

Cornerbacks vie for left-side slot

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emergency.
Craver, on the other hand, played in all 12 games as a backup on the left side to Swiney last season. He contributed 25 tackles, one interception and three pass breakups.
Swiney started nine games his freshman year and all 12 last season. Battling through a groin injury last year, he contributed 61 tackles, two

sacks and 13 pass breakups.
But he missed all spring with the lingering injury, and so far this fall, Swiney has shadowed only 20 yards behind plays in shorts and a T-shirt.
Defensive Backs Coach George Darlington says it's a guessing game as to when Swiney will be back.
"It's a matter of when he can go out there and be relatively pain-free and have flexibility," Darlington said. "Until he does that, it would be silly to

have him out there because all he will do is aggravate his injury."
Until then, he will contribute by helping out Craver and Groce in the same all-for-one and one-for-all idea they use when they compete together on the field.
"I try to help every chance I get," Swiney said. "That's the only part I like about being off of the field - I get a chance to help those guys, and ... it also helps me as well."

Scholarships aid rifle recruiting

By SEAN CALLAHAN
Staff writer

With a limited number of female rifling participants across the country, recruiting doesn't come easy for Nebraska Rifle Coach Karen Anthony.
The addition of 3.6 full scholarships, however, made things a little easier for the Cornhusker squad - in its second year of existence.
Along with two returning sophomores, NU will add three freshmen to the roster this year.

The incoming recruiting class, Anthony said, should eventually put the Huskers in competition for the national title.

"I think that even this year, we would certainly have a chance to make it in the top-10 teams in the country," Anthony said. "That certainly isn't a guarantee because it depends on a lot of things. Since it is a small team of five, it depends on keeping everybody healthy."

The Huskers' main goal this season, Anthony said, is to qualify for the national meet.

With only two returnees from last year's team, Anthony said, the Huskers

"This year, we would certainly have a chance to make it in the top-10."

KAREN ANTHONY
NU rifle coach

will have to look to their freshmen to step up. The top shooter on the squad, Anthony said, is freshman Nichole Allaire.

In her junior career, Allaire did not finish anywhere other than first place.
Anthony said having scholarship money gave her a recruiting advantage and helped attract attention from recruits across the country, including Allaire, from Kearny, N.J.

Freshmen Amanda Trujillo from Brush, Colo., and Victoria Ridge from Langford, Penn., also join NU this fall.

The Huskers will open their season Oct. 16, at the Westpoint Military Academy. They will compete at home for the first time Dec. 4.

Bahensky swings into leadership role

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low that."
Bahensky, who captured titles in both the State Stroke and Match Play tournaments over the summer, is ranked among the top 40 women amateurs in the country.

Krapfl said Bahensky has the ability to become an All-American this year.

"I really believe she can be one of the best players in the country," she said. "This summer she realized she was a great player, and she's letting herself shoot lower scores."

"Now, Elizabeth is extremely mentally tough. No matter what the situation, she doesn't let distractions get to her."

Bahensky credits a short-game lesson she took two years ago as the beginning of the turnaround in her game.

"I was a terrible putter my freshman year," she said. "I'm getting more consistent with my short game,

and it has made my scores that much more consistent."

Aside from her personal scores, Bahensky is also up to Krapfl's challenge and hopes to guide NU to its first postseason appearance since 1996.

"We haven't made it to regionals since my freshman year," Bahensky said. "But this year, I know we're good enough to make it to nationals, and that's something I've definitely wanted to do since I got here."

As for the future, Bahensky said she is becoming more interested in pursuing golf after graduation.

"I have to see how the season goes and gain distance - and maybe I'll give it some consideration," she said. Krapfl doesn't doubt that possibility.

"The play she had this summer should catapult her into an outstanding senior year. Her scoring average is certainly going to go down. If she wants to continue to play golf, she definitely has the talent."

Rose not concerned with team's ranking

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But Nebraska Coach Terry Pettit isn't exactly buying Rose's skepticism. The two coaches have been involved in many classic duels over the last 20 years.

The last duel came in last season's NCAA semifinal, in which PSU punished the Cornhuskers early and held on to win in four sets - shattering the dreams of Pettit, who could have won his second national championship in four years.

Though he said he hasn't seen any videotape of the Lions, and despite the fact his team might not even face PSU this weekend, Pettit said he does know what to expect from a typical Penn State team.

"I'm not surprised they're ranked No. 1," Pettit said. "I voted them No. 1. The preseason rankings usually are based on last year's performance. Considering they have those three

returning players, they'll be tough to beat."

"For the last five years or so, their setting has been exceptional, and they've had strong blocking. But they've always had great floor defense - that's been the same for the last 20 years."

If NU and Penn State happen to hook up Saturday night, it will be another chapter in what has been a storied national rivalry in college volleyball.

The match-up would not only be a scintillating rematch to last year's Final Four contest but would also bring back memories of the five-set thriller in the 1996 NCAA East Regional Championship at the Coliseum, which NU won.

"Oh yeah, there's a revenge factor from last year," junior outside hitter Nancy Meendering said. "That happens when two teams as successful as we are get together."

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