

Epley names Husker Power Athlete Finalists

From staff reports

Boyd Epley, Nebraska's director of athletic performance, announced the 14 Husker Power Athletes of the Year for each sport Tuesday.

The winners, who become finalists for the athletic department's male and female Husker Power Athlete of the Year, were selected based on effort and performances in the weight room.

"To be named the Husker Power Athlete of the Year means you represent all the Nebraska athletes from each sport," Epley said. "It will be very difficult to determine one overall win-

ner from this group of candidates."

The women's winners were Cori McDill, basketball; Samantha Ashley, diving; Amy Walsh, soccer; Jennifer Williams, softball; Sasha Van Hamburg, swimming; Erin Wibbels, track and field; and Nancy Meendering, volleyball.

The male winners are Kyle Vanden Bosch, football; Larry Florence, basketball; Bert Locklin, diving; Adam Pine, swimming; Joe Erdkamp, track and field; Jose DeAnda, wrestling; and Fungai Tongoona, tennis.

The male and female Husker Power Athletes of the Year will be named at a banquet Friday.

Lottery fails to sell allotted tickets

From staff reports

After selling 3,146 student football tickets last week, the Nebraska athletic ticket office is looking to find student buyers for the more than 5,300 tickets that remain.

Following a decreasing trend over the last decade, first-week student ticket sales fell to their lowest mark in the 1990s.

But NU ticket office manager John Anderson said he expects that the students will buy the remaining tickets, and the allotment will be filled for the 1999 season.

"It's just human nature; people procrastinate," Anderson said. "I believe we'll sell our allotment, now or

later."

In 1998, after 3,977 student tickets were sold in the opening week, the ticket office still managed to sell about 8,400 tickets total, just 100 under the allocated amount. The remaining tickets were sold to donors.

Anderson said that for the 1998 season, he took orders up until three weeks before the first game before dispensing the rest to the donors.

He said he didn't know if he would do that again, but said that he will try to keep the door opened to students at least until August 1.

Anderson said the ticket office will still pursue its advertising campaign and will continue to lobby students to buy the \$110 tickets before opening the sales up to the donors.

NU prepares for Jays

Huskers get wins over Lopers, Mavericks in tuneup

BY ADAM KLINKER
Senior staff writer

Rounding out two days of intrastate competition, the Nebraska baseball team heads to Omaha tonight for a 7 p.m. contest with Creighton at Rosenblatt Stadium.

Following back-to-back wins over Nebraska-Omaha and Nebraska-Kearney, the Cornhuskers turn their sights on the state's other Division I squad for the second game of a three game series played out over this season.

NU won the previous contest over the Bluejays in Lincoln on April 7 by a score of 5-4. The game went 10 innings before a Danny Kimura sacrifice fly brought home the Husker victory.

This time around, NU Coach Dave Van Horn said he expects another solid performance in the Nebraska-Creighton rivalry.

"It was a really good ball game last

week," Van Horn said. "We're looking for another good ball game and it's great experience for our guys to play up there."

After the 8-3 win over UNO and the 15-3 trouncing of UNK, the Huskers (25-10 overall, 10-5 in the Big 12 Conference) are back on a four-game winning streak and have won five of their last six after being swept in three by Texas A&M on April 2-3.

NU's renewed good fortune began with the win over the Jays and now, said Husker outfielder Justin Cowan, Nebraska will look to maintain their winning ways against CU, though it may be no easy task.

"No matter what the score says, it'll be a dogfight," said Cowan, who had seven RBIs on two home runs in Tuesday's action against UNK. "We had to come back and beat them last time; it'll be a tough game again."

Creighton comes into the game with a 23-10 record, led by six starters with batting averages above .300. Ryan Gripp leads the squad with a

.415 average, 13 homers and 53 RBIs.

The Jays are third in the Missouri Valley Conference with an 8-3 mark and, like the Huskers, are on a four game winning streak of their own.

As Cowan and Van Horn both said, all the marks seem to draw themselves down the middle in comparing the two teams.

Nebraska	15
UNK	3

"We need to come out and treat this like a league game," Cowan said. "We're pretty evenly matched with them; both of us have good records. We just need to come out and take it to them like we can."

