

NCAA TOURNAMENT HISTORY

Overall NCAA Tournament Record:

130-37 (.778)

By Site:

Home: 83-7 (Coliseum 55-5/Devaney Center 28-2)
Away/Neutral Sites: 47-30

By Round:

First: 36-1 (Nebraska received a bye from 1994-97 and 2021)
Second: 29-2 (Second round began in 1993)
Regional Semifinal: 32-7
Regional Final: 17-15
National Semifinal: 11-6
National Final: 5-6

Best NCAA Tournament Winning Percentage

1. Stanford	138-34 (.802)
2. Nebraska	130-37 (.778)
3. Texas	116-36 (.763)
4. Penn State	110-36 (.753)
5. UCLA	94-35 (.729)

Most NCAA Tournament Wins

1. Stanford	138
2. Nebraska	130
3. Texas	116
4. Penn State	110
5. UCLA	94

Most NCAA Tournament Appearances

1. Penn State	43
2. Nebraska	42
Stanford	42
4. Hawaii	41
5. Texas	40

Most NCAA Semifinals Appearances

1. Stanford	23
2. Nebraska	17
3. Texas	15
4. Penn State	13
5. UCLA	12

Most NCAA Final Appearances

1. Stanford	17
2. Nebraska	11
3. Penn State	10
4. Texas	9
5. UCLA	8

Most NCAA Championships

1. Stanford	9
2. Penn State	7
3. Nebraska	5
4. Texas	4
UCLA	4

Note: NCAA Tournament action 1981-current

1982 (1-1)

First Round at Lincoln, Neb.
Penn State W, 3-0 15-13, 15-5, 15-13
Mideast Regional at West Lafayette, Ind.
Purdue L, 2-3 15-12, 15-12, 4-15, 12-15, 5-15

1983 (0-1)

First Round at Kalamazoo, Mich.
Western Michigan L, 1-3 15-9, 12-15, 12-15, 8-15

1984 (2-1)

First Round at Lincoln, Neb.
Pittsburgh W, 3-0 15-6, 15-5, 15-13
Mideast Regional at Kalamazoo, Mich.
W. Michigan W, 3-1 15-12, 15-10, 8-15, 15-7
Pacific L, 1-3 8-15, 10-15, 15-13, 15-3

1985 (2-1)

First Round at Lincoln, Neb.
Penn State W, 3-0 15-8, 15-7, 15-12
Mideast Regional at Lincoln, Neb.
Purdue W, 3-1 15-1, 16-14, 12-15, 15-11
USC L, 1-3 15-5, 11-15, 12-15, 7-15

1986 (4-1) - NCAA Runner-Up

First Round at Lincoln, Neb. (Devaney Center)
Pittsburgh W, 3-1 11-15, 15-5, 15-10, 15-7
Mideast Regional at Lincoln, Neb. (Devaney Center)
Penn State W, 3-2 7-15, 15-4, 16-14, 16-18, 15-9
Illinois W, 3-0 15-9, 15-8, 15-3
Championships at Stockton, Calif.
Stanford W, 3-1 7-15, 15-2, 15-10, 15-10
Pacific L, 0-3 12-15, 4-15, 4-15

1987 (2-1)

First Round at Lincoln, Neb.
Northern Iowa W, 3-0 15-9, 15-1, 15-3
Mideast Regional at Champaign, Ill.
Purdue W, 3-0 15-8, 15-12, 15-3
Illinois L, 0-3 11-15, 12-15, 5-15
First Round at Lincoln, Neb.
Weber State W, 3-2 15-10, 15-4, 14-16, 8-15, 15-8
Mideast Regional at Champaign, Ill.
Oklahoma L, 2-3 12-15, 9-15, 15-8, 15-11, 10-15

1989 (4-1) - NCAA Runner-Up

First Round at Lincoln, Neb.
Illinois State W, 3-0 15-7, 15-11, 15-12
Mideast Regional at Lincoln, Neb.
Minnesota W, 3-1 15-10, 11-15, 15-13, 15-12
Illinois W, 3-0 17-15, 15-5, 15-8
Championships at Honolulu, Hawaii
UCLA W, 3-0 15-13, 15-11, 15-6
Long Beach State L, 0-3 12-15, 0-15, 6-15

