

## Hastings High falls to North Platte in final match

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It came down to the final match to decide the team dual Thursday night between Hastings High and North Platte. The Tiger wrestling team lost 38-36.

"You know our guys fought extremely hard," Tigers head coach Rod Tickle said. "There was a lot of pressure put on our young guys. It came down to a crapshoot, and they got it at the horn."

The dual came down to the 103-pound weight class, featuring a pair of wrestlers who didn't weigh more than 85 pounds each.

North Platte's Stephen Hale scored a takedown on John Lacy and then got a three-point nearfall to take a 5-0 lead

early in the first period. Then, with time running out in the period, Hale was awarded a pin with a tenth of a second left on the clock.

Tickle thought the horn sounded before the referee slapped his hand on the mat, but the referee disagreed and awarded Hale with the win.

"I was very proud of (John's) effort," Tickle said. "Our guys put out a tremendous effort and we got some points in places, but they needed the pin and got it."

Despite the loss, Tickle was pleased with how hard his wrestlers competed, as the team split North Platte with seven wins each.

The Tigers got huge wins in the 160-

and 171-pound weight classes, as senior Derek Rossen (160) and junior Ethan Rundle (171) came from behind to win.

Rossen, who wrestled his natural weight class for the first time this season, had to come from a 5-2 deficit in the second period to score a takedown, a reversal and a three-point nearfall to win 9-7.

Tickle said North Platte's Chad Briley is a long, rangy guy who is good on top with his legs.

"That kid is pretty good," he said. "Derek didn't wrestle as well as I have seen him wrestle, but he felt great to get the win."

At 171, Rundle gave away a penalty point in the second period to find himself down 5-4 going into the third period. North Platte's Brett Hale received another

penalty point in the third period to go up 6-4.

However, Rundle got a three-point nearfall and a takedown and held Hale to two escape points to get the 9-8 win.

"Getting those penalty points makes things close," Tickle said. "It was a good match for him."

Also getting wins for the Tigers were Sam Gnagy (125), Phil Nelson (130), David Gonzalez (135), Kip Kiplinger (189), and Phil Hartwig (215).

"David is a tremendous athlete and a courageous competitor," Tickle said about his pin in the third period. "He likes to think about every aspect of his match. He would like to dominate it all, but sometimes he does get frustrated."

The Tigers are at the Grand Island Invitational on Saturday and at the Lexington Quad on Tuesday.

**North Platte 38, Hastings High 36**  
103 — Stephen Hale, NP, pinned John Lacy, HHS; 2:00  
112 — Eric Skiles, NP, won by forfeit  
119 — David Perry, NP, maj. dec. Adam Jorgensen, HHS; 13:0  
125 — Sam Gnagy, HHS, won by forfeit  
130 — Phil Nelson, HHS, won by forfeit  
135 — David Gonzalez, HHS, pinned Pat Schultz, NP; 4:59  
140 — Troy Zurcher, NP, pinned Kellen Frazer, HHS; 2:21  
145 — Mike Bell, NP, maj. dec. Matt Conway, HHS; 19:7  
152 — Bo Pettit, NP, pinned Levi Lindteigem, HHS; 1:44  
160 — Derek Rossen, HHS, dec. Chad Briley, NP; 9:8  
171 — Ethan Rundle, HHS, dec. Brett Hale, NP; 9:8  
189 — Kip Kiplinger, HHS, pinned Jimmy McEwen, NP; 5:22  
215 — Phil Hartwig, HHS, pinned Derek Caudillo, NP; 2:58  
285 — Dustin Nevivry, NP, pinned Sean Yokern, HHS; 0:33

## Huskers rally past Bruins



AMY ROH/Tribune

Nebraska celebrates their semi-final win over UCLA during the NCAA Division I Volleyball Championship Thursday at the Qwest Center in Omaha.



AMY ROH/Tribune

Nebraska's Rachel Holloway (12) and Tracy Stalls (11) jump to block UCLA's Ali Daley in game 3 of their semifinal of the NCAA Division I Volleyball Championship Thursday at the Qwest Center in Omaha.

### Stalls gets 'in the zone' against UCLA

**VINCE KUPPIG**  
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**OMAHA** — Tracy Stalls simply got in the zone.

After being virtually unseen in the first game, Nebraska's junior middle blocker ended up turning in perhaps the best match of her career. And she did it in the Huskers' biggest match of the season, against an All-American middle blocker.

The 6-foot-3 Stalls had a career-high 17 kills — all after the first game — and hit an incredible .577, as the Huskers rallied for a 23-30, 30-28, 30-23, 30-28 win over UCLA Thursday night at a sold-out Qwest Center.

"You hear top athletes talk about the zone," Stalls said. "That's what it was. It was this whiteout. I was just in the zone mentality, in the present, and that's it. There's nothing in front, there's nothing behind. You're just in the present and you're completely absorbed. That's the beauty of sport and competition."

After attempting only three attacks in the first

game, Stalls became a force during the final three games. She posted four kills in the second game, seven in third and another six in the final game.

