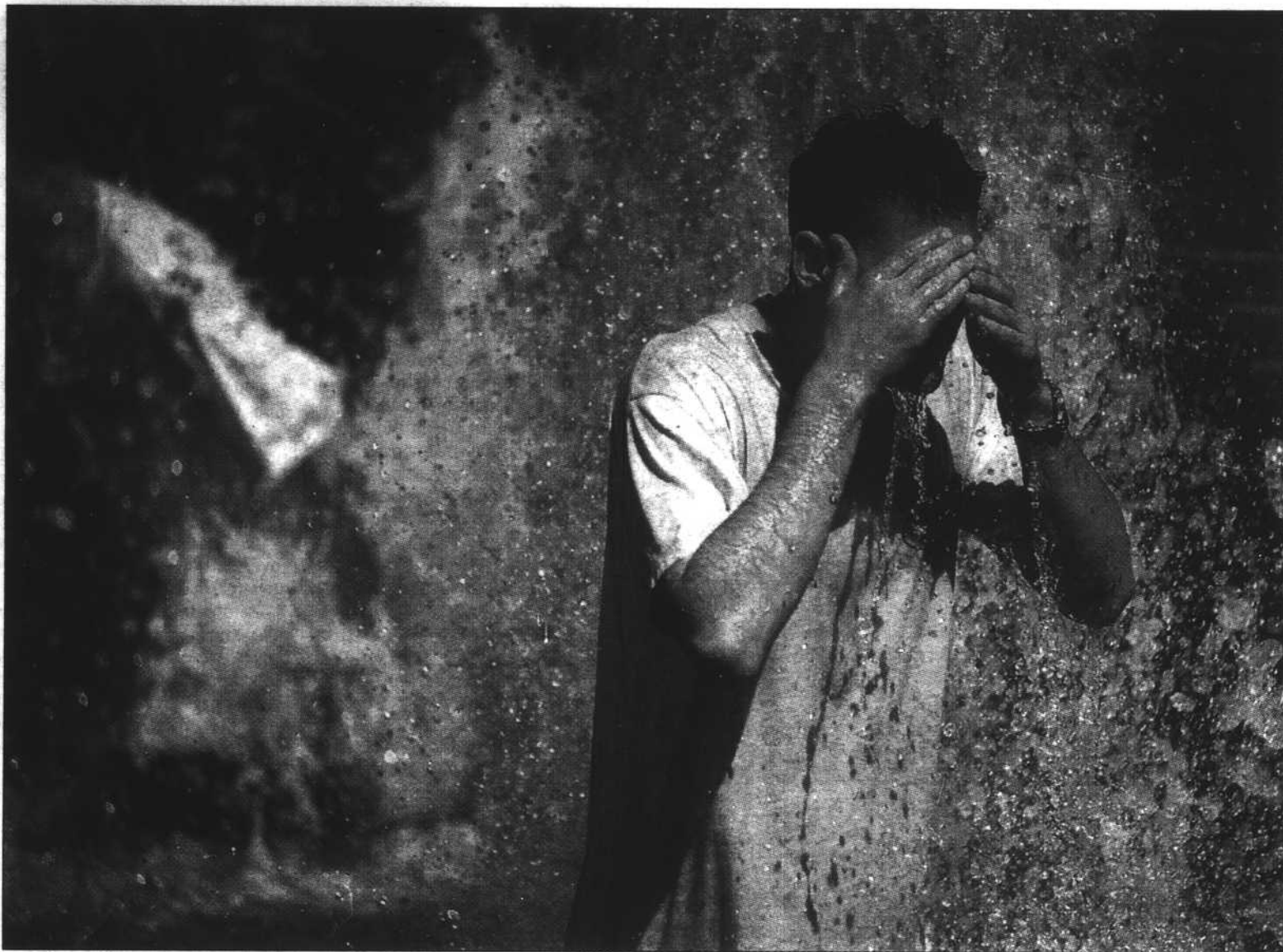


Fountain of youth



FRESHMAN COMPUTER ENGINEERING major Greg Norgard wipes water out of his eyes while wading in Broyhill Fountain on Wednesday. Many students were outside enjoying the mild day, with temperatures in the 80s. Today's temperatures are expected to reach 67.

