

Triumph over pain elevates Watchorn

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on the scout team. Football was hard to concentrate on when there were visions of a father who wasn't there anymore.

Watchorn bottled everything up for three seasons and kept quiet and tense on the field. He "got into drinking a lot" and got a minor in possession ticket because of it.

Then came Thanksgiving at his family's house. Everything he had bottled up exploded out.

"I just freaked out," Watchorn said. He threw a explicit-filled tirade and ended up on the floor shaking.

"Ever since then, I've felt so much better," Watchorn said. "And after we lost our seniors on the secondary, I figured it was time for me to step up. I've always wanted and knew I could play, and I want to be a role model to the younger guys."

He hit the field harder. He hit the weights harder. And he opened up.

"Troy's not an extroverted guy," cornerback Keyou Craver said. "He's one of the guys you have to get to know, and then he opens up. I'm a probing guy, and I started to probe at him a lot. He has a great sense of humor. He loves to sing. Very comical."

Craver said himself,

Watchorn, Finley and cornerback Erwin Swiney hung out a lot and "sing like crazy." That gets them through hard times.

Finley has found a confidant in Watchorn for four years, but especially after his grandfather died last year.

"Troy came up and said a couple things," Finley said. "He talked about how to handle things like we've had to handle. He's there for all of us as a friend. We've gotten close over the years. He's a good friend to have."

Finley and everyone have noticed Watchorn's dedication the past year and aren't the least bit surprised at his booming success.

His change in both play and attitude has inspired a secondary that has been burned on the field and in the press.

"When he produces, it changes the momentum of the game," Finley said. "He has a lot more confidence in himself now, and now all of us want to go out there and get picks."

"He lives the way life should be lived - happy. He laughs a whole lot. Nothing gets him down now."

When you've lived the life Watchorn has and are making the plays he does, not much can.

"Everything I'm going through now is a privilege," Watchorn said. "It's like I'm living a dream."

QB's have different styles, same results

CROUCH from page 10

in the NU offense.

"He is a guy that teams need to focus on in order to beat that team," Frazier said.

Both quarterbacks lived off their versatility, and Crouch looks up to his predecessor.

Crouch said he didn't pattern his game after Frazier, who started as a true freshman, but understands what made him so successful.

"He was a strong leader," Crouch said. "And that was known from day one as a freshman."

Crouch was not given the opportunity to start as a freshman, with Scott Frost leading the Huskers in 1997, but his leadership abilities have shown through in the past three seasons.

Frazier and Crouch have their similarities and they have their differences. But both have the same outlook on the Heisman.

Frazier said he would tell Crouch to "go out and play and don't worry about voters," because "the Heisman trophy is the Heisman trophy and the best man is going to win."

And Crouch said that was exactly what he had been doing and would continue to do.

"However the voters handle it - I will be all right with that," Crouch said. "It is not a situation where I will be angry or depressed because I know that I will have given it my best shot."

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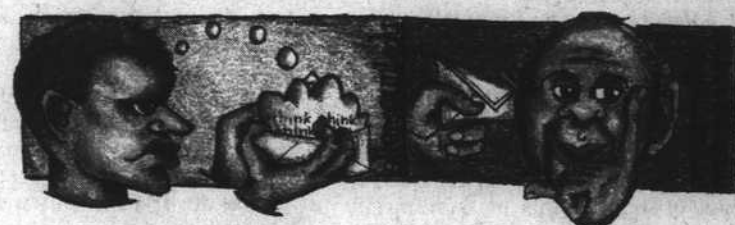
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Tennis team back on court

BY VINCE KUPPIG

Nebraska tennis player Jorge Abos Sanchez looks to continue his winning ways this weekend at the ITA Mid-American Championships in Tulsa, Okla.

The ITA Mid-American Championships starts today with the qualifying session. The main draw starts Friday and wraps up Monday.

The main draw will consist of the region's top 64 single players and 32 doubles teams from about 15 schools.

Abos Sanchez is coming off a great performance at the ITA All-American Championships, where he went 6-2 and reached the main draw.

"Now, he's practicing even harder. (His performance) has gotten him excited to do as well as he did," Coach Kerry McDermott said. "He's playing with more confidence. If he can play with confidence, the sky's the limit."

Although the favorite for the Cornhuskers has

to be Abos Sanchez, McDermott said several other Huskers had the potential to pull some surprises.

"We're hoping to get two or three of our kids at least to the quarterfinals," McDermott said. "Then hopefully, maybe go all the way."

As a team, McDermott is hoping the Cornhuskers will make a statement to the rest of the region.

"(We want) to show the rest of the region that we are a good team and that if they play Nebraska, watch out," McDermott said.

In women's tennis action, the duo of juniors Katarina Balan and Amy Frisch lost in the first round of the qualifying session at the Riviera Women's All-American Championships in Riviera, Cal, on Wednesday. The duo went 2-0 in the pre-qualifying session before falling to 7th seeded duo from Texas A&M, 6-1, 6-1.

Up next for the women's team is the ITA Central Championships in Omaha on Nov. 1-5, their final tournament of the fall season.

Sport Clubs

Results

This Weekend at Home

Show your support for the NU Crew club. The group's annual Erg-A-Thon will begin Friday at 8:00 p.m. and continue for 36 hours in front of the Nebraska Union.

The Tae Kwon Do club will also be on the Union Plaza this Saturday. The club will be holding the first Board Break-A-Thon.

Sunday, NU Women's Soccer club takes on Drake at 1:00 p.m. at Whittier Field. (22 & W)

On the Road

Women's Rugby travels to Ames, IA on Saturday, competing against ISU.

Women's Rugby went 1-1 this past weekend at the Dakota Days Round Robin. UNL defeated Northern State University 25-0 and lost to USD 15-0.

NU Crew placed well at the American Royal Fall Rowing Classic held this past weekend in Kansas City.

Novice Womens 8	First
Novice Mens 8	Second
Novice Mens 4	Second
Novice Mens 4	Third
Varsity Mens Pair	Second



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