

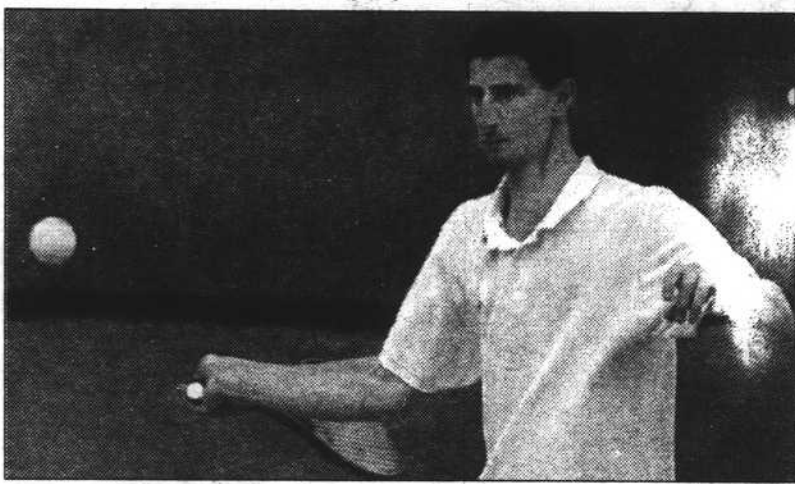
NU falls to Aggies, beats Jays

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"I was two points away from a victory and just couldn't close it out," Moran said. "He came up with enough big points to beat me."

In the other matches, Nebraska senior Magnus Grahn outlasted Brent Horan 6-3, 5-7, 7-6 and NU junior Joakim Larsson lost to A&M's Cody Hubbell in straight sets 6-4, 6-3.

McDermott said he expected his team to compete with Texas A&M, but it lost because of the Aggies' psychological edge.



NEBRASKA JUNIOR Dinko Verzi, the Husker's No. 1 singles player, defeated A&M's Shawn Madden Sunday at Woods Tennis Center.

"We can play with them, McDermott said. "They're just a little ahead in the mental department." Verzi said while he saw a moral vic-

tory in nearly beating the Aggies, it rung hollow. "We're getting tired of having of moral victories."

Sophomore steps up in win

BY DARREN IVY
Assignment Reporter

For all those rookie Cornhusker volleyball fans who thought they saw All-American Lisa Reitsma on the court Saturday against Wisconsin - think again.

It was sophomore Nancy Meendering - same high school, same position, same handed and, at times Saturday, same type of player.

Meendering's 24 kills led the Huskers to a 9-15, 15-9, 15-13, 15-12 and 15-7 win before an estimated 500 fans at the NU Coliseum.

"I felt I had something to prove," Meendering said. "I didn't play very well in Hawaii, and I wanted to show

coach and the team I can do it." NU Coach Terry Pettit said he was pleased with Meendering's improved play along with good tempo on offense.

"I thought our team played hard," Pettit said. "The tempo allowed our middle hitters and right-side hitters a lot of opportunities."

Meendering took advantage of those opportunities.

The Hull, Iowa, native, who said she wants to be as much of an impact player as Reitsma, had 45 attempts. During the third game,



Pettit

she pounded down 12 kills to help NU come back from a 4-7 deficit.

Meendering wasn't the only person who came up big.

Junior Tonia Tauke posted 22 kills and hit .439. Senior Megan Korver pounded 16 kills, and junior Mandy Monson had 12.

Sophomore Angie Oxley led NU with 18 digs, and senior Fiona Nepo had 17.

Pettit said the match was better than the one against Hawaii over spring break.

"We played crisper," Pettit said. "Wisconsin is better than Hawaii. They are much more experienced. They are a top-10 team."

Nebraska returns to action Saturday at home for a tournament with Arkansas, Creighton, Kansas and Kansas State.

Track teams make strides

BY ANDREW STRNAD
Staff Reporter

After an airline fiasco last week in Fresno, Calif., which almost cost it the meet, the Nebraska track team responded with a pair of successful meets last weekend.

Cornhusker jumpers and throwers put up several NCAA qualifying performances at the UTEP Track Invitational in El Paso, Texas, while a group of sprinters and middle distance runners did the same at the Tom Botts Invitational in Columbia, Mo.

In El Paso junior Shane Lavy won the high jump with a season-best jump of 7 feet 4 inches, an NCAA provisional mark.

Senior Chris Wright also had a provisional mark by winning the long jump with a leap of 25-7.

Junior Scott Warren claimed the hammer throw competition, improving on his own provisional mark with a toss of 206-9.

