM MCKEWON**
Staff Reporter

Nebraska rush end Jared Tomich sure is getting a lot of attention this year — from opposing offenses.

"Offenses have really tried to limit my play this year," said Tomich, a senior Cornhusker co-captain. "I get to see the double-team quite a bit."

Despite the efforts to shut him down, Tomich is one of four finalists for the Lombardi Award and a primary leader of one of the best defenses in Nebraska history.

"Jared is a huge part of why this defense is so good this year," said Tony Samuel, Tomich's position coach. "He just dominates the line of scrimmage."

Tomich is coming off a junior year in which he was named a first-team All-American and won a national title. This year, NU has already suffered a loss, and Tomich has not spent as much time harassing quarterbacks.

The 6-foot-2, 260-pounder from St. John, Ind., is third on the team this year with five sacks and has 33 total tackles. Last year, Tomich had 27 tackles and 10 sacks in 11 games.

But he said he's not disappointed with his performance this season, despite the drop in number of sacks.

"Actually, I'm playing better than I did last year, but a lot of people don't know it," he said. "It's a little discouraging to see my stats go down, but considering the schemes teams have used



Tomich

against me, it's not that bad."

Tomich said he's surprised to see his name among the finalists for the Lombardi Award, presented to the best lineman in college football. If Tomich wins, he would become the fourth Husker to receive the award, following Rich Glover, Dave Rimington and Dean Steinkuhler.

"I've got to be realistic," Tomich said. "Ohio State's Orlando Pace won it last year, so there's really no reason he wouldn't this year. I'm prepared for it."

Tomich may also be in line for All-American honors. He could become only the fourth Nebraska defensive player to be named a first-team selection for two-straight seasons, joining Glover (1971-72), Willie Harper (1971-72) and Broderick Thomas (1987-88).

While another All-American selection would be a nice way to finish his career, Tomich said, it's not too important.

"I won it once, which is good enough for me," he said. "It would be great to win again, but I don't need it."

Beyond the numbers that show up in the newspaper, Samuel said, Tomich provides an element to the defense that is indicative of his All-American status: leadership.

"Jared has really become that vocal leader we needed this year," Samuel said. "That plays a big part in how the line and the whole defense performs. He has a tremendous work ethic."

Tomich credits that work ethic to the universities in his home state of Indiana.

"I wish I could thank them for not taking me," Tomich said. "It's driven me to prove them wrong every time I take the field."

Husker swim team starts with new faces

By **ANDREW STERNAD**
Staff Reporter

Most teams would be content to bring back 11 All-Americans, but not the Nebraska diving and swimming team.

The Cornhuskers welcome 23 new faces to the pool this fall as they enter the Big 12 Conference.

Coach Cal Bentz said he expects to see several freshmen make an impact on this year's team. The Husker women's team entered the week ranked 12th in the nation, and the men were ranked 21st before losing to Minnesota last weekend.

"We're quite happy with where we are right now," Bentz said. "There are a lot of freshmen, especially on the women's side, that are making good progress."

Bentz said he's particularly pleased with sophomore diver T.D. Rowe, who won the 1-meter competition against Minnesota.

Bentz also praised freshman Christine Troy, who took first place in the 200-yard backstroke against the Golden Gophers.

On the men's side, freshman Adam Pine of Bruce, Australia, has turned many heads, swimming the fastest time in the nation this year in the 100-yard butterfly.

Pine's time of 48.49 seconds last weekend is the second fastest in school history and qualifies him for the NCAA Championships in March.

Julia Russell and Janet Danburg each turned in stellar performances in Minneapolis, and despite losing, Bentz said the Huskers are ready for the bulk of their schedule to begin.

"We saw some great improvements at Minneapolis and we're looking forward to a busy weekend," Bentz said.

The Huskers welcome a host of teams to the Bob Devaney Sports Center this weekend to take part in the Nike Sprint Classic and the Husker Shootout.

Note:

Bentz has signed Shandra Johnson, a standout swimmer from Omaha North High School, to a letter of intent. Johnson, a qualifier for the U.S. Olympic Trials in the 200-meter freestyle, will join NU next fall.

Husker soccer team makes history

SOCCER from page 7

tournament's first round on a penalty kick after 150 minutes of play.

"In a game like that," Nebraska Coach John Walker said, "it's fitting that it's won by a quality goal. No one else could have done what Kari did. She has these hip moves where I don't even know where the ball is going. She

spun herself out of trouble, and it had to be a perfect shot."

Uppinghouse, the co-Big 12 player of the year from Littleton, Colo., broke Nebraska's single-season scoring record this fall with 44 points. She also led Nebraska with 17 goals, including six game-winners and 10 assists.

Adding to the difficulty of Uppinghouse's goal was the fact that

NU women to run at NCAA meet

By **GREGG MADSEN**
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska women's cross country team has earned a wild-card berth in the NCAA Championships, Nov. 25 in Tucson, Ariz.

They join the Cornhusker men's team, which automatically qualified for the NCAA Championships with a second-place finish at the NCAA District 5 Championships last Saturday in Peoria, Ill.

Nebraska Coach Jay Dirksen said he was pleased with the Monday afternoon announcement that the women had also qualified.

"I think that's wonderful," Dirksen said. "I'm really happy for them. I thought it would be a close call."

The NU women finished third at the District 5 meet. Big 12 Conference foes Missouri and Iowa State tied for the title and earned automatic spots in the championships.

Six wild-card winners were chosen from the third-place teams in each of the NCAA's eight districts. Nebraska defeated four of the other eight third-place teams during the regular season.

Those head-to-head victories were probably one of the key factors in the Huskers' favor, Dirksen said.

All-stater signs to play for Huskers

From Staff Reports

Amanda Went, a 5-foot-9 swing player from Columbus, has become the third player to sign a letter of intent with the Nebraska women's basketball team.

Went, who averaged 17.5 points, 2.2 assists and 1.8 steals per game last season, joins 6-2 forward Amanda Cleveland from Lancaster, Texas, and 6-4 center Lisa Bryan from Roanoke, Va.

Went is the fifth player from Nebraska to sign with the Cornhuskers in the last two seasons.

"We're staying with the tradition of signing Nebraska players," NU Coach Angela Beck said, "and we have another good one. I've always been impressed with her work ethic and attitude."

Went was named to the Class A all-state team last season.

"For a long time, I've wanted to come to Nebraska," Went said. "I've been to their camps, and I always dreamed of playing at Nebraska. I love the state, so the chance to stay close to home and play for the state school is a great opportunity."

The early signing period ends Wednesday.