Stalls was on fire in the third game, as she hit an astonishing .875 with no hitting errors. During a stretch of 10 straight points that saw the score go from tied to 23-13, Stalls had three kills and a block. She finished the match with four total blocks.

Stalls did it all going right at UCLA middle blocker Nana Meriwether, who came into the match leading the nation in attack percentage (.460) and blocks per game (1.97).

"Tracy and (setter Rachel Holloway) got in a great rhythm tonight," NU coach John Cook said. "We're talking all over the net. It was really rewarding to see that as a coach. That's something we've worked on and to see it when we needed it was just very, very satisfying."

Cook said the Huskers figured out they could go right at the All-American midway through the second game.

**Please see STALLS/page C3**

### Pavan's 22 kills leads NU into title match



AMY ROH/Tribune

Nebraska's Sarah Pavan spikes against UCLA's Katie Carter (9), and Rachell Johnson in game 2 of their semifinal match of NCAA Division I Volleyball Championship Thursday at the Qwest Center in Omaha.

#### HUSKERS TAKE ON STANFORD SATURDAY

**VINCE KUPPIG**  
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**OMAHA** — Playing in front of a largest crowd to ever witness a college volleyball match, you couldn't have blamed Nebraska for being a little wound up.

Early on against UCLA in Thursday night's NCAA semifinal match at a sold-out Qwest Center, it showed. Already down a game in front of 17,014 fans, the Huskers were trailing 28-26 in the second and on the verge of having to rally from a two-game deficit for the second straight match.

But Nebraska rolled off four straight points to take the

game, re-energizing the crowd and the Huskers as top-ranked Nebraska rallied for a 23-30, 30-28, 30-23, 30-28 win over No. 4 UCLA.

"It's hard to prepare to play in front of 17,000 people if you've never done it before," GNU coach John Cook said. "I think we were just a little wired."

But just like Nebraska did in the regional final Saturday against Minnesota, the Huskers settled down to extend their season.

The Huskers will see second-seeded Stanford in the championship match Saturday at 8 p.m. The Cardinal (30-3) dominated Washington 30-12, 30-25, 30-15 in the late match Thursday.

**Please see NU/page C3**

## 49ers run over Seahawks with big second half

JOHN FROSCHAUER/AP

San Francisco 49ers running back Frank Gore runs in the rain with Seattle Seahawks' Grant Wistrom during the first quarter of a football game in Seattle, Thursday.



**BY TIM BOOTH**  
The Associated Press

SEATTLE — No one wanted to talk in the Seattle Seahawks locker room. Those who did had anger and frustration in their voices.

The defending NFC champs aren't playing like a playoff team.

"I guess I just feel we're just OK at everything," quarterback Matt Hasselbeck said. "We're not real good and dominant at anything, like we use to be."

That point was evident again Thursday night, when second-year quarterback Alex Smith rallied San Francisco for a surprising 24-14 win over the Seahawks, keeping Seattle from clinching its third straight NFC West crown.

The 49ers (6-8) trailed 7-3 heading to the fourth quarter and rarely threatened on offense. That changed in the final 15 minutes, as Smith directed three long touchdown

drives, throwing for a pair of scores and running untouched for another.

When Smith jogged untouched for an 18-yard TD with 1:42 left, cold, wet and shocked Seahawks' fans who showed up ready to watch the winning of another division crown, quickly made their way to the exits.

"The boy just became a grown man today, baby," said 49ers running back Frank Gore, who helped out his quarterback with 144 yards rushing and a touchdown catch. "There's a lot more to come."

San Francisco snapped a three-game losing streak and swept both games with Seattle.

While Smith's impressive evolution played out in the fourth quarter, Seattle (8-6) was left to ponder a second straight loss to a division opponent, and watch any hopes of a first-round bye in the playoffs flutter away.

The Seahawks need only one more win or a San Francisco loss to win the mediocre NFC

West. But the sentiment in Seattle's locker room is that problems need to be corrected immediately.

"This is awful," Bryce Fisher said. "Teams that lose in December, if they're lucky to get into January, lose very early in January."

While Seattle's offense continued its inconsistency running the ball and protecting Hasselbeck, its defense frustrated Smith for most of the first three quarters.

Smith's 11-yard completion to Antonio Bryant with 48 seconds left in the third quarter was San Francisco's first first-down of the half. On the next play, Amaz Battle beat Seattle's Kelly Herndon off the line of scrimmage and Smith hit him in stride for a 54-yard completion.

Smith completed the drive by rolling right and finding tight end Vernon Davis in the end zone with a perfect 8-yard strike to give the 49ers a 10-7 lead.

