

Another test faces NU women

BYU beat Washington by 23 earlier this season

BY SEAN CALLAHAN
Staff writer

One thing that sticks out about the Nebraska women's basketball schedule is that the team hasn't had any easy non-conference games.

With two home losses to Wisconsin and Drake, things won't get much easier for the 3-2 Cornhuskers.

Tonight, when the Huskers take on 5-2 Brigham Young, they will be trying to win their second game in a row after Monday night's 89-86 victory over Washington. Tonight's game against the Cougars is scheduled for a 7:05 tip-off at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

The lone common opponent between NU and BYU is the Huskies. When the Cougars played UW in Seattle on Nov. 23, they won by a score of 85-62.

Nebraska Coach Paul Sanderford said Brigham Young is a very legitimate basketball team.

"They're an experienced basketball team, and they shoot the ball very well," Sanderford said. "They beat Washington by 23 points at Seattle."

Sanderford said that on offense,

"We're going to play Nebraska basketball. That puts pressure on people trying to get easy baskets. We hope to get our running game going."

PAUL SANDERFORD
NU coach

the Cougars run a lot of four out, one in. With this kind of look, Sanderford thinks it will create some tough matchups for NU. But he doesn't want Nebraska to change its style of play.

"We're not going to change our style for anybody," Sanderford said. "We're going to play Nebraska basketball. That puts pressure on people trying to get easy baskets. We hope to get our running game going, and that's how we're going to play."

The one thing Sanderford would like to see in tonight's game is a lead at halftime.

Sanderford wants his team to play

a complete game instead of playing 10 to 15 minutes of good basketball.

Even with the two losses, Sanderford still feels the Huskers are right where they want to be for this point of the season.

"We've played good competition," Sanderford said. "I think anytime you play good competition, you have to be ready to play every night."

"We lost two ball games that we could have very easily got a break and made a shot here and there, and we could have won both of those games. We just need to finish better and make better decisions with the basketball."

Brown, Vanden Bosch win awards

■ **Brian Shaw, an NU** linebacker, is second team academic All-American for the second year in a row.

From staff reports

Some work will need to be done on the east balcony of Memorial Stadium. The facade proclaims the number of Academic All-Americans Nebraska sports have produced, and it will have to be altered.

The number of football Academic All-Americans grew by three to a total of 74 on Wednesday when senior rover Mike Brown and junior rush end Kyle Vanden Bosch were named

to the GTE Academic All-American first team for Division I and I-AA schools. Senior linebacker Brian Shaw earned second-team honors.

Brown has earned a 3.24 GPA in business administration and Vanden Bosch has a 3.78 GPA, also in business administration.

Shaw earned a perfect 4.0 GPA as a double major in animal science and agricultural economics in his four years at NU.

He joins former Cornhuskers Rob Zatechka and Mike Stigge as the only football starters to earn a perfect GPA.

Shaw was named the Burger King Scholar Athlete of the Week for the week of the Oklahoma State football game, and he was named the Division I Scholar Athlete of the Year. Shaw is

in Orlando for an ESPN awards show where he is a finalist for the Scholar Athlete of the Year in all divisions.

With the three players named to the team, NU raised its number of Academic All-Americans in all sports to 167, the highest in the nation.

Notre Dame ranks second with 114 and placed none on the first or second football teams.

This is the 14th year in a row in which Nebraska has placed at least one player on either of the two teams.

Two other Big 12 schools had players earn All-American honors. Dave Brcka, an Iowa State linebacker, and Keith Cockrum, a Texas Tech linebacker with a 4.0, both earned first-team honors.

Huskers have no fear in regional semifinals

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second seed. The Gauchos (28-5) battled through some tough competition of their own in the Big West Conference, finishing third place behind fifth-ranked Pacific (who they went 1-1 against) and sixth-ranked Long Beach State (who beat them twice).

Big West Co-Player of the Year Roberta Gehlke leads UCSB's dangerous offensive attack, which ranks 14th nationally at 16.92 kills-per-game. Gehlke leads the team in both kills (5.39 per game) and digs (4.08 per game).

"She's the best all-around player ever to play here at Santa Barbara," Gregory said. "She's 5-10, but she plays much higher and she knows how to win - that's the bottom line. Nebraska will probably try to stop her, and I'm sure they'll be able to block her a little bit."