1990 (3-1) - NCAA Semifinalist

First Round at Lincoln, Neb.
Miami (Ohio) W, 3-0 15-3, 15-9, 15-9
Mideast Regional at Lincoln, Neb.
Pittsburgh W, 3-0 15-7, 15-11, 15-7
Penn State W, 3-0 15-12, 16-14, 10-15, 15-5
Championships at College Park, Md.
Pacific L, 1-3 13-15, 15-11, 9-15, 12-15

1991 (2-1)

First Round at Lincoln, Neb. (Devaney Center)
Illinois W, 3-0 15-5, 15-8, 15-12
Mideast Regional at Lincoln, Neb. (Devaney Center)
Wisconsin W, 3-0 15-9, 15-10, 15-10
Ohio State L, 1-3 15-9, 9-15, 16-17, 7-15

1992 (1-1)

First Round at Lincoln, Neb.
Colorado W, 3-1 15-11, 15-8, 8-15, 19-17
Mideast Regional at Champaign, Ill.
Illinois L, 0-3 10-15, 7-15, 10-15

1993 (1-1)

First Round at Lincoln, Neb.
Cornell W, 3-0 15-7, 15-4, 15-1
Second Round at South Bend, Ind.
Notre Dame L, 0-3 11-15, 10-15, 8-15

1994 (2-1)

First Round - Bye
Second Round at Lincoln, Neb.
George Wash. W, 3-0 17-15, 15-9, 15-8
Mideast Regional at Lincoln, Neb.
Colorado W, 3-0 15-11, 15-7, 15-5
Penn State L, 1-3 15-12, 11-15, 9-15, 8-15

1995 (5-0) - NCAA Champion

First Round - Bye
Second Round at Lincoln, Neb.
George Mason W, 3-0 15-2, 15-5, 16-14
Central Regional at Lincoln, Neb.
Penn State W, 3-1 15-7, 15-6, 14-16, 15-2
UCLA W, 3-0 15-9, 15-7, 16-14
Championships at Amherst, Mass.
Michigan State W, 3-2 10-15, 15-8, 15-8, 9-15, 15-8
Texas W, 3-1 11-15, 15-2, 15-7, 16-14

1996 (3-1) - NCAA Semifinalist

First Round - Bye
Second Round at Lincoln, Neb.
Arkansas W, 3-1 15-8, 12-15, 15-7, 15-7
East Regional at Lincoln, Neb.
Louisville W, 3-0 15-6, 15-7, 15-4
Penn State W, 3-2 15-12, 8-15, 15-13, 9-15, 20-18
Championships at Cleveland, Ohio
Stanford L, 1-3 15-9, 7-15, 9-15, 8-15

1997 (2-1)

First Round - Bye
Second Round at Lincoln, Neb.
Michigan State W, 3-0 15-7, 15-12, 15-4
Pacific Regional at Long Beach, Calif.
USC W, 3-2 15-13, 12-15, 14-16, 15-7, 15-12
Long Beach State L, 0-3 9-15, 9-15, 3-15

1998 (4-1) - NCAA Semifinalist

First and Second Rounds at Lincoln, Neb.
Morgan State W, 3-0 15-1, 15-2, 15-0
Utah W, 3-1 14-16, 15-4, 15-8, 15-9
Pacific Regional at Lincoln, Neb.
Pepperdine W, 3-2 16-14, 10-15, 14-16, 15-1, 15-12
Wisconsin W, 3-2 12-15, 18-16, 9-15, 15-10, 15-10
Championships at Madison, Wis.
Penn State L, 1-3 11-15, 8-15, 15-8, 11-15

1999 (2-1)

First and Second Rounds at Lincoln, Neb.
Davidson W, 3-0 15-3, 15-5, 15-3
San Diego W, 3-0 15-12, 15-8, 15-9
Pacific Regional at Stanford, Calif.
UC Santa Barbara L, 1-3 5-15, 15-7, 8-15, 3-15

