

Sports

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Sports Opinion



James Nicas

Athletic Dept. needs lesson in economics

Last week, I received an application for Nebraska men's basketball tickets for the upcoming season. After seeing the price being charged for this year's tickets, it is clear that nobody in the Athletic Department has taken a class in microeconomics.

More specifically, if any of the department members did take that class, they must have slept through the lecture on supply and demand.

Supply and demand is a simple concept. If supply decreases or demand increases, the price should go up. But it is also true that as supply increases or demand decreases, the price should go down.

Football ticket prices have steadily risen the past few years. Students do not like it, but there is an increasing demand and supply is constant, so prices should go up.

However, over the past few years, students have treated men's basketball games like the plague. Most students have avoided them at all cost.

Last year an average of 372 students attended each game at \$3.50 a ticket — not exactly a rounding show of support.

Instead of lowering the price to encourage students to come, the price stayed the same. As of Tuesday, only 124 students bought tickets for this year.

Imagine if it cost students only \$1 a game to buy tickets this year. Students would be more likely to sit through Team Pella and Southwest Texas State if it only cost \$17 instead of \$59.50 for season tickets. I would expect the income generated would be close to last year's level, if they were only interested in generating money.

But there would also be extra benefits. I do not think Danny Nee would mind more students at games. His feelings should not be hurt if hundreds more students attend games because prices are cheaper. The extra student participation would help change the Devaney Center from the quiet mausoleum it has been the past few years.

With Tyrone Lue gone, the anticipation for this year is as low as ever. The Athletic Department has offered students free gear, tried to give the games an NBA feel and they often let us watch those amusing Cloggers at halftime.

But they still have not figured out why students do not attend games.

Somebody, anybody, over in the ticket office needs to wake up and realize students do not want to pay sixty beans to watch men's basketball.

To get students to attend games, they need to lower the price.

It is as simple as supply and demand.

James Nicas is a senior marketing and management major and a Daily Nebraskan staff writer.

Injuries hamper Huskers

Starting QB not declared by Solich

BY ADAM KLINKER
Staff writer

The Nebraska football practice Thursday afternoon experienced something new for the week — no injuries.



Solich

After a week of practice plagued by injuries to key players and continuing ailments hampering others, the Cornhuskers will go into Saturday's game against Alabama-Birmingham with four casualties.

"Hopefully we can put an end to the injuries," NU Coach Frank Solich said. "The first part of the week, we prepared some guys who are now unable to play ... that's always a concern to you."

In addition to I-back DeAngelo Evans and free safety Clint Finley, senior defensive tackle Jason Wiltz and senior wingback Lance Brown will be on the sidelines against the Blazers.

Sophomore quarterback Bobby Newcombe was dressed for Thursday's practice without pads and went through a light workout.

"With a player like Bobby, he always wants to get back on the field and go a hundred miles an hour," Solich said. "We had to make sure that he understood we just wanted him to work at half speed."

Solich said he soon expected to have an answer to whether Newcombe or freshman Eric Crouch would start at quarterback for the Huskers on Saturday.

Solich said he would be comfortable in allowing Newcombe to start against UAB despite the fact that he has missed nearly a week of hard practice.

"If he is healthy and if there is no more risk, then of course you

Football Starters

Nebraska Starters

Offense

Pos.	No.	Name	Ht.	Wt.
QB	10	Bobby Newcombe	6-2	200
RB	36	Correll Buckhalter	6-0	225
FB	45	Joel Makovicka	5-11	240
WB	5	Shevin Wiggins	5-11	200
SE	6	Kenny Cheatham	6-4	210
TE	88	Sheldon Jackson	6-4	245
LT	68	Adam Julch	6-5	315
LG	63	James Sherman	6-2	295
C	58	Josh Heske	6-3	290
RG	72	Ben Gessford	6-2	290
RT	65	Jason Schwab	6-1	300
PK	35	Kris Brown	5-10	205

UAB Starters

Offense

Pos.	No.	Name	Ht.	Wt.
QB	16	Daniel Dixon	6-3	195
RB	5	Lucius Foster	5-10	185
FB	32	Bernard Anderson	6-1	217
WB	20	Maurice Gallery	5-11	180
SE	2	Darius Malone	6-3	185
FL	11	Quentin Troupe	6-0	170
TE	87	Undrae Crosby	6-5	262
LT	75	Joel Cain	6-4	275
LG	65	Preston Fray	6-5	285
C	55	Brandon Herring	6-2	265
RG	71	Tim Meeders	6-3	290
RT	66	Melvin Sidney	6-4	305
PK	27	Jake Arians	5-10	180

Defense

Pos.	No.	Name	Ht.	Wt.
LR	57	Chad Kelsay	6-3	250
NT	96	Steve Warren	6-1	305
DT	99	Jason Wiltz	6-4	310
RR	84	Mike Rucker	6-6	260
SLB	46	Brian Shaw	6-1	215
MLB	44	Jay Foreman	6-1	240
WLB	27	Eric Johnson	6-1	205
LCB	16	Erwin Swiney	6-0	185
FS	21	Mike Brown	5-10	205
ROV	25	Joe Walker	5-10	200
RCB	22	Ralph Brown	5-9	180
P	23	Bill Laffeur	5-11	200

Defense

Pos.	No.	Name	Ht.	Wt.
DE	8	Derrick Cloud	6-3	250
DT	99	Pernell Davis	6-4	305
NG	69	Curtis Jeter	5-11	290
DE	88	Sterrick Morgan	6-3	265
SLB	43	Jonathan Sledge	6-1	215
WLB	47	Brian Smith	6-3	252
MLB	52	Shannon Monroe	6-2	253
CB	21	Rodregis Brooks	5-11	175
FS	18	Kris Neal	6-2	205
SS	44	Wes Foss	5-11	180
CB	9	Omar Parker	6-1	175

JON FRANK/DN

play him," Solich said. "(Newcombe doesn't) want to miss games. If the doctors give the OK on it, then it's pretty clear-cut that they feel he's not at risk injury-wise."