**Please see 49ERS/page C3**



Basketball

NBA Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

| Atlantic Division |    |    |      |
|-------------------|----|----|------|
|                   | W  | L  | Pct  |
| New Jersey        | 9  | 12 | .429 |
| Boston            | 13 | 8  | .615 |
| New York          | 9  | 15 | .375 |
| Toronto           | 10 | 11 | .476 |
| Philadelphia      | 5  | 16 | .238 |

| Southeast Division |    |    |      |
|--------------------|----|----|------|
|                    | W  | L  | Pct  |
| Orlando            | 15 | 10 | .600 |
| Washington         | 10 | 11 | .476 |
| Miami              | 9  | 12 | .429 |
| Atlanta            | 8  | 13 | .381 |
| Charlotte          | 6  | 16 | .273 |

| Central Division |    |    |      |
|------------------|----|----|------|
|                  | W  | L  | Pct  |
| Cleveland        | 13 | 8  | .619 |
| Detroit          | 13 | 8  | .619 |
| Chicago          | 12 | 10 | .545 |
| Indiana          | 12 | 12 | .500 |
| Milwaukee        | 9  | 11 | .450 |

WESTERN CONFERENCE

| Southwest Division |    |    |      |
|--------------------|----|----|------|
|                    | W  | L  | Pct  |
| San Antonio        | 15 | 6  | .750 |
| Dallas             | 18 | 7  | .720 |
| Houston            | 14 | 8  | .636 |
| New Orleans        | 11 | 11 | .500 |
| Memphis            | 5  | 17 | .227 |

| Northwest Division |    |    |      |
|--------------------|----|----|------|
|                    | W  | L  | Pct  |
| Utah               | 17 | 5  | .773 |
| Denver             | 12 | 8  | .600 |
| Minnesota          | 10 | 10 | .500 |
| Seattle            | 10 | 13 | .435 |
| Portland           | 10 | 14 | .417 |

| Pacific Division |    |    |      |
|------------------|----|----|------|
|                  | W  | L  | Pct  |
| Phoenix          | 15 | 6  | .714 |
| L.A. Lakers      | 15 | 7  | .682 |
| Golden State     | 12 | 11 | .524 |
| L.A. Clippers    | 10 | 11 | .476 |
| Sacramento       | 9  | 11 | .450 |

Thursday's Games

Charlotte 93, Orlando 89  
San Antonio 103, New Orleans 77  
Golden State 108, Houston 107

Friday's Games

Miami at Washington, 6 p.m.  
New York at Indiana, 6 p.m.  
New Jersey at Toronto, 6 p.m.  
Denver at Boston, 6:30 p.m.  
Seattle at Cleveland, 6:30 p.m.  
Atlanta at Memphis, 7 p.m.  
Philadelphia at Dallas, 7 p.m.  
Milwaukee at Chicago, 7:30 p.m.  
Sacramento at Utah, 8 p.m.  
Golden State at Phoenix, 8 p.m.  
L.A. Clippers at Portland, 9 p.m.  
Houston at L.A. Lakers, 9:30 p.m.

NBA Boxscores

At Charlotte, N.C.

ORLANDO (89)

Ariza 3-5 1-2 7, Battie 1-4 1-2 3, Howard 4-7 2-8 10, Dooling 7-13 5-20, Arroyo 5-12 3-13, Micie 3-8 0-6 8, Butler 3-4 0-0 6, Dier 5-6 3-16, Redick 2-6 0-0 5, Garity 1-4 0-0 3, Totals 34-69 15-23 89

CHARLOTTE (99)

Wallace 4-12 4-12, Okafor 6-9 1-4 13, Brezec 7-0 0-0 10, Knight 3-9 2-2 6, Felton 2-2 2-2 12, Morrison 7-12 5-22, May 9-15 1-14 32, Vesulih 0-1 0-0 0, Carroll 0-4 0-0 0, Totals 33-81 28-34 99

At New Orleans

SAN ANTONIO (103)

Bowen 1-2 0-0 3, Duncan 4-7 3-6 11, Elson 1-3 2-4, Ginobili 9-16 5-24, Parker 9-15 1-2 19, Udoh 4-12 1-0, Barry 2-6 1-1 5, Oberto 3-5 1-2 7, Finley 2-7 2-7, Bonner 4-6 0-0 9, J.Butter 2-3 0-0 4, Vaughn 0-1 0-0 0, Totals 40-80 16-22 103

NEW ORLEANS (77)

Mason 6-11 4-5 16, Simmons 3-7 1-2 7, McCusker 4-10 0-2 8, Butler 8-11 0-1 7, Paul 2-11 2-2 6, Pargo 4-14 0-0 9, Armstrong 1-7 2-4 4, Johnson 3-6 2-2 8, Bass 1-2 0-0 2, Vinicio 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 32-79 11-17 77

At Oakland, Calif.

