

# NU goes west for Mt. Sac

■ The Husker men and women look to improve on an already strong season.

BY JOSH CAMENZIND  
Staff writer

California is the destination this weekend for 32 members of the Nebraska track and field team.

While on the West Coast, NU will be competing in three meets. The opening competition is Friday in the Ponomo-Pitzer Invitational. The Huskers next travel to Long Beach State for the Long Beach Invitational. The weekend concludes Sunday with the Mt. Sac Relays in Walnut, Calif.

In addition to those competing in California, 38 Huskers will go to Central Missouri State for the Mule Relays on Friday.

The team will look to score high in the Mt. Sac Relays with Scott Warren, Shane Lavy, Becky Beachler, Cory Lehman and Dalhia Ingram competing. The women's 4x400 meter relay team will also look to better its time as they return from a one-week break.

Junior college transfer Lehman will look to continue his rise in the javelin as his personal best throw of 234 feet, 5 inches ranks him fifth nationally. Lavy, a senior, is also looking to move up in the national scheme of things in which he is currently ranked seventh. His best jump of the season is 7-3/4 and he has yet to

lose this year. Beachler is hoping to improve upon her provisional qualifying mark in the shot put at 48-6, while Ingram is looking to do the same in the triple (42-6 3/4) and long jump (21-4).

Javelin thrower Cassi Morelock has secured an automatic qualifying mark with her throw of 175-1 at the Jim Click Shootout, which ranks her third nationally. Melissa Price has done the same in the hammer throw with a mark of 195-10 at the Clemson Invitational, which ranks her seventh.

The men's team is now ranked seventh in the United States Track Coaches Association dual rankings, trailing Tennessee by 29.2 points. The women are ranked third as they trail No. 1 Brigham Young by 12.18 points.

# Strawberry arrested again for coke possession, soliciting

■ The New York Yankee had been turning his life around in rehabilitation.

TAMPA, Fla. (AP) - Darryl Strawberry's turbulent baseball career took a downward turn when he was charged with possession of cocaine and soliciting a prostitute.

The New York Yankees outfielder, in a gold-colored 1999 Ford Explorer, solicited an undercover officer for sex for \$50, said Sgt. M. Hamlin of the Tampa Police Department after Wednesday night's arrest about three miles from the team's training complex.

Upon being searched by officers K. Daniel and B. Holder at 10:10 p.m. EDT, 0.3 grams of powder cocaine wrapped in a \$20 bill was found inside of Strawberry's wallet, the police said.

The powder was tested and proved positive for cocaine, according to the police report.

Strawberry was booked at 12:22 a.m. today at the Hillsborough County Jail. After he had his fingerprints taken and was photographed for a mug shot, he was released on \$6,000 bond shortly after 1 a.m.

The 37-year-old outfielder, an eight-time All-Star, has been in Tampa at the Yankees' extended spring training camp while he works back into shape following colon can-

cer surgery last Oct. 3.

After the Yankees won the World Series without him, New York City Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani praised Strawberry "for the comeback he's made as a baseball player and the comeback he's making in life."

He was in New York last weekend to receive his World Series ring, then returned to Tampa. He was not expected to rejoin the Yankees until next month, after a stint with Columbus of the Triple-A International League. The Yankees did not want him to join Columbus until he completed chemotherapy.

Strawberry's list of substance abuse problems is lengthy.

Major league baseball suspended him for 60 days in 1995 after he tested positive for cocaine. The previous year, he entered the Betty Ford Center in Rancho Mirage, Calif., and spent four weeks undergoing treatment for a substance abuse problem.

In 1990, while with the New York Mets, he entered the Smithers Center in New York for alcohol rehabilitation.

In addition to substance abuse, Strawberry also ran afoul of tax laws. In April 1995, a federal court ordered him to repay \$350,000 in back taxes and sentenced him to six months of home confinement. But the order allowed him to leave home for practice and games, and to travel to road games.

Strawberry, who came to prominence with the Mets in the early 1980s and won the NL Rookie of the Year award in 1983, also has had off-and-on problems in Los Angeles, where he was accused of failing to make timely alimony payments to his ex-wife Lisa.

He rebounded after signing with the Yankees in June 1995 and had remained drug free, with regular testing by major league baseball. Strawberry had his best season in seven years in 1998, hitting .247 with 24 home runs and 57 RBIs in 295 at-bats.

The Yankees, because of complicated rules involving baseball's luxury tax, shifted him to a minor league roster during the offseason, fearing he would not be healthy enough to play by opening day.

Strawberry, the No. 1 pick in baseball's June 1980 amateur draft, joined with Dwight Gooden to help lead the Mets to the 1986 World Series title. Gooden also has had cocaine problems and currently is with the Cleveland Indians.

Strawberry has a .250 career average with 332 homers and 994 RBIs in 16 major league seasons with the Mets, Los Angeles Dodgers, San Francisco Giants and Yankees. He led the NL with 39 homers in 1988 and topped 100 RBIs three times with the Mets from 1987-90.

