Howard resigns from Nebraska

From Staff Reports

Scott Howard, an assistant coach with the Nebraska men's basketball team for the last three seasons, has resigned to pursue other interests in business and basketball, Danny Nee announced this week.

Howard, who has been a college assistant for 11 seasons, has coached at Miami, Southern California, Drake and Southern Illinois.

Nee said that Howard will continue to work in basketball and business, both of which he is currently involved in.

Howard had been one of six finalists for the Northern Iowa job, which was given to Sam Weaver last week.

Howard coached the NU guards and handled recruiting for the team, which went 20-12 this season and lost in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

Doubles spell NU trouble

The fourth seed, Ijomah, also had a reversal of fortune against her opponent, Sarada Ravindra.

Down 4-1 in the third set, Ijomah controlled the rest of the match to win 6-3, 3-6, 6-4.

"I told myself to just hit the ball, and whatever happens, happens," Ijomah said. "It wasn't about winning anymore. I just wanted to look good in front of the home crowd."

To close out the victories for Nebraska, two Husker seniors ended their single careers on a high note.

No. 6 Adriana Dulic defeated Misty Meyer 6-3, 6-3. The second-seeded Lisa Hart also was victorious, defeating Amanda Earhart 6-4, 7-6 (7-3).

Despite the team's loss, Jocobson said, he was not disappointed with the Huskers.
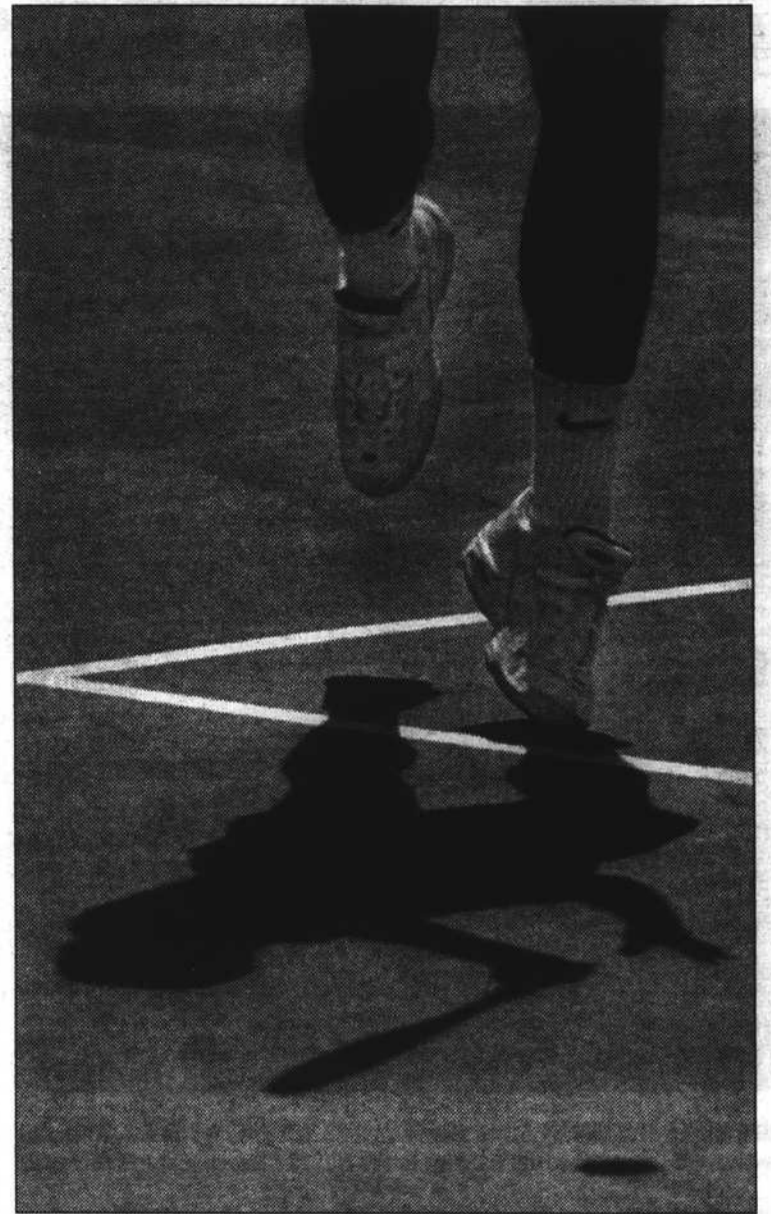
"You can't control outcome," Jocobson said. "You can only control effort. The effort was there, hopefully it will be a character-builder for the future."