HOUSTON (107)

Battier 4-9 1-2 12, Hayes 1-3 0-0 2, Yao 15-32 8-38, Head 10-20 3-26, Alston 6-15 2-14, Mutombo 0-0 0-0 0, Howard 2-5 2-2 6, Wells 2-0-0 4, Spanoulis 0-5 0-0 0, Novak 0-0 0-0 0, Totals 27-96 16-19 107

GOLDEN STATE (109)

Pietrus 4-9 1-2 11, Barnes 2-6 2-4 7, Foyle 3-6 2-8, Ellis 6-16 5-17, Davis 12-22 8-11 34, McLeod 0-4 3-3, Biedrins 6-7 3-3 15, Dunleavy 5-10 3-3 14, Totals 36-80 27-35 109

College Men's Results

EAST

Dartmouth 71, Stony Brook 50  
Harvard 72, Conn. Connecticut St. 65  
Maine 75, Maine-Farmington 34

SOUTH

Appalachian St. 93, Bryant 53  
Col. of Charleston 62, Chattanooga 60  
Lipscomb 75, Nicholls St. 55  
Memphis 88, Austin Peay 63

MIDWEST

Northwestern 70, Wisconsin 39  
Southwest  
Arkansas 91, Oakland, Mich. 57  
Arkansas St. 81, Denver 66

FAR WEST

CS Bakersfield 82, Pepperdine 76  
San Diego 73, Master's 66  
San Norberto 81, Campbell 69  
Southern Cal 88, Bethune-Cookman 36

College Men's Results

EAST

Columbia 66, Wagner 46  
Louisiana-Lafayette 77, New Orleans 51  
Louisville 67, Cincinnati 62  
Middle Tennessee 33, South Alabama 58  
Troy 78, Florida Atlantic 63

MIDWEST

N. Dakota St. 81, Valley City St. 31  
Oregon 66, Drake 63  
Wake Forest 55, Wright St. 49

SOUTHWEST

Texas Tech 79, Oral Roberts 67  
Far West  
Arizona 75, UC Irvine 46  
BYU 70, Weber St. 42

Prep Boys Results

Blue Hill 66, Silver Lake 42  
Wood 66, Cambridge 57  
Gayville-Volin, S.D. 57, Wausau 37  
Gibson 50, Ravenna 44  
Grand Island 71, Lincoln East 65  
Grand Island Central Catholic 65, Minden 48  
Heartland Lutheran 59, Rising City 49  
Lincoln Southwest 50, Lincoln Southwest 45  
Maywood 37, Brady 32  
Nebraska Christian 55, Gilmer 50  
Nebraska City Lourdes 87, Nebraska SE Consolidated 22

Omaha Northwest 69, Millard South 48  
Raymond Central 56, Lincoln Christian 53  
Santee 71, Omaha Nation 60  
St. Edward 93, Elba 30  
Wallace 66, Sutherland 51

Pod Basketball Tournament

Pope John 51, Nellig-Oakdale 38  
Wheeler Central 50, Chambers 39  
Red/Green Tournament  
Millard West 47, Omaha South 40  
Pope John 51, Nellig-Oakdale 38  
Omaha Bryan 88, Omaha Westside 61

Prep Girls Results

Archbishop Bergan 68, Omaha Christian Academy 34  
Aron, S.D. 51, Hartington Central Catholic 40  
Benedictine 51, Norris 35  
Brenneman 48, Ashland-Greenwood 27  
Blair 47, Council Bluffs St. Albert, Iowa 26  
Blue Hill 56, Silver Lake 41  
Cambridge 57, Elwood 23  
Cedar Bluffs 76, Parkview Christian 19  
Central Bluffs Jefferson, Iowa 67, Omaha Rocca 60  
Elba 56, St. Edward 49  
Ewing 51, Orchard 19  
Falls City 39, Johnson-Brock 37  
Fort Calhoun 56, Wahoo 31  
Gayville-Volin, S.D. 82, Wier 47  
Gilmer 52, Nebraska Christian 24  
Humphrey St. Francis 61, West Point Central Catholic 47  
Lincoln East 58, Grand Island 54  
Lincoln Pils 59, Waverly 44  
Maywood 51, Brady 36  
Millard South 49, Omaha Northwest 28  
Minden 48, Grand Island Central Catholic 38  
North Platte 50, McCook 30  
Omaha Gross 48, Council Bluffs Lincoln, Iowa 38

Omaha Marian 51, Millard North 36

Sioux County 58, Edgemoor, S.D. 30  
Southwest 49, Alma 33  
Sutherland 47, Wallace 30  
Syracuse 54, Nebraska City 48  
Wesner-Pilger 50, Oakland-Craig 45

Nellig-Oakdale Tournament

Chambers 55, Wheeler Central 27  
Pope John 43, Nellig-Oakdale 38  
Red/Green Tournament  
Omaha South 48, Omaha Bryan 41  
Omaha Westside 59, Millard West 38

Sacagawea Tournament

Cedar Rapids Washington, Iowa 64, South Sioux City 63  
Crofton 54, Battle Creek-Iowa Grove, Iowa 49

GPAC

Women's Basketball

Dordt def. GraceLand, 108-103 (20T)

Men's Basketball

GraceLand def. Dordt, 75-68  
Pen State def. Briar Cliff, 76-57

Football

NFL Standings

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

| East        |   |   |   |
|-------------|---|---|---|
|             | W | L | T |
| New England | 9 | 4 | 0 |
| N.Y. Jets   | 7 | 6 | 0 |
| Buffalo     | 6 | 7 | 0 |
| Miami       | 6 | 7 | 0 |

| South        |    |   |   |
|--------------|----|---|---|
|              | W  | L | T |
| Indianapolis | 10 | 3 | 0 |
| Jacksonville | 8  | 5 | 0 |
| Tennessee    | 6  | 7 | 0 |
| Houston      | 4  | 9 | 0 |

| West       |    |   |   |
|------------|----|---|---|
|            | W  | L | T |
| Baltimore  | 10 | 3 | 0 |
| Cincinnati | 8  | 5 | 0 |
| Pittsburgh | 6  | 7 | 0 |
| Cleveland  | 4  | 9 | 0 |

