

# 1st impressions good ones for NU freshmen

**SOCCKER** from page 9

aren't afraid to challenge the upper-classmen.

"(In Anderson), I see someone who has come in with the attitude that she not only wants to play, but she wants to start," Everding said. "She's come in like an upper-year player."

"I don't know if (Rheem) is quite as far along as Meghan, but she's a smart player and capable of starting."

Anderson, a 5-foot-7 freshman, was a Parade All-American as a senior at Omaha Burke. As she was being recruited by Notre Dame, Minnesota and Ohio State, she really didn't want to go to school in Nebraska.

But she decided to at least take a recruiting trip to NU, and she said it was the best decision she made.

"When I came and visited, I knew I wanted to come here," Anderson said.

Rheem, Anderson's roommate, also was sold on NU after her visit. And Rheem, a Littleton, Colo., native, got a jump on the other freshmen by playing with juniors Jenny Benson and Lindsey Eddleman this summer on the Denver Diamonds club team before the duo suffered injuries.

"I had been playing with them all summer and couldn't wait to until the

fall," Rheem said. "(Their injuries) really bummed me out."

Everding called Rheem the "best player" Nebraska has ever had in terms of controlling the ball with her feet in tight spaces. Her ability to go one-on-one causes a lot of trouble for defenders, Everding said.

Rheem said she doesn't consciously try to juké defenders, and her moves are not practiced.

All she can figure out is that she did the moves so much as a child that they just became natural.

"Every since I was little, I've liked to play around with the ball," Rheem said.

Although Rheem and Anderson are mature for freshmen, their Cornhusker teammates don't let them forget they are freshmen, Anderson said.

"We have to keep proving ourselves over and over," Anderson said. "It's kind of paying our dues like everyone else has."

Balancing school and living away from home also have reminded them they aren't in high school anymore.

"We are constantly going from one thing to another," Anderson said. "It's tough trying to balance school and soccer."

# Cable deal extended between Big 12, Fox

DALLAS (AP) — Expect to see more Nebraska football games on cable television's Fox Sports Net.

The Big 12 said Thursday it has extended its television deal with the channel through 2006-2007 at a hefty increase.

The conference said the new contract pays more than 80 percent per year more than the previous plan, which would have expired after the 1999-2000 academic year. That original four-year agreement was believed to have been for \$120 million.

An 80-percent hike would jump the annual average to \$54 million. It could be worth even more if the conference exercises a right to renegotiate at the end of the 2002-2003 academic year.

"This contract reflects a vote of confidence in the Big 12," said Robert Hemenway, the Big 12 CEO and chancellor of the University of Kansas. "It demonstrates that the Big 12 not only offers a high level of competition, but it is a product worth an attractive price in the television market."

The package includes 10 football cable telecasts and as many as 12 regionally syndicated games each year. Fox Sports Net also agreed to expand its telecast of women's basketball, women's volleyball, women's gymnastics, wrestling, baseball and track and field.

"The extension of our partnership with Fox Sports Net means a great deal to our universities," said Dave Martin, the league's interim commissioner. "In addition to the significant revenue enhancement, we benefit from Fox Sports Net's commitment to maximizing our exposure in the region for all sports."

Fox Sports Net, which reaches more than 60 million homes through 22 regional sports networks, also has deals with the Pac-10 for football and men's basketball and Conference USA for football.

"We are proud to have the Big 12 conference as a staple of both our national and regional collegiate programming well into the 21st century," said Bob Thompson, executive vice president for Fox-Liberty Networks.

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