

Johnson helps stave off Jays

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Rob Childress knew it was far from over.

"Creighton's got a solid team and a veteran club. We knew coming in it was going to be a tough game for us," Childress said. "All three games we played last year were wars, and weren't over until the last out was made. We knew that today was going to be the same way, because Creighton plays as hard as anybody in the country."

The home run for Johnson was not his only highlight of the day. Creighton's best chance for a big comeback came in the seventh when they loaded the bases against Rodaway.

"We really wanted this game for home state pride, and we came out and went after it."

Dan Johnson
UNL first baseman

With the bases loaded, no outs and Creighton trailing 7-3, Dave Rowley hit a line drive at Johnson, who caught it and stepped on the bag at first for an unassisted double play. Creighton would end the inning with center fielder Troy Carley flying out to Jamal Strong in center as NU got out of the inning

unscathed.

"We really wanted this game for home state pride, and we came out and went after it," Johnson said.

NU would score two more runs in the eighth to ice the win. Nebraska faces conference opponent Texas Tech in a weekend homestand.

Husker assistants search for new coaching positions

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Despite the situation, all the assistants wanted to help the players in the time they have left, Roth said, which meant offering encouragement even when their own futures were uncertain.

"You want to see the players do well," Roth said. "You want to help them see this thing through, keep going to school and get a degree, because that truly is what it's all about."

Still, Roth said, he didn't have any official duties tied to the team. Gay,

on the other hand, was appointed by Byrne to focus on team academics and morale until a new coach is found. Hill said he had spent time trying to convince all the current players to stay at Nebraska.

It's a far cry from business as usual in the Devaney Center offices. And it all had to do with the absence of Danny Nee, Roth said.

"Right now, we'd be talking with Danny about our offseason condition program," Roth said. "We'd be discussing how we were going to get better next year. All those plans are definitely on hold."

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