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

| East         |   |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|---|
|              | W | L | T |
| Dallas       | 8 | 5 | 0 |
| N.Y. Giants  | 7 | 6 | 0 |
| Philadelphia | 6 | 7 | 0 |
| Washington   | 4 | 9 | 0 |

| South       |   |   |   |
|-------------|---|---|---|
|             | W | L | T |
| New Orleans | 9 | 4 | 0 |
| Atlanta     | 7 | 6 | 0 |
| Carolina    | 6 | 7 | 0 |
| Tampa Bay   | 3 | 9 | 0 |

| North     |    |    |   |
|-----------|----|----|---|
|           | W  | L  | T |
| x-Chicago | 11 | 2  | 0 |
| Wood 66   | 6  | 7  | 0 |
| Green Bay | 2  | 11 | 0 |
| Detroit   | 2  | 11 | 0 |

| West          |   |   |   |
|---------------|---|---|---|
|               | W | L | T |
| Seattle       | 8 | 6 | 0 |
| San Francisco | 6 | 8 | 0 |
| St. Louis     | 5 | 8 | 0 |
| Arizona       | 4 | 9 | 0 |

Thursday's Games

Sunday's Games

Dallas at Atlanta, 7 p.m.  
Miami at Buffalo, noon  
N.Y. Jets at Minnesota, noon  
Tampa Bay at Chicago, noon  
Jacksonville at Tennessee, noon  
Cleveland at Baltimore, noon  
Washington at New Orleans, noon  
Denver at Arizona, 3:05 p.m.  
Philadelphia at N.Y. Giants, 3:15 p.m.  
St. Louis at Oakland, 3:15 p.m.  
Kansas City at San Diego, 7:15 p.m.  
Cincinnati at Indianapolis, 7:30 p.m.

NFL Summary

At Seattle

Seattle 7, San Francisco 0  
Seattle 7, San Francisco 0

First Quarter

Sea—Alexander 3 run (Brown kick), 2:18.  
Second Quarter  
SF—FG—Newman 38, 3:03.  
Fourth Quarter  
SF—V-Davis 8 pass from A. Smith (Nedney kick), 11:24.  
SF—Gore 20 pass from A. Smith (Nedney kick), 4:01.  
SF—A. Smith 18 run (Nedney kick), 1:42.  
Sea—Stevens 22 pass from Hasselbeck (Brown kick), 0:09.  
A—67,650.

Individual Statistics

RUSHING—San Francisco: Gore 29-144, A. Smith 6-33, Robinson 1-33, Battie 1-18, Hicks 1-0, Seattle, Alexander 23-73, Morris 2-14, Hasselbeck 1-3, Strong 1-0.  
PASSING—San Francisco: A. Smith 14-25-0-162, Seattle: Hasselbeck 20-37-2-220.  
RECEIVING—San Francisco: Battie 5-97, Gore 4-34, V-Davis 3-15, Bryant 2-16, Seattle: Hackett 8-87, Stevens 5-64, Branch 4-54, Burstein 2-12, Strong 1-3.  
MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

College Football Bowls

Dec. 19 Poinsettia Bowl at San Diego, TCU vs. Northern Illinois, 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Dec. 21 Las Vegas Bowl, BYU vs. Oregon, 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Dec. 22 New Orleans Bowl, Troy vs. Rice, 7 p.m. (ESPN2)

Dec. 23 PapaJohn's Bowl at Birmingham, Ala., South Florida vs. East Carolina, Noon (ESPN2)

Dec. 23 New Mexico Bowl at Albuquerque, New Mexico vs. San Jose State, 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Dec. 23 Armed Forces Bowl at Fort Worth, Texas, Tulsa vs. Utah, 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Dec. 24 Hawaii Bowl at Honolulu, Arizona State vs. Hawaii, 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Dec. 26 Motor City Bowl at Detroit, Central Michigan vs. Middle Tennessee, 6:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Dec. 27 Emerald Bowl at San Francisco, Florida State vs. UCLA, 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Dec. 28 Independence Bowl at Shreveport, La., Oklahoma State vs. Alabama, 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Dec. 28 Holiday Bowl at San Diego, California vs. Texas A&M, 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Dec. 28 Texas Bowl at Houston, Rutgers vs. Kansas State, 7 p.m. (NFL)

Dec. 29 Music City Bowl at Nashville, Tenn., Clemson vs. Kentucky, Noon (ESPN)

Dec. 29 Sun Bowl at El Paso, Missouri vs. Oregon State, 1 p.m. (CBS)