In other Nebraska baseball news, Husker first baseman/designated hitter Ken Harvey was named the Big 12 player of the week for a conference-record third time this season.

Last week Harvey hit .615 (8 for 13) with a home run, two doubles, 4 RBI, five runs scored and a 1.000 slugging percentage.

Pettit looks to refine team following spring exhibition

From staff reports

Terry Pettit got a few of his questions answered at Texas last weekend as his Nebraska volleyball squad won two of three matches at a spring exhibition series.

Still, Pettit said, some things remain to be seen.

"At times we played real well but there were other situations that I thought we could have handled better," Pettit said. "Hopefully, we'll see some more progress, though."

Against Texas-San Antonio, NU

took two of two games. Nebraska also defeated Texas in three and lost to Florida in three.

"We looked as strong as we should at this point in the spring," Pettit said. "But the players know there's some refinements to be made."

One of the main areas of concern centered on Jill McWilliams, the new Cornhusker setter who replaces two-time All-American Fiona Nepo.

Pettit said that McWilliams performed well for the most part in the series, but, like the rest of the team, there is some room to grow into her new role.

Newcombe takes on rehabilitation

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he'll be back at full speed, Newcombe has no doubts that he will be ready when Nebraska opens its fall season. In fact, he expects to be stronger physically, as well as mentally, than he was before the injury.

"It's kind of an enhancement of wisdom - a humbling experience, but it also gave me confidence, too," Newcombe said. "Kind of a silent confidence that says you can go from having someone tell you that you probably won't be able to play to coming back and being much better than you were."

The support of his teammates, he

said, was also helping him work through his rehabilitation process.

He's also received support from fans, though they're sometimes more concerned with his injury status than his well-being.

"Sometimes it gets irritating because some people don't know I've been asked it about 100 times right before they asked it," Newcombe said. "It kind of stinks when someone comes up to me and asks me how my knee is instead of saying, 'Hello, Bobby.'"

But it's something he's become accustomed to since last fall. More than anything, Newcombe said, he has learned to deal with attention and criticism - from fans and the media.

"At first, I said, 'Aw crap, this really sucks,'" Newcombe said. "Now I evaluate the situation and the whole experience and I'm kind of glad I had to go through it."

"It still sucks, but it definitely toughened my skin and made me a lot more realistic. It gave me a lot more confidence in myself."

Warren focuses efforts on javelin after wrist injury

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transfer Cory Lehman, for helping him progress this season.

"We have four people that should go to nationals in the javelin," Warren said. "It is nice to have good training partners; Cory is a good friend and I am glad that he transferred because his competition has helped tremendously."

Lehman refers to Warren as a "tremendous leader who has brought me along." He also makes no secret of his goal to beat Warren's javelin record in the near future.

"I would like to beat it this year," Lehman said. "I keep telling him every week that I am going to break it, but I am sure he will get it out there even farther again."

Last week's Sierra-Providence Invitational marked the first time that Lehman beat Warren, who was hampered by a back injury. The injury forced Warren to miss the Clemson Invitational and perform below expectations in El Paso, Texas.

The injury may keep Warren from performing at 100 percent until the conference championships. His recovery time should be helped by his drive and focus, Colligan said.

"He is as stubborn as they come," he said. "I don't mind saying that because I know that most of the time it works to his advantage."

Although he may be sidelined by injury, that does not diminish his importance to the team. He is a great leader whose focus is incomparable.

"He is like another coach out there," Kostek said. "He has a tremendous technical eye for all of the events."

Warren's goals for the season include a top-three finish at nationals, a top-five finish at the USA Outdoor Championships, and to throw the javelin 250 feet. Right now his personal best stands at 243 feet, 4 inches, the school record.

Warren's outdoor personal bests include a throw of 56-10 1/4 in the shot put, a mark of 182-10 in the discus, and a heave of 206-9 in the hammer throw.

After this season, Warren plans to stay in Lincoln and train with the coaches in preparation for the 2000 Olympic Trials.

"He looks beyond his collegiate career," Colligan said. "As far as where he could make an impact for himself relative to his life as a post-collegian. He is not only one of the top collegians but also one of the top Americans as well."

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