NU diver Bergman defies odds

BERGMAN from page 7

Hocking said. "Danny had two world-class coaches before me who predicted him to be a failure. I'm so proud that they were wrong."

Originally from Alpine, Utah, Bergman started training with his sister, a world champion diver. Bergman went undefeated throughout his high school career and was a four-time state champi-

His rate of success didn't drop when he came to Nebraska. As a sophomore, Bergman placed sev-

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in the 1-meter competition last year.

"I want to place high at the NCAA's. That's all I want to say about that," Bergman said. "But I can say that I want to win both the 1and 3-meter boards at the Big 12 Championships."

Hocking said he has never doubted Bergman. The two have worked closely together since Bergman started diving at Nebraska three years ago.

"Coach and I have a lot more than the normal athlete-coach relationship," Bergman said. "He treats

enth at the NCAA Championships me like a human being - so I do the same for him."

Hocking said his respect has to do with understanding that Bergman has great intentions, no matter how

crazy he may seem at times.

"There's nobody that wants to do better than he does," Hocking said.

Bergman and the rest of the Nebraska men's swimming and diving team will take on Minnesota Friday, and the women will face Texas A&M.

Nebraska will play host to both duals at the Bob Devaney Sports Center swimming pool.

To retire or not to retire

RETIRE from page 7

Oklahoma State, Kansas State and Texas have never retired a basketball

"Since I've been here, I don't think it ever has been discussed," Oklahoma State Coach Eddie Sutton said. "As a coach, I would be in favor of retiring jerseys. I'm not sure who decided the policy, but something needs to be done about it."

But coming up with a uniform policy on the retirement of jerseys among the Big 12 coaches is diffi-

"(Graduation) should be one of the criteria for having that honor bestowed upon you," Colorado Coach Ricardo Patton said.

With that policy, former Buffalo point guard Chauncey Billups, who perhaps is CU's greatest all-time player, wouldn't have his jersey retired.

Oklahoma Coach Kelvin Sampson said he struggled with that same topic when the Sooners were debating on whether to retire Wayman Tisdale's jersey.

Tisdale, a three-time All-American, left Oklahoma after his junior season to play professional

"You look at what he's accomplished, and he is a great ambassador for your university," Sampson said. "He is so well-respected, and every-

thing he's about is first class.
"Then you look at what he's done for this university. For us not to retire Wayman's jersey because he doesn't have his degree is penalizing Wayman the wrong way.'

With the appeal of big money and lucrative NBA contracts luring college kids away, Iowa State Coach Tim Floyd said it's getting more difficult to have a graduation rule for retirement of jerseys.

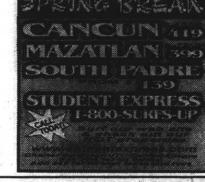
"You'd love to have a rule about graduation," Floyd said. "But it would be very difficult to tell a young man, who is leaving after his sophomore year, you couldn't retire his jersey because he hasn't graduated.

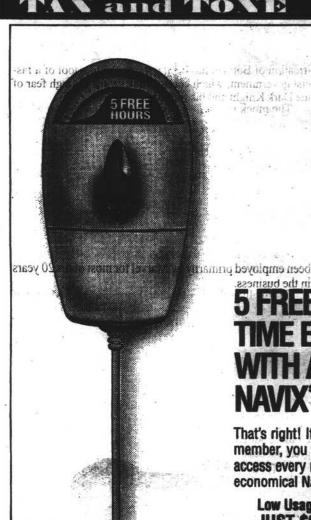
"Every situation is different. A lot of it might have to do with the history and tradition of your school."

Floyd said the decision to retire jerseys shouldn't be made solely by the coach, but by a consensus decision from the coach and athletic department.

Kansas' Roy Williams said a possible requirement for retirement could be players who earn player-ofthe-year or consensus All-America honors.

"It's really difficult," Williams said. "You can't retire their jerseys every two or three years. There's a lot more teams now and a lot more attention. There's also more players and more good players. So we feel that when we retire a jersey, let's make it special"





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Huskers vary honors

NU from page 7

female athletes.

But that hasn't meant retiring every NU All-American volleyball player's jersey.

In Pettit's 21 years, Nebraska has been awarded 31 All-America certifi-cates, but has retired only four jer-

Cathy Noth, Karen Dahlgren, Lori Endicott and Allison Weston all had their jerseys retired. All four were two-time All-Americans and all had done something else of significance, Pettit said.

Noth and Endicott both went on to play for the U.S. National Team, while Dahlgren was the 1987 Honda-Broderick Award recipient. Weston won the 1996 Morgan Trophy.

A Nebraska football player must win a national award, such as a Heisman Trophy, or a Butkus, Outland, Lombardi or Unitas award to have his jersey retired.

Nebraska Sports Information **Director Emeritus Don Bryant said** the Huskers used to retire players' numbers, but because of the large amount of national award winners,

the university decided just to retire jerseys and keep numbers in circulation.

"We just couldn't keep taking numbers out," Bryant said.

However, no Nebraska football player will ever wear No. 60 again. All American Tom Novak wore No. 60 when he played from 1946 to 49 and had his number retired after the 1949 season. Bryant said when the university decided to just retire jerseys, it left Novak's number retired.

Two Nebraska basketball players - Dave Hoppen and Stuart Lantz - have had their jerseys retired. Both Hoppen and Lantz were two-time all Big Eight selections and are among Nebraska's top-10 career scorers.

Nebraska Wrestling Coach Tim Neumann said the wrestling program doesn't retire uniforms, but it does honor different wrestlers by inducting them into its hall of

"The recognition is not just important," Pettit said. "It is important to the tradition and promotion of your sport."