Defending national champion Tressa Thompson won the shot put with a throw of 58-3, while junior teammate Doreen Heldt won the hammer throw with her own provisional mark of 177-3. The Lisco native's throw was also good enough to set a meet record.

"Overall, we had pretty good individual performances," NU Head Coach Gary Pepin said.

In Columbia, it was senior Meka Rembert who stole the show in the hurdles.

Rembert swept the 100-meter and 400-meter hurdle races, while clocking meet and stadium records.

Her time of 13.49 seconds in the 100-meter hurdles also was fast enough for an NCAA provisional qualifying

mark, while her time of 57.49 in the 400-meter hurdles was an NCAA automatic qualifying mark.

Several other Huskers also shined at the Botts Invitational including senior Christina Blackmer.

Blackmer broke her own meet record in the 3,000-meters by over six seconds with a time of 9:44.42.

Sophomore Amie Finkner did her part by claiming the 5,000 meters.

The Husker men also got in on the act, as two distance runners won their respective events.

Junior Aaron Johnson captured the 1,500 meters, while Cleophas Boor won the 5,000 meters.

Also winning for the Huskers were junior Scott Nachtigal, who set a meet record in the pole vault (16-6), and freshman Kevin Grant in the long jump.

Huskers drop 2 of 3 against No. 13 Aggies

BASEBALL from page 10

Pete Lythgoe.

"Luckily, this was a day where the wind was blowing out of the yard, and I was able to get enough of it to drive it out of here," Scheschuk said.

In the second game, it was Scheschuk again who dealt two blows to the Huskers by driving two pitches over the fence.

"These were big games for us in terms of positioning for the Big 12 Tournament," Scheschuk said. "They took the wind out of our sails on Friday, but we bounced right back today and that's what good teams do."

For the Huskers (14-14 and 2-7), the loss knocked them back into last place in the Big 12, putting a damper on Van Horn's hopes of playing in the Big 12 Tournament.

The Huskers will play Northern Iowa on Tuesday before returning to Buck Beltzer Field on Friday for a three-game series with Oklahoma.

Husker women split weekend tennis matches

From Staff Reports

With only two weeks before the Big 12 Conference championships, the No. 53 Nebraska women's tennis team was hoping to sweep a weekend series against conference opponents Iowa State and Colorado on the road.

The Cornhuskers (14-7 overall and 4-6 in the Big 12) started off strongly, beating Iowa State 7-2 on Friday, but fell to No. 45 Colorado 5-4 on Saturday. The win was the Buffaloes' second in a row.

Freshman Ndali Ijomah played for the first time in six matches against Iowa State. Ijomah, who has been out with tendonitis since March 19, beat Maggi Agustsson 6-1, 6-0 at No. 5 singles.

The Cyclones won matches at both No. 2 and No. 3 doubles. NU won all six singles matches in straight sets. The closest singles match was at No. 4 singles, where sophomore Gina Pelazini won the second set 7-6 in a tiebreaker.

Nebraska soccer team nearly upsets Tarheels

■ The Huskers play the defending NCAA champs even before falling 1-0.

BY DARREN IVY
Assignment Reporter

Against the North Carolina women's soccer team, almost all teams sacrifice a striker to have an extra defender, Nebraska Coach John Walker said.

Not Nebraska. On Saturday, NU played the NCAA Champion Tar Heels man-for-man, but lost 1-0 when U.S. National Team member Lorrie Fair scored on a header at the 70-minute mark.

Although Nebraska lost, Walker was pleased with how NU played.

"I'm disappointed we lost, but we played very well," Walker said. "We had several good scoring chances and got good efforts from a ton of people."

After the game, UNC Coach Anson Dorrance came over to the Cornhuskers' bench and told them how impressed he was.

NU sophomore midfielder Amy Walsh said Dorrance told the Huskers, "No other team plays straight up the way you guys did

except Notre Dame. We aren't used to people challenging us, and it really frustrated us. We couldn't get anything going."

Walsh said she was disappointed after the game, but Dorrance's words gave her solace.

"It was nice to hear those words," Walsh said. "You could tell it was genuine."

Walker said he was proud of how NU defenders Sharolta Nonen and Jenny Benson matched up with North Carolina's potent strikers.

He also was pleased with the scoring opportunities NU created.

Walsh said the best chance to score came in the first half when she shot on goal. Sophomore Isabelle Morneau then followed up the deflection with a volley that the UNC goalie made an "amazing save" on.

Although NU is winless this spring, Walker said he isn't concerned.

"We could play a lot of other teams and win 4-0 or 5-0, but that wouldn't do anything for us," Walker said. "We've played the top two teams. It gives us a completely realistic picture of where we're at."

"Against them, the speed of play has to be great, and it raises the level of play of our players."

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