Senior center Josh Heske said it really doesn't matter to the team who will be taking the snaps.

"Either way, it doesn't matter to us who's back there," Heske said. "We're going to do the job and we don't expect anything to change."

On Wednesday, the Husker defense sustained a setback as Wiltz went down with an ankle sprain.

"That was really a blow to us," Solich said. "He had more factors than anybody else on our team from his play against Louisiana Tech."

With both Wiltz and Finley out, the Huskers again will look to Mike Brown to step in at free safety for Finley and Joe Walker will fill in for Brown at rover.

Sophomore Loran Kaiser will take Wiltz's job at defensive tackle. Freshman Jason Lohr, who saw action on 17 plays against Louisiana Tech, will again be the backup on Saturday.

"He's not easily replaced," Solich said of Wiltz. "But we feel

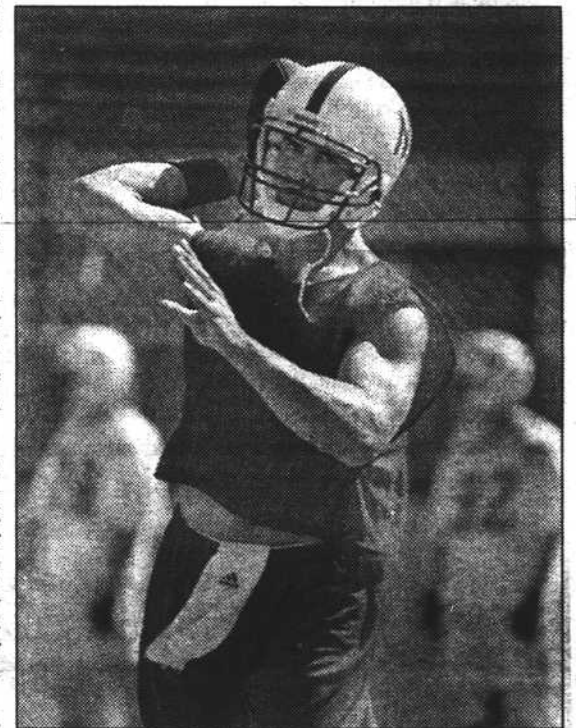
very comfortable about those guys (Kaiser and Lohr)."

Solich said Wiltz could miss between two and three weeks. The severity of the sprain, which is very high on the ankle, will determine his time spent out.

Lance Brown will also be out for two to three weeks with a slight fracture in his leg, suffered in practice on Monday.

With the injuries, Saturday will become a rallying point for the Husker defense, especially after a game in which senior rush end Mike Rucker said they felt embarrassed.

"It's safe to say we're going to have a better defensive performance this week," Rucker said. "It'll be a lot different."



SCOTT McCLURG/DN

NEBRASKA FRESHMAN Eric Crouch practices Thursday afternoon at Memorial Stadium. Crouch could be Nebraska's starting quarterback this Saturday against Alabama-Birmingham.

Meandering paces NU in victory

BY JAMES NICAS
Staff Reporter

The Nebraska volleyball team went into their West Coast trip Thursday night wanting to show they belonged among the nation's best.



Korver

With their victory over San Diego, the fifth-ranked Cornhuskers jumped over the first hurdle of their three-day trip.

Sophomore Nancy Meendering pounded 18 kills to pace the Huskers (2-0) in a 15-9, 15-8, 15-11 victory over the No. 21 Toreros (1-1) in the first game of the San Diego State Tournament in San Diego.

"Nancy had a good game tonight," senior middle blocker

Volleyball Score	
Nebraska (2-0)	15 15 15
San Diego (0-1)	9 8 11
Total Kills	
Nebraska	50 (Meendering 18)
San Diego	53 (Yanchulova 20)
Hit Percentage	NU .381
	USD .162

Megan Korver said. "Whenever she touched the ball, we seemed to do really well."

Nebraska opened comfortable leads in each of the three sets, but San Diego made runs to make it close in every game.

However, Korver said NU was never really threatened in the match. "It was not really a close game tonight," Korver said. "We would get stuck on seven or 10 for awhile, but we were able to pick up our game."

For the match, NU had 50 kills and hit .381. Along with Meendering's 18 kills, Korver had 11 and sophomore outside hitter Angie Oxley added eight.

Although Nebraska dominated

the match, the Toreros had more kills. San Diego's 53 kills were offset by their .162 hitting percentage.

The difference in the match could be seen in USD's 29 errors compared to 10 for the Huskers.

NU also held a 13-5 advantage in team blocks, paced by one solo block and seven block assists by Meendering.

Even though Nebraska controlled the match, Korver said the team was not satisfied with the win.

"We were happy with the win, but we are not satisfied with how we played," Korver said. "It was a learning experience for the rest of the season."

The San Diego match also was the return for senior outside hitter Jamie Krondak. Since spraining her left foot Aug. 24, she has been kept out of the previous two matches.

Krondak played only in the back row Thursday night, but Korver said her presence was felt in the match.

"Jamie came in and served really

"We were happy with the win, but we are not satisfied with how we played."

MEGAN KORVER
middle blocker

well," Korver said. "We had some trouble getting points, and she served tough and helped us run some points."

Tonight, Nebraska will face the fourth-ranked Stanford at 9:30. Korver said the match against San Diego was beneficial to help them prepare for the Cardinals.

"It helped us see where we are, and it was good preparation for Stanford."