Dec. 29 Liberty Bowl at Memphis, Tenn., South Carolina vs. Houston, 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Dec. 29 Insight Bowl at Tampa, Ariz., Minnesota vs. Texas Tech, 3:30 p.m. (NFL)

Dec. 29 Champ Sports Bowl at Orlando, Fla., Maryland vs. Purdue, 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Dec. 30 Meineke Bowl at Charlotte, N.C., Navy vs. Boston College, Noon (ESPN)

Dec. 30 Aloha Bowl at San Antonio, Iowa vs. Texas, 3:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Dec. 30 Chick-fil-A Bowl at Atlanta, Virginia Tech vs. Georgia, 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Dec. 31 Mop Computers Bowl at Boise, Idaho, Nevada vs. Miami, 6:30 p.m. (ESPN)

Jan. 1 Outback Bowl at Tampa, Fla., Penn State vs. Tennessee, 10 a.m. (ESPN)

Jan. 1 Cotton Bowl at Dallas, Auburn vs. Nebraska, 10:30 a.m. (FOX)

Jan. 1 Capital One Bowl at Orlando, Fla., Wisconsin vs. Arkansas, Noon (ABC)

Jan. 1 Gator Bowl at Jacksonville, Fla., Georgia Tech vs. West Virginia, Noon (CBS)

Jan. 1 Rose Bowl at Pasadena, Calif., Southern Cal vs. Michigan, 4 p.m. (ABC)

Jan. 1 Fiesta Bowl at Glendale, Ariz., Boise State vs. Oklahoma, 7:30 p.m. (FOX)

Jan. 2 Orange Bowl at Miami, Wake Forest vs. Louisville, 7 p.m. (FOX)

Jan. 3 Sugar Bowl at New Orleans, LSU vs. Notre Dame, 7 p.m. (FOX)

Jan. 3 International Bowl at Toronto, Cincinnati vs. Western Michigan, 11:00 a.m. (ESPN2)

Jan. 7 GMAC Bowl at Mobile, Ala., Southern Miss vs. Ohio, 7 p.m. (ESPN)

Jan. 8 BCS National Championship at Glendale, Ariz., Ohio State vs. Florida, 7 p.m. (FOX)

Hockey

NHL Standings

EASTERN CONFERENCE

| Atlantic Division |    |    |   |
|-------------------|----|----|---|
|                   | W  | L  | T |
| N.Y. Rangers      | 18 | 10 | 4 |
| New Jersey        | 17 | 11 | 4 |
| N.Y. Islanders    | 11 | 13 | 8 |
| Pittsburgh        | 14 | 11 | 3 |
| Philadelphia      | 8  | 19 | 2 |

| Northeast Division |    |    |   |
|--------------------|----|----|---|
|                    | W  | L  | T |
| Buffalo            | 18 | 5  | 0 |
| Montreal           | 18 | 8  | 5 |
| Ottawa             | 16 | 16 | 1 |
| Toronto            | 14 | 13 | 3 |
| Boston             | 15 | 12 | 2 |

| South Division |    |    |   |
|----------------|----|----|---|
|                | W  | L  | T |
| Atlanta        | 18 | 9  | 5 |
| Carolina       | 15 | 13 | 4 |
| Washington     | 13 | 10 | 7 |
| Tampa Bay      | 16 | 16 | 2 |
| Florida        | 10 | 18 | 6 |

WESTERN CONFERENCE

| Central Division |    |    |   |
|------------------|----|----|---|
|                  | W  | L  | T |
| Nashville        | 20 | 8  | 4 |
| Detrit           | 18 | 8  | 4 |
| Chicago          | 12 | 13 | 5 |
| Columbus         | 11 | 16 | 3 |
| St. Louis        | 7  | 19 | 4 |

| Northwest Division |    |    |   |
|--------------------|----|----|---|
|                    | W  | L  | T |
| Edmonton           | 17 | 12 | 3 |
| Minnesota          | 16 | 13 | 2 |
| Vancouver          | 16 | 15 | 3 |
| Calgary            | 15 | 11 | 3 |
| Colorado           | 15 | 14 | 2 |

| Pacific Division |    |    |    |
|------------------|----|----|----|
|                  | W  | L  | T  |
| Anaheim          | 23 | 3  | 6  |
| San Jose         | 25 | 0  | 46 |
| Dallas           | 20 | 12 | 0  |
| Los Angeles      | 12 | 17 | 4  |
| Phoenix          | 12 | 18 | 2  |

Track & Field

College

CINCINNATI—Named Joe Tresky defensive coordinator, Greg Forest running backs coach, Mike Elston tight ends coach and Tim Hinton linebackers coach.

PITTSBURGH—Named Buddy Morris strength and conditioning coach and Tom Myslinski assistant strength and conditioning coach.

SOUTHEASTERN LOUISIANA—Named Michael Lucas football coach.

