

Huskers roll past Jayhawks in straight games

From Staff Reports

There was no letdown in the Nebraska volleyball team as it continued its winning ways with a three-game (15-5, 15-9, 15-11) breeze over Kansas on Wednesday night in Lawrence.

Nebraska coasted through games one and two until struggling to close the Jayhawks in game three after

building a 13-3 lead.

KU sparked an 8-1 run to bring the score to 14-11, before the Huskers closed it out on a block from Amber Holmquist and Nancy Meendering.

"I thought we came out and played good defense and played tough initially," Nebraska Head Coach Terry Pettit said. "At the end we got a little disorganized."

The Huskers ran out of substitutions in game three and were forced

into using a 5-1 offense instead of their 6-2 attack, which has been their alignment this season.

It made little difference, however, as Nebraska improved its record to 18-5 overall and 10-3 in the conference. The loss dropped the Jayhawks to a 15-9, with a 6-7 conference record.

As has been the case much of the season, Nancy Meendering laid claim to the most kills on the floor with 15

for the match. Angie Oxley also pounded down 10 kills for NU and a .444 hitting percentage.

The Huskers also pulled service aces out of their sleeves all match long, with five of the team's eight coming from freshman Greichaly Cepero.

After starting the match with a .364 hitting percentage, the Huskers sank down to a .244 average by match end.

The Jayhawks sputtered all night, finishing with a .141 hitting average for the match.

The lone bright spot for KU may have been the play of Amanda Reves,

Nebraska	15	15	15
Kansas	5	9	11

who finished with 13 kills.

The win by the Huskers continues to keep the heat on first-place Texas in the conference race, which owns only a one-game lead over Nebraska.

Pettit was encouraged by his team's progress and saw enough positives come out of Wednesday's match, as the offense continues to find its groove.

"I was very pleased with our tempo and ball control," he said.

Ivy: NU's Saunders roots for father with NFL's Rams

NFL from page 11

remember. She lived in San Diego while her father was the head coach for the San Diego Chargers from 1986-88.

Then in 1989, the Saunders family relocated to Overland Park, Kan., when Al Saunders became a wide receivers coach with the Chiefs. But last year, Coach Marty Schottenheimer was let go by the Chiefs and so, too, was Saunders, his top assistant.

Because of his NFL experience, Saunders was offered jobs by the Seattle Seahawks, New York Giants and the Rams.

He chose to stay close to his daughter.

Coach Dick Vermeil felt fortunate to hire him.

"He's the best wide receivers coach I've ever seen," Vermeil said. "I've always respected him and, in fact, I recommended him for head coaching jobs, so I think the world of the guy."

Kori thinks the world of her father, too, but being the daughter of a professional football coach hasn't been all fun and games for her.

"He would come home after I went to bed and leave before I was up," Kori said. "But when he was home he

would keep his business at work."

Kori appreciated that, and thus relied upon her mother, Karen, to find out how things were with the Chiefs.

Being in Lincoln, Kori has followed the same process this year. Plus she has found another Rams fan and source of information in teammate Isabelle Morneau. Morneau hears from her close friend, Grant Wistrom, after each game.

"It makes it fun having another Rams fan on the team," Morneau said. "I usually get the news quicker so I tell her what is happening."

But on Oct. 17 against Missouri, Kori had a surprise for Morneau.

"I was still on the field signing autographs, and she comes running over to me and tells me Grant scored a 91-yard touchdown," Morneau said.

After seeing their first Rams games this past weekend, Morneau and Saunders should get to see a couple more games the next two weekends as NU probably won't have games scheduled.

"I will become a regular Rams fan as soon as I can," Kori said.

Morneau added: "Maybe we can go to a playoff game together later on."

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