2000 (6-0) - NCAA Champion

First and Second Rounds at Lincoln, Neb.
Princeton W, 3-0 15-9, 15-2, 15-7
South Carolina W, 3-2 15-11, 9-15, 13-15, 15-12, 15-13
Midwest Regional at Lincoln, Neb.
Ohio State W, 3-0 15-9, 15-6, 15-5
Arizona W, 3-0 15-7, 17-15, 15-11



2017 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS (32-4, 19-1 BIG TEN)

HONORS & AWARDS

- AVCA All-Americans**
 Kelly Hunter (First Team)
 Annika Albrecht (Second Team)
 Mikaela Foecke (Second Team)
- AVCA All-Region Team**
 Annika Albrecht
 Mikaela Foecke
 Briana Holman
 Kelly Hunter
- Academic All-District**
 Kelly Hunter (First Team)
 Sydney Townsend (Second Team)
- NCAA Championship All-Tournament**
 Mikaela Foecke, Co-Most Outstanding Player
 Kelly Hunter, Co-Most Outstanding Player
 Kenzie Maloney
- NCAA Regional All-Tournament**
 Mikaela Foecke, Most Outstanding Player
 Annika Albrecht
 Kelly Hunter
- Big Ten Setter of the Year**
 Kelly Hunter
- All-Big Ten**
 Annika Albrecht
 Mikaela Foecke
 Kelly Hunter

RESULTS (32-4, 19-1 Big Ten)

Aug. 25	vs. Oregon	L	1-3
Aug. 26	at Florida	L	2-3
Sept. 1	UMBC	W	3-0
Sept. 1	Oral Roberts	W	3-0
Sept. 2	Saint Mary's	W	3-0
Sept. 8	UCLA	W	3-0
Sept. 9	UCLA	W	3-0
Sept. 15	vs. Kansas State	W	3-0
Sept. 16	vs. Northern Iowa	L	1-3
Sept. 16	at Omaha	W	3-0
Sept. 22	at Penn State#	W	3-0
Sept. 23	at Rutgers#	W	3-0
Sept. 29	Minnesota#	W	3-0
Sept. 30	Wisconsin#	W	3-2
Oct. 4	Michigan State#	W	3-1
Oct. 7	at Iowa#	W	3-0
Oct. 11	at Wisconsin#	L	1-3
Oct. 14	at Purdue#	W	3-1
Oct. 20	Northwestern#	W	3-0
Oct. 21	Illinois#	W	3-1
Oct. 27	at Michigan State#	W	3-1
Oct. 29	at Michigan#	W	3-0
Nov. 3	Purdue#	W	3-1
Nov. 4	Indiana#	W	3-0
Nov. 8	Maryland#	W	3-0
Nov. 12	Rutgers#	W	3-0
Nov. 17	at Ohio State#	W	3-1
Nov. 18	at Maryland#	W	3-0
Nov. 22	at Northwestern#	W	3-0
Nov. 25	Iowa#	W	3-0
Dec. 1	Stony Brook	W	3-0
Dec. 2	Washington State	W	3-0
Dec. 8	vs. Colorado	W	3-0
Dec. 9	at Kentucky	W	3-1
Dec. 14	vs. Penn State	W	3-2
Dec. 16	vs. Florida	W	3-1

Denotes Big Ten Conference match



Back row (From L to R): Assistant Coach Kayla Banwarth, Head Coach John Cook, Assistant Coach Tyler Hildebrand, Aneka Szabo, Jazz Sweet, Chesney McClellan, Allie Havers, Lauren Stivins, Mikaela Foecke, Olivia Boender, Sami Slaughter, Briana Holman, Athletic Trainer Jolene Emricson, Director of Operations Lindsay Peterson. Front row (From L to R): Volunteer Coach Ryan Coomes, Graduate Manager John Henry, Video Coordinator Kelly O'Connor, Hayley Densberger, Sydney Townsend, Kelly Hunter, Annika Albrecht, Hunter Atherton, Kenzie Maloney, Graduate Manager Bre Mackie, Graduate Manager Joe Klein, Strength Coach Brian Kmita.