VALPARAISO—Named Jeff French men's



AMY ROH/  
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# Stalls: Career high 17 kills from junior middle leads NU

Continued from page C1

That's right when the Huskers started to take over the match after being dominated in the first game. " (Coming into the match), we were going to try to run (Stalls) away from Meriwether," Cook said. "We were going to try to keep her away from Meriwether. Once we figured out she couldn't stop her, we said 'let's go on a run.' "Meriwether is really good when she has time

to block. When you go at her, she's not as good. " Said Stalls: "I really wanted to keep it simple. Sometimes when you get so bogged down into wanting to make the special plays, you're not even doing the stuff you want to do." Cook said he saw Stalls get "in the zone" against Minnesota in the region finals and against Texas during the regular season. "In the big matches, she's like that," he said.

Stalls' performance helped overcome a sub-par outing for Jordan Larson, who had a .000 attack percentage as she finished with six kills and six hitting errors on 50 attack attempts. Stalls gave a lot of credit to Holloway, who connected with Stalls for several of her 17 kills. "Rhythm is key," Stalls said. "We started passing better. ... (Holloway) would just throw it up there and I'd do something with it."



AMY ROH/Tribune

Nebraska's Dani Busboom tries to get to the ball in game 4 against UCLA in the semifinal of NCAA Division I Volleyball Championship Thursday at the Qwest Center in Omaha.

## NU: Huskers reach finals with win over UCLA

Continued from page C1

Unlike the match against Minnesota, Nebraska didn't let the Bruins take the first two games. "Going down 0-2 is the hardest thing, even with the crowd," setter Rachel Hollowly said. "We did it against Minnesota, but that was the hardest thing I've done in my life. It was a crucial turning point in the match. Once we made it 1-1, I thought we had a great chance from there." The Bruins entered Thursday night's match on a 20-game winning streak that extended to 21 after never trailing in the first game. UCLA jumped out to an early 5-1 lead in the opening game, leading all the way until the Huskers' finally tied it at 13-all after a Tracy Stalls solo block and a Bruin hitting error. The Bruins came right back, taking an 18-14 lead that increased to 26-17 as Nebraska took a pair of timeouts to no avail. Leading 19-17, the Bruins rattled off seven straight points to essentially put the match away. The Bruin lead got as big as 28-18 before a late Nebraska rally that temporarily woke up the crowd. But it was too late as UCLA held on for the 30-23 win. The Bruins hit .250 in the first game while Nebraska was at only .143. "I'm not sure we could have played any worse. That might have been our worse game of the year," Cook said. "UCLA was

just giving the ball to us and ... we were all over the place. But the experience against Minnesota, of being able to come back and having that confidence, kind of kicked in for us." NU junior right side hitter Sarah Pavan had six kills but also four attack errors in the opening game. UCLA's Kaitlin Sather and Nana Meriwether each had five kills as the duo combined to hit .476. Nebraska finally took a lead in the match at 13-12 in the second game, bringing the crowd to its feet. Nebraska increased its lead to three before the Bruins went on a 7-2 run to regain the lead at 26-24. With the Bruins still leading by two at 28-26, the Huskers scored the final four points of the match to tie the match at one game apiece. Pavan got a big kill, her 13th of the match, to make the score 28-27. A UCLA hitting error tied the game and forced the Bruins to take a timeout. A stuff block by Kari Cooper and Holloway gave the Huskers the lead and a UCLA lift ended the game. "If we go down 0-2, we're in a big hole to come back — even though we have the crowd," Cook said. "I think that also took a little bit out of UCLA. That was probably the turning point of the match." The third game started right how the fourth ended — back and forth. But with the score tied 13-13, Nebraska took control of the game with 10 straight points — three

of which came on Stalls kills and two of which came on Pavan aces. Stalls finished the third game with seven kills, including the game-winner as she hit an astonishing .875 in the game. As a team, the Huskers hit .312 in the game after hitting just .144 in the first two games. The Huskers also hit .312 in the fourth game to finish with a .225 attack percentage for the match. The Huskers led most of the fourth game, although the Bruins were within only one at 28-27 after recording three straight points. But after trading points, the Huskers got the match winner on a kill by Jordan Larson, who had all six of her kills in the final game. Pavan finished with a match-high 22 kills. She also had four ace serves, tying a career high. "Historically, I haven't served too well in the Qwest Center," Pavan said. "I'm not going to lie. I was a little bit nervous about serving back here again. I just got into rhythm." The Huskers will now try to accomplish what they couldn't last year, when they lost in three games to Washington. It won't be a rematch, though, as Stanford swept the Huskies Thursday night. "It's unreal to be back in the national championship game — in Omaha," Busboom said. "I can't even describe it. It's such an awesome feeling."