The Huskers enter the game with the second-best blocking attack in the country, averaging 3.75 blocks-per-game and led by freshman Amber Holmquist (1.72 per game).

Nebraska junior co-captain Jill McWilliams said NU's strong middle-and-right-side block will match up well against Gehlke's left-side attack and that she feels NU actually has an advantage with their unusually low

"Heck, no, we're not frightened. That in-a-row stuff doesn't mean anything."

MANDY MONSON
NU volleyball player

third seed.

"I don't think they know what's coming," McWilliams said. "I know that they respect Nebraska volleyball, but I think we can go over there and take them by surprise - just with our varied offense. It's going to be hard to stop."

If the Huskers get by the Gauchos, they'll most likely play home-team Stanford, who has won four of the last seven NCAA Championships and would be riding a 43-match win streak on their home floor. Monson said NU isn't intimidated by that, either.

"Heck, no, we're not frightened," Monson said. "That in-a-row stuff doesn't mean anything. We saw someone come into the Coliseum and break our great streak this year, so why can't we do it, too?"

Olerud to Mariners in three-year deal

NEW YORK (AP) - While first baseman John Olerud left the New York Mets for Seattle, teams offered salary arbitration to 21 players and cut off talks with 74 others.

Olerud agreed Tuesday to a \$20 million, three-year contract with the Mariners, clearing a logjam that held up the free-agent market.

The passing of a Dec. 7 deadline should also spur signings now that draft-pick compensation isn't an issue for three-quarters of the free agents.

The group offered arbitration included outfielder Wil Cordero and left-hander Chris Haney (Cleveland) and three players who left the NL champion Atlanta Braves to become free agents: shortstop Jose Hernandez, right-hander Rudy Seanez and outfielder Gerald Williams.

Players offered arbitration may accept the offers through Dec. 19 and negotiate with their former teams through Jan. 8.

The World Series champion New York Yankees said goodbye to catcher Joe Girardi and infielder Luis Sojo, Anaheim let go of left-hander Chuck Finley and Cincinnati said so long to outfielder Greg Vaughn and pitchers Steve Avery and Mark Wohlers.

Players not offered arbitration can't re-sign with their former teams until May 1. Also, teams can sign these players without losing amateur draft picks as compensation.

Among those were right-handers Andy Benes, John Burkett, Orel Hershiser and Bobby Witt; left-hander Kenny Rogers; catcher Benito Santiago; infielders Jeff Blauser, Tony Fernandez, Mickey Morandini and Ed Sprague; outfielder Paul Sorrento; and designated hitter Harold Baines.

While the Mets said Tuesday they were offering Rogers arbitration, they were prevented from doing so by a clause in the pitcher's contract.

Right-hander Jeff Brantley, facing the midnight deadline, re-signed with Philadelphia, agreeing to a \$250,000, one-year contract that gives him the chance to earn an additional \$2.5 mil-

"This was a real difficult decision for me. There were times where I was leaning toward the Mets."

JOHN OLERUD
Seattle first baseman

lion in roster and performance bonuses.

Shortstop Rey Sanchez agreed to a \$4.6 million, two-year contract with Kansas City, and Texas signed two players just before the deadline, left-hander Mike Munoz (\$850,000) and second baseman Luis Alicea (\$750,000).

Atlanta agreed to a minor league deal with first baseman Brian Hunter, who would get a \$350,000, one-year contract if he makes the team. Cleveland agreed to a minor league deal with left-hander Mark Langston, who would get a \$300,000, one-year contract if he's added to the major league roster.

Rogers' agent, Scott Boras, disputed the Mets' right to offer arbitration to his client, saying he conveyed that earlier in the day to New York general manager Steve Phillips.

The Mets also offered arbitration to Olerud in case there's a problem with his Seattle deal. Olerud, one of the top players in a weak free-agent class, opted to return to his hometown rather than stay with New York.

"This was a real difficult decision for me," Olerud said. "There were times where I was leaning toward the Mets, definitely. I came close, but never to the point where I said, 'Let's go for it.'"

Mets made a "very comparable" offer, he said.

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