

Fall sports menu serves up more than football

By Samuel McKewon
Senior editor

I've covered Nebraska football for four years. Suffice to say, I know how it works. That statement translated: It's not all it's been built up to be.

The games, that is. You have a better chance of graduating in four years than you do of seeing four close games at Nebraska's Memorial Stadium in that same time span.

Don't believe it? In five years, there have been three games decided by five points or fewer. There's been a handful more when you extend that out to 10 points.

Not that it's deterred anybody. Not that it deterred me. NU football is, with its sound-and-light gyromatic tunnel walk to super quizzes between quarters, more of an experience than a hard-fought contest.

Which is, time has proven, just about how the new breed of NU fan likes it. But student ticket sales have dwindled over the years, as some have been spoiled by the success, others unhappy

with the relatively poor seating granted to students (south end zone mostly).

But most students will trek to at least one game in their college career. But the Cornhusker sports foundation is built on much, much more.

An offering, then, of what other fall sports prospective students can experience while at UNL. I've included a few of the more important things, like concession accessibility and atmosphere, just for kicks.

Volleyball: The grassroots evolution of the program began 26 years ago but blossomed a few years later with the hiring of Coach Terry Pettit. His tutelage, along with the idea of getting in on the ground floor of a burgeoning sport, led Nebraska to be an established power in the 1980s and national champions in 1995.

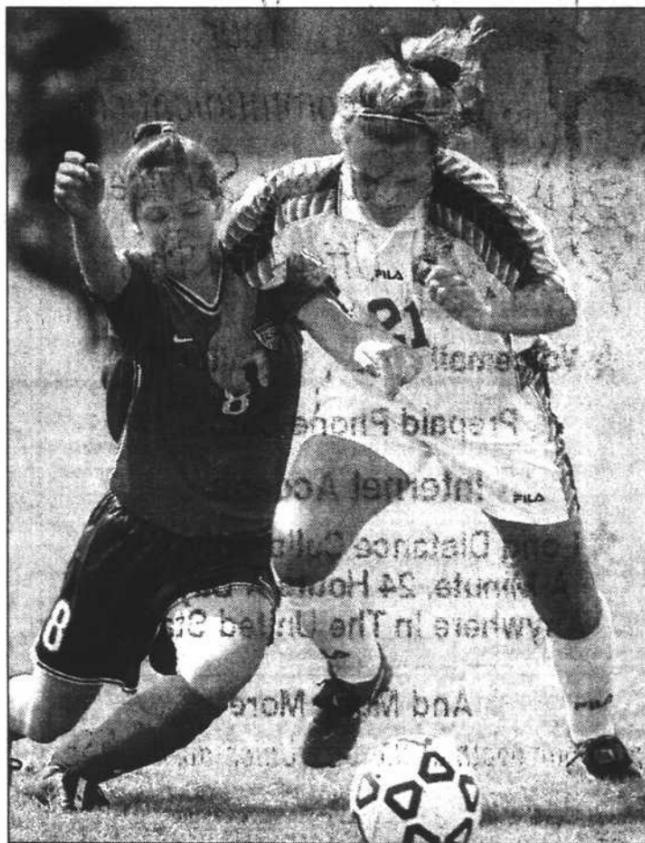
Pettit retired last year, giving way to assistant and former Wisconsin Coach John Cook. NU, which has won the last two Big 12 Championships and traveled to the Final Four in 1998, is generally considered a phenom-

non in college volleyball, one of only two teams not from California or Hawaii to win a national title. The other came this year with Penn State.

The team plays in the NU Coliseum, which doubles as campus recreation basketball courts during the week and used to house the Nebraska Men's Basketball team.

For big matches (And rest assured, there's plenty more of those than you'll find at the football stadium.), tickets are hard to come by.

The Huskers often play in front of 3,500 to 4,000 fans, making it one of the tougher places to play in the nation. NU often plays at home for NCAA first round and NCAA regional



DN file photo
A UNL soccer player battles an opponent during a game last year. The women's soccer team, volleyball team and basketball team all offer sports entertainment outside of Big Red football.

Please see **SPORTS** on 16

Bring in this coupon and with any purchase... We'll give you the

SHIRT OFF OUR BACK!!

Limit one coupon per person per day
Limit is \$3.99 Value
Expires 9/15/00

savers
4690 Leighton Ave. • 467-1999

UNPLANNED PREGNANCIES...

...can change your life in an instant. Perhaps you would like to consider the possibility of creating an adoption plan for your child. Our case workers can answer your questions confidentially. If you would like to visit with us, please call today.

children's home society

4600 Valley Road, Ste. 314 • Lincoln, NE 68510
(402) 483-7879 • 800-390-6754

real smart
Shopping Choices

Shop at Gateway Mall, Lincoln's largest enclosed mall, with over **95 specialty stores and restaurants.** You'll find everything you need at great stores including

- American Eagle Outfitters
- The Buckle
- Eddie Bauer
- The Limited
- Software Etc.
- Victoria's Secret and more.



want to experience some of the finer things of journalism?

WORK FOR THE DN

UNL's No. 1 source for news, sports, commentary and entertainment.
(plus, you get paid)

Here's how to find out more:

1. You're on a tour, so stop on down. We're in the basement of the Nebraska Union.
2. Ring our bell at 472-2588 over the summer for a chataroo.
3. If you're interested in the advertising biz, call 472-2589.
4. If you want to be a columnist, call 472-1765.
5. Stop by our booth at Big Red Welcome.
6. Or just stop down, we in the Union, in the basement.

GATEWAY MALL

Dillard's, JCPenney, Montgomery Ward, Sears and Youngers
61st & "O" Street • (402) 464-3196
Mon.-Sat. 10am-9pm, Sun. Noon-6pm
www.shopyourmall.com