# Huskers wounded yet ready for spring game

SPRING from page 11

One of those players, who will be making his first spring scrimmage appearance, is fullback Willie Miller. Miller missed the first part of spring after having surgery on his knee during the winter.

One constant all spring has been NU senior lineman James Sherman. Sherman said the injuries on offense have made it more challenging for everyone.

"We have guys out and a lot of younger players in there on the offense," Sherman said. "But we need to execute the best we can, and the top offensive line is doing a pretty good job of that."

The list of offensive players not participating includes quarterback Bobby Newcombe, I-backs DeAngelo Evans, Dan Alexander, DeAntae Grixby and Alik Tillery, linemen Adam Julch and Billy Diekmann, and wingback Frankie London.

Part of the offensive struggles have been related to the dominating performance of the defense.

The defensive dominance hasn't just been by the Blackshirts. Defensive Coach Charlie McBride has called the defense one of the deepest in some time.

A question mark coming into the spring about who would be rush ends has turned into a spot that goes at least

three-deep on each side, said Rush Ends Coach Nelson Barnes.

"I think I've found some guys who are going to be able to play," Barnes said. "For the most part, I think we've answered the questions about how the rush ends are going to perform next year in terms of leadership, in terms of hustle and in terms of being able to make some big plays."

Injuries to two top returning linebackers, Tony Ortiz and Julius Jackson, have given freshman Randy Stella valuable playing time.

Stella himself missed the first week of practice with a knee injury. However, since he has returned at full-speed, he has been impressive, Solich said.

"It's been a while since Randy has really been able to do things on the football field the way he's capable of doing them," Solich said. "But he was moving around well. He showed his speed and quickness, and that's very promising."

A change in this year's Spring Game will be that Solich isn't calling the plays.

For the red team, Dan Young and Ron Brown will coach the No. 1 offense and George Darlington will head the defense.

The white team with the No. 1 defense will have Turner Gill and Milt Tenopir coaching the offense and McBride heading the defense.

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## friday night?

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- live music
- fellowship and more!

ATTENTION: EVERYONE CONCERNED ABOUT PEOPLE OF COLOR OPEN FORUMS

The Chancellor's Commission on the People of Color will host two open forums:

- 1) Monday, April 19, 1999, 7:00 pm, Student Union
- 2) Monday, April 19, 1999, 7:00 pm, Student Union

An important goal of the Commission is to improve campus life for people of color at UNL. These forums are meant to provide an opportunity for the university community to converse with the Chancellor and other UNL administrators about issues that you find pertinent. Your input will help improve our campus.

## Nebraska Tennis

Fri., April 16 at 1 pm  
NU Men vs. Oklahoma

Sat., April 17 at 10 am  
NU Women vs. Baylor

Sat., April 18  
NU Women vs. CU at 10 am  
NU Men vs. OSU at 2 pm

at Cather-Pound Tennis Courts  
• Free Admission •

# Rucker trains in Rockies in preparation for NFL

DRAFT from page 13

Good athletic ability and versatility are traits that teams like about Foreman. They also like how he performed in the camps.

Foreman, whose father, Chuck, played in the NFL, said he was confident about how he's positioned himself.

"I did everything I needed to do," Foreman said. "I interviewed well. I practiced well. I tested well. I feel good because I've done everything I could."

Former tight end Sheldon Jackson also feels well about the progress he's made since the Holiday Bowl.

Jackson said his workouts at the combine and for individual teams have helped improve his stock ten-fold. He said teams like his character, his ability to get vertical between defenders and his potential to improve.

Jackson also wasn't picky

about where he wants to go, but he said if it were up to him, he would be selected by a "West Coast" team or the Minnesota Vikings because they play in a dome.

Chad Kelsay, a former rush end at NU, doesn't have any idea where he would be selected or if he even would be selected in the first six rounds.

He said he doesn't put much stock into the mock drafts and analysts comments.

"A lot of people can pick the Top 10," Kelsay said. "After that, they don't know. It would be real nice to go on the first day, but I just want a chance to prove myself."

So do the rest of the Huskers that ESPN SportsZone lists as possible draft candidates. The list includes Kris Brown, Jason Wiltz, Joel Makovica, Kenny Cheatham and Josh Heskeu.

"It's all about waiting now," Jackson said.

# NU's Wiggins gets 6th year

From staff reports

Shevin Wiggins, a receiver and kick returner for the Nebraska football team, has been granted a sixth year of eligibility by the NCAA after it reversed its previous decision.

On Thursday, an NCAA appeals committee said it would allow Wiggins to have an extra season of eligibility, providing he "would meet all the eligibility requirements for competition."

The NCAA based its ruling on a recent court decision that allows students with learning disabilities to regain the year of eligibility they missed.

Wiggins, who was recruited in 1994, had to sit out the subsequent season, which was followed by a redshirt season in 1995.

"That is great news for Shevin and for our football team," NU Coach Frank Solich said to The Associated Press.

"Shevin is a talented wide receiver, and has played a very important role on our offense the last couple of seasons. He has also been an outstanding contributor on special teams."