Softball team plays hard in doubleheader

■ Competition level doesn't affect Huskers' intensity.

By Sean Callahan

Staff writer

Sometimes it can be dangerous to play a lower level of competition than you're used

But the Nebraska softball team looked past the 16-17 record of Missouri-Kansas City and instead used yesterday's doubleheader as a situational game as it swept the Kangaroos 9-1 and 4-0 to improve its overall record to 31-16.

Coach Rhonda Revelle said she couldn't be more pleased with her team's 18 hits offensively and its only allowing one run defen-

"I felt like we were really focused on trying to take care of business tonight," Revelle said. "We made some mistakes, but they were some aggressive mistakes."

The Cornhuskers were led offensively in the series by sophomore Jill Baker, who had three hits and three RBI.

Baker said despite the second game being a little closer than the Huskers would have liked, she was happy with their overall production.

"I thought our intensity

ond game," Baker said. "I'm just glad we came out with two wins because this team is a team that can worry you if you let them stay around."

Senior Jennifer Lizama and freshman Amanda Buchholz also combined for five hits.

Revelle got another strong performance from her three arms - Jenny Voss, Leigh Ann Walker and Penny

In 12 innings of play, the trio gave up only nine hits to go along with its 17 strike-

Voss earned the win in game one to improve her overall mark to 11-6, while Walker (12-5) took the win in game two

According to Revelle, Voss used her four innings of play to strategically prepare herself for the conference.

"That's the way to approach it," Revelle said. We had a lead, and she didn't look at it in that way."

Nebraska used Tuesday's contest as its final tune-up for a showdown with No. 6 Oklahoma. The Huskers and the Sooners are the lone, unbeaten teams in the Big 12

NU will play OU in a doubleheader on Friday before traveling to Stillwater, Okla., for a two-game series with Oklahoma State.

Discipline and strong pitching give NU win

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But Van Horn said he wished his offense would have been a bit more productive.

NU Assistant Coach Mike Anderson agreed but said the key to the game was Nebraska's ability to be patient at the plate.

"The offense wasn't as sharp as it has been, but I was pleased with our discipline," he said. "We were able to take the walks that they gave us and manufacture some runs."

Hopper led the Huskers on offense, going 2-for-3 with two doubles,

"It feels good to get on base and let the other guys have the chance to drive me in," Hopper said. "With the wind blowing in, we knew we weren't going to hit any balls out of the park, so we just took what they

Bluejay pitchers not up to challenge

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bats better than they did. We had some good at-bats.

"They ran a lot of things down in the gaps and made some good defensive plays, though. And threw strikes while we didn't."

Nebraska Coach Dave Van Horn said a factor in the Bluejays' lack of control might have been the four-game series CU played last weekend, which might have worn the staff down.

Dahm seemed to agree. But Tuesday night's game was a chance for his younger pitchers to step up, he

They didn't.

"The main difference between our pitching staff and Nebraska's is depth," Dahm said. "Tonight, if one of their guys isn't doing the job, they know they can pull him. We don't have that much depth ... and when you walk seven and hit two, you aren't going to beat a quality team like Nebraska."



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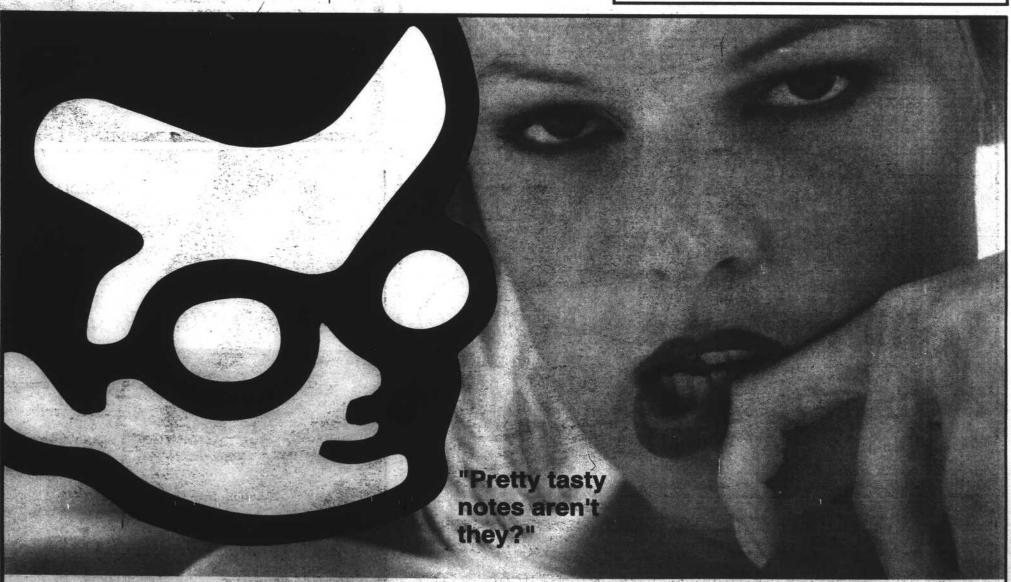
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