### Tribland Basketball Roundup

|                                                                                                                                      |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| <b>Blue Hill Girls</b>                                                                                                               | <b>56</b>      |
| <b>Silver Lake Girls</b>                                                                                                             | <b>41</b>      |
| <b>BLUE HILL</b> — Blue Hill defeated Silver Lake on Thursday 56-41.                                                                 |                |
| Rachel Van Boening led Blue Hill with 14 points. Teammate Kelsey Bonifas tallied 11 points while Raelene Buschow added eight points. |                |
| Silver Lake's Olivia Grigg tallied 17 points while McKenzie Mangers, Maddie Thurston, and Joslynn Roth all added six points each.    |                |
| Silver Lake (3-3)                                                                                                                    | 5 10 10 16— 41 |
| Blue Hill (4-1)                                                                                                                      | 14 14 22 6— 56 |
| <b>Blue Hill (56)</b>                                                                                                                |                |
| Christina Hubl 7, Kelsey Bonifas 11, Danielle Hubl 2, Madison Coffey 7, Page Kohmetscher 7, Raelene Buschow 8, Rachel Van Boening 14 |                |
| <b>Silver Lake (41)</b>                                                                                                              |                |

|                                                                                                                                                           |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Mckenzie Mangers 6, Jami Shaw 2, Maddie Thurston 6, Caitlin Bruckman 4, Joslynn Roth 6, Olivia Grigg 17.                                                  |                 |
| <b>Giltner Girls</b>                                                                                                                                      | <b>52</b>       |
| <b>Nebraska Christian Girls</b>                                                                                                                           | <b>24</b>       |
| <b>CENTRAL CITY</b> — Giltner defeated Nebraska Christian on Thursday 52-24.                                                                              |                 |
| Natalie Harmon led Giltner with 12 points. Teammates Jenny Lockmon and Stasia Ott both added 10 points while Gretchen Kreutz tallied six points.          |                 |
| Giltner (5-0)                                                                                                                                             | 16 10 11 15— 52 |
| NE Christian (0-6)                                                                                                                                        | 2 7 4 11— 24    |
| <b>Giltner (52)</b>                                                                                                                                       |                 |
| Alex Hosier 1, Chelsea Stallings 5, Natalie Harmon 12, Gretchen Kreutz 6, Jenny Lockmon 10, Jordan Ashby 2, Stasia Ott 10, Chelsea White 2, Molly Ocker 4 |                 |
| <b>Nebraska Christian (24)</b>                                                                                                                            |                 |
| Rebecca Woods 1, Chrissy Ritta 7, Lucy Tonniges 3, Emily Murphy 8, Loy Greiss 5 .                                                                         |                 |

|                                                                                                                                                      |                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| <b>Blue Hill Boys</b>                                                                                                                                | <b>66</b>       |
| <b>Silver Lake Boys</b>                                                                                                                              | <b>42</b>       |
| <b>BLUE HILL</b> — Blue Hill defeated Silver Lake 66-42 on Thursday.                                                                                 |                 |
| Jacob Bachman led Blue Hill with 16 points. Teammates Tyson Jordening and Zach Herz both tallied 13 points while Brandon Faimon added eight points.  |                 |
| Silver Lake's Josh Oles had 10 points while Derrick Shaw added eight points.                                                                         |                 |
| Silver Lake (0-5)                                                                                                                                    | 10 10 7 15— 42  |
| Blue Hill (3-2)                                                                                                                                      | 16 17 11 22— 66 |
| <b>Blue Hill (66)</b>                                                                                                                                |                 |
| Tyson Jordening, 13, Jeff Hubl 4, Shawn Hastings 2, Brandon Faimon 8, Jacob Bachman 16, Trent Ockinga 4, Cody Karr 4, Zach Herz 13, Corey Willcott 2 |                 |
| <b>Silver Lake (42)</b>                                                                                                                              |                 |
| Josh Oles 10, Shaun Fisher 2, Gary                                                                                                                   |                 |

|                                                                                                                                                                                   |                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Thompson 5, Brett Bonifas 2, Mitch Hansen 2, Reid Choquette 4, Derrick Shaw 8, Jordan Grabill 4, Connor Morris 5.                                                                 |                 |
| <b>GICC Boys</b>                                                                                                                                                                  | <b>65</b>       |
| <b>Minden Boys</b>                                                                                                                                                                | <b>48</b>       |
| <b>GRAND ISLAND</b> — Minden fell to Grand Island Central Catholic on Thursday 65-48.                                                                                             |                 |
| Spencer Choquette led Minden with 12 points and 10 rebounds. Teammate Dallis Christensen tallied nine points, four assists, and 10 rebounds while Nic Carlson added seven points. |                 |
| Minden (2-2)                                                                                                                                                                      | 13 14 17 4— 48  |
| GICC (6-0)                                                                                                                                                                        | 23 17 13 12— 65 |
| <b>Grand Island Central Catholic (65)</b>                                                                                                                                         |                 |
| Aaron Galvan 1, Spencer Fahley 4, Joe Partenington 18, Sam Bolton 4, Brad Kulus 14, Jake Johnson 24                                                                               |                 |
| <b>Minden (48)</b>                                                                                                                                                                |                 |
| Nic Carlson 7, Spencer Choquette 12, Gavin Blum 6, Jordan Granger 5, Stuart Anderson 3, Dallis Christensen 9, Cody Krull 6.                                                       |                 |

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Whom do you call if you have a potential story for print? The answer, of course, is the Hastings Tribune or an authorized representative. Listed below are Tribune correspondents and phone numbers. If you have a news tip, a news story, or a picture possibility, call the correspondent nearest you. He or she will get the information to the

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