Josh Wolfe/DN

Coach still a mystery to students

BASKETBALL from page 1

were enthused about Collier's hiring. Most important to the students was the chance to see a winning basketball team. They said, though, that success comes with a price.

While some were concerned about Collier's salary, which, with incentives and endorsements, will likely near the half-million mark, most thought that the cost would pay dividends.

"I feel we should focus more on academics and less on athletics at this university," said Mark Ibrahim, a junior business management major. "But, at the same time, if this guy generates more tickets and more money for the Athletic Department and university, why not?"

While Collier's name is unfamiliar to many at NU, this might change quickly. At the conference to announce his hiring, the coach spoke about his desire for a family atmosphere with the team, the university and the state.

But for now, UNL students don't know any more about Collier than what they have read in the last several days, according to those interviewed.

Instead, their emphasis is still on the previous basketball coach.

"I think they just needed a new coach," said Anita Moore, a graduate student in modern languages. "I would've been a good candidate for the job after last year."

Said Holle: "Quite frankly, anybody but Danny Nee is a pretty big step up for Nebraska. That's all we needed. Anybody but Danny Nee."

Collier says he's ready to start work with team

COACH from page 1

want to have at this university," Moeser said. "I am tremendously impressed that this man wins games but also graduates his student athletes."

Said Collier: "You can be the best you can be academically and in basketball if you will work toward that direction."

Collier, who was previously an assistant coach at Stanford University, the University of Oregon, the University of Idaho and two smaller schools, has a proven track record on the court.

His overall record includes a 90-39 record over the last four seasons, two Midwest Conference regular-

season titles and three NCAA Tournament bids. The Bulldogs are 0-3 in the Big Dance, having come closest to victory this season when Butler lost to Florida 69-68 in the first round on a last-second shot. The Gators then advanced to the national title game.

Collier said he is interested in making Nebraska a championship program right away, because eight seniors are on next year's roster.

"We want to win now," Collier said. "I think there are great lessons to be learned in losing, just as long as you don't have too many."

"I think it would be a disservice to next year's team if we were just going to be satisfied with whatever happens."

There is some question as to Collier's preferred style of play, as Butler has employed a slow-down, half-court attack the past four seasons, quite similar to Wisconsin, which appeared in the Final Four in 2000. Last season, Husker players said NU had no real offensive scheme.

Still, the style was a hot topic among team members during an hour meeting in the Hewitt Center before the announcement.

"You must have been listening downstairs to the players," Collier said, as he responded to a question about his style of play.

Collier said the style of play that he prefers is a "winning style of play." "I don't care if we play fast or

Barry Collier 45 years old
married to *Anita* since 1975
3 sons - Casey (17), Brady (15), Clay (12)

Achievements	Experience
Overall Record 196 - 132 in 11 seasons	1986 - 1989 Assistant at Stanford U.
Year Record 99-00 22-8 98-99 22-10 97-98 23-11 96-97 23-10	1985-1986 Assistant at University of Oregon (with Byrne) 1978 - 1983 Assistant at Idaho University 1976-1977 Assistant at Rose-Hulman Institute

Melanie Falk/DN

slow," he said. "We are going to play in such a way that gives us the best chance to win with the talent that we have."

Collier's Bulldogs were ranked second in the nation in scoring defense this season, and the new coach admits the up-tempo style may make him a more popular person. But he said he will do whatever he can to maximize his players' abilities.

"You must do what your team can

do and not what you want to do," Collier said.

But toughness is something that Collier desires.

"I love to play smash-mouth basketball," he said. "If you've seen our team play recently (at Butler), there is a level of toughness that makes this coach very happy."

Collier said he would meet with the current coaching staff at about 4:15 p.m. on Wednesday to start evaluating the situation as it stands. He will start watching tape immediately to see what type of players he has, noting that he is getting a late start on evaluating his team.

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