

# Coaching gap may be filled by Collier

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the official announcement of Collier's hiring, would happen within the week or as early as Wednesday.

While the end result for Collier, a new coaching job, now seems clear, his whereabouts during his two-day stay in Lincoln were anything but.

Speculation abounded Monday that Collier would meet with the team and tour Devaney that day. As a result, television and newspaper reporters from Omaha and Lincoln television stations hovered around Devaney as well as the Cornhusker Hotel, where Collier supposedly was staying.

Collier was seen entering the hotel via the employee entrance Monday. When his room was contacted, all interview requests were denied.

A security guard at the hotel said several reporters lingering outside Collier's room had to be removed from the floor.

Friend said the mystery surrounding Collier's time in Lincoln was necessary.

"I think they probably don't want to blow everything out of proportion," he said.

"I mean, the guy was in town to see if Nebraska was the right place for him. Bill Byrne was probably just trying to keep everything low-key so he (Collier) didn't feel any unneeded pressure."

# Morelock found sport late

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spend an hour on the trainer's table every day before practice to work on shoulder exercises and an additional half hour after practice to ice down.

Saturday, Morelock finished first at the Los Angeles Quadrangular with an NCAA automatic qualifying mark of 174 feet 7 inches, but her back stiffened up on the plane ride home, and she will sit out Saturday's Husker Open. Kostek said she will alternate meets in hopes to stay fresh for the conference meet and nationals.

"I'm pretty sad about sitting out," Morelock said. "I want as many throws as I can get, but I know it's for the best."

Despite not being able to compete every week, Morelock said she keeps practicing at her furious pace because she wants to be the best role model she can be to her teammates.

Emily Wolken, a freshman javelin-thrower, said Morelock stepped in and acted like an on-the-field coach for Kostek, who couldn't make a meet at Texas A&M.

"She's always pushing me to lift more and spend an extra fifteen minutes on javelin drills," Wolken said. "She could definitely be a coach."

Kostek said Morelock's injury is something that she never will recover from fully, but she has the attitude and work ethic to overcome the pain.

"I'm trying to get a little more mentally tough because I'm going to have to grin and bear it," Morelock said.

# Huskers crush Missouri 8-1

From staff reports

The Nebraska tennis team must have been a little upset after losing to Texas A&M on Sunday.

The Huskers took out the frustration of the loss, which broke a 14-game winning streak, on the Missouri Tigers in Columbia Tuesday, annihilating MU 8-1.

With the win, the Huskers moved to 16-2 on the season. They did so in an impressive way, nearly shutting out the Tigers while coasting to the victory.

NU swept all six singles matches, winning five of them in straight sets.

Sandra Noetzel led the charge, defeating Marina Zelenovic 6-0, 6-1. It was career win No. 99 for Noetzel.

Following Noetzel's lead, Ndali Ijomah and Maria Fernandez also cruised, losing only five games in straight set wins.

Gina Pelazini was the only Husker to lose a set but rebounded to win the next two, including a 6-0 beating of Tiger Joni Jordan in the third set.

In the doubles competition, Noetzel and Katarina Balan coasted 8-1, while Ijomah and Stacey Tomkiewicz also triumphed. The No. 2 doubles team of Fernandez and Pelazini suffered the only NU doubles loss of the day, 9-8.

The Huskers play No. 18 Baylor in Waco on Sunday. Noetzel will attempt to win her 100<sup>th</sup> career match.

# Huskers shine in 18-6 win

■ Offense shines in big win for NU, bouncing back from Baylor loss.

By Dane Stickney

Senior editor

After scoring just nine runs in three games last weekend, the Nebraska baseball team exploded for 18 on Tuesday night.

The Cornhuskers pounded Northwest Missouri State 18-6 in a game NU Coach Dave Van Horn called a must-win after being swept by Baylor last weekend.

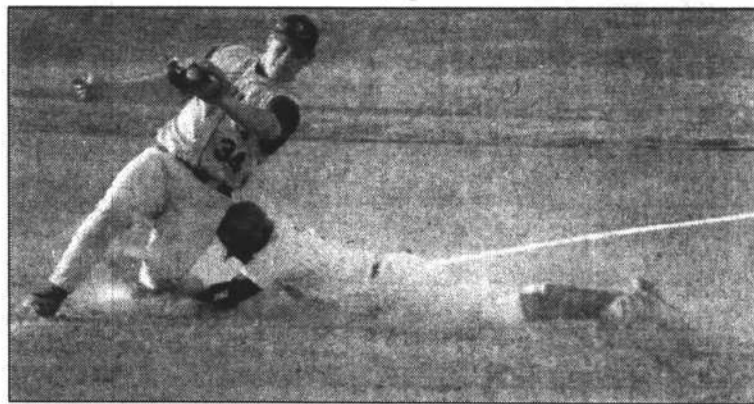
"This was a big win for us," Van Horn said. "We needed this win to give us some confidence and help us forget about last weekend."

Northwest Missouri State jumped out to a two-run lead in the first inning thanks to an Adam Bailey home run.

But the Huskers responded by scoring four runs in the bottom of the first when third baseman Matt Hopper hit a three-run home run to right-center field.

NU then scored six runs in the second inning, thanks to six walks from Northwest Missouri State pitching and a grand slam by short-stop Brandt Vliieger.

Vliieger was the offensive hero, going 3-for-4, driving in four runs



Josh Wolfe/DN  
**JAMAL STRONG slides into second base to beat a throw to Northwest Missouri State's No. 34 during the second inning Tuesday.**

and scoring two.

Nebraska scored two runs in the fifth inning, one of which came on first baseman Dan Johnson's solo home run.

Northwest Missouri State scored four runs in the fifth inning off reliever Waylon Byers, but Brandon Penas (1-1) came on in relief to earn the win by pitching 2 2/3 innings of scoreless baseball.

Nebraska added five runs in the ninth inning on four hits.

Both the Huskers and Northwest Missouri State finished with 11 hits.

Vliieger said it felt good to cut loose offensively.

"I was hitting pretty well last

weekend," he said. "But it really felt good to have the entire team hit well. It's good to see those 18 runs on the scoreboard. It gives us needed confidence."

Van Horn said the offense was a welcome sight, but he was also pleased that some reserve players logged some innings.

"We needed to get some guys some at bats and play some younger guys," he said. "Some pitchers who hadn't thrown in a while pitched well."

"All in all, I'm pretty happy with the game."

The Huskers will face Kansas in a three-game series this weekend, starting at 6:30 p.m. Friday.

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