Note:

Thursday evening, Nebraska senior Lisa Hart was named the Big 12 Conference No. 2 singles Player of the Year.

Hart is the first Nebraska woman to win a singles conference award since a trio of Huskers won the award in 1978.
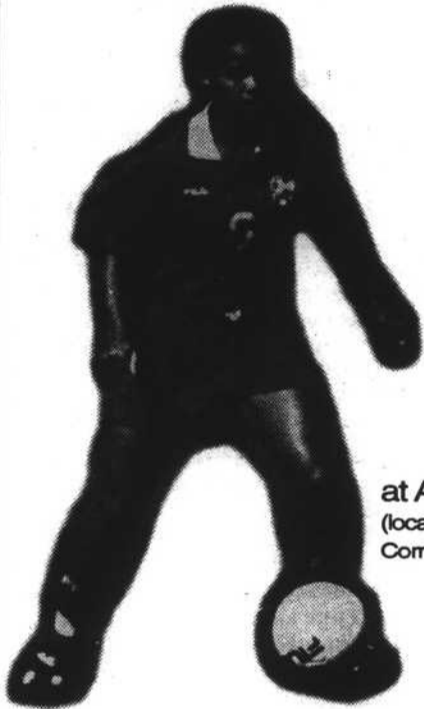
Me and my shadow

MATT MILLER/DN

AFTER LOSING the doubles point and the first three singles matches, the Nebraska men's tennis team fell to Texas Tech 4-0. NU freshman Jorge Abos Sanchez lost the final match of No. 3 singles.

NCAA says athletes can work

"I think it's pathetic," Tauke said. "Half of the athletes are struggling now to make it to class and practice on time, and those who need money are going to get jobs on top of that."

Tauke said that if the NCAA is going to do something to help students get more money, they should provide a stipend of some sort instead of allowing them to get a job.

She also said she thinks many of those involved will take advantage of the new system.

"People cheat the system now, so why should that change?" Tauke said. "Student athletes are offered money under the table. These things happen. It's hard to say no, and that is the choice the student athlete has to make."

Men's Gymnastics Coach Francis Allen said the new rule is a good idea.

"This is one of the first things the NCAA has done in awhile to make a positive impact," Allen said. "I hope people don't over-abuse it."

Allen said he doesn't think the job opportunities will cause more stress for his players.

"I'm not worried about my guys," Allen said.

Men's Basketball Coach Danny Nee said he doesn't think many athletes will take advantage of the opportunity to work.

"I think it's going to be hard on the players because of the time factor," he said. "I think it sounds way better than it really is."

Nee said making the new policy work will be difficult.

"Generally speaking, I think most athletes are going to find it's really hard for them to work," Nee said. "They aren't Superman."

Byrne said the university is going to hire a full-time employee and a support staff to coordinate the program and make sure no one takes advantage of the new measure.

"People will be going out and monitoring the job site and make sure the athletes are receiving the right salary," he said.

Byrne said the employees who will regulate the system will cost NU about $75,000. But he said he doesn't think it is a question of being worth the money.

"The athletes probably think it's worth it," Byrne said. "But it's not a question of how much it costs, it's a question of making sure we have the same opportunities for our athletes as other programs do."