With Each Other, For Each Other, Huskers Win 2017 NCAA Title

The Nebraska volleyball team entered the 2017 season coming off back-to-back NCAA Semifinal appearances and a 2016 Big Ten championship. But with three AVCA All-Americans having graduated, the Huskers had the mindset of reinventing for the 2017 season. Led by senior co-captains Kelly Hunter and Annika Albrecht, NU not only reinvented itself with seven freshmen on the roster, it repeated as Big Ten champions and reached the Final Four for the third straight season for the first time in program history. Playing with the motto "With Each Other, For Each Other," the Huskers capped off a storybook ending in Kansas City with the program's fifth NCAA Championship.

Semifinals

In another epic NCAA Tournament match between Nebraska and Penn State, the Huskers survived one match point and rallied from a 2-1 deficit to defeat the Nittany Lions in a national semifinal match at the Sprint Center in Kansas City in front of an NCAA Semifinals-record crowd of 18,374. Nebraska snapped Penn State's 23-match winning streak, and the top-ranked Nittany Lions finished the season 33-2, with both losses coming to Nebraska. The Huskers were up against match point in the fourth set but rallied to win 28-26. In the fifth set, Nebraska trailed 6-4 before winning five straight points to take a 9-6 lead, and NU went on to win 15-11.

Final

The Huskers won their fifth national title, defeating the No. 2 seed Florida Gators, 3-1, in front of an NCAA Championship-record 18,516 fans at the Sprint Center. The Huskers won their second title in three years, becoming just the third team in NCAA history to win five volleyball national championships. Nebraska won the opening set 25-22 and cruised to a 25-17 win in set two. Florida bounced back to win the third set, 25-18, before Nebraska came out on fire in set four, racing to a 9-1 lead en route to a 25-16 victory. Mikaela

Foecke paced the Huskers with a match-high 20 kills. Kelly Hunter dished out 37 assists and tied her season high with six kills while finishing her NCAA Tournament career with a 16-1 record. Foecke and Hunter were named the co-Most Outstanding Players of the NCAA Championship and were joined on the team by libero Kenzie Maloney, who had a match-high 15 digs and produced a career-high two kills.

Highlighting the 2017 Season

- Nebraska won its fifth national title and second in three seasons. The Huskers became only the third team in NCAA history to win five national championships in volleyball.
- Kelly Hunter was a first-team AVCA All-American and the Big Ten Setter of the Year. Annika Albrecht and Mikaela Foecke were second-team AVCA All-Americans, and Foecke and Hunter were co-Most Outstanding Players of the NCAA Championship. Foecke was also the Most Outstanding Player in 2015. She became the fourth player in NCAA history to twice be named the NCAA Championship Most Outstanding Player and the first to earn the honor in non-consecutive years.
- John Cook became the fourth coach in NCAA history to win four national titles and the third to win four national championships at one school.

Quoting Coach John Cook

"I feel very honored and privileged to be around a team and a staff that's had an unbelievable belief in what we could do. These guys gave everybody an example in the sport of volleyball that you don't have to have five All-Americans. The other thing I want to say is how cool is this for volleyball? 18,000, sold out, happened to be close to Nebraska, which was a big help. But those fans still traveled down here to fill this place, and what a great statement for the sport of volleyball and how it's growing. It's pretty cool."
 - Cook following the national title match



2015 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS (32-4, 17-3 BIG TEN)

HONORS & AWARDS

- AVCA All-Americans**
 Kadie Rolfzen, First Team
 Amber Rolfzen, Second Team
 Justine Wong-Orantes, Third Team
- AVCA All-Region Team**
 Mikaela Foecke
 Kelly Hunter
 Amber Rolfzen
 Kadie Rolfzen
 Justine Wong-Orantes
- Academic All-District**
 Cecilia Hall
- NCAA Championship All-Tournament**
 Mikaela Foecke, Most Outstanding Player
 Kelly Hunter
 Amber Rolfzen
 Justine Wong-Orantes
- NCAA Regional All-Tournament**
 Kadie Rolfzen, Most Outstanding Player
 Amber Rolfzen
 Kelly Hunter
 Justine Wong-Orantes
- Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year**
 Justine Wong-Orantes
- All-Big Ten**
 Amber Rolfzen
 Kadie Rolfzen

RESULTS (32-4, 17-3 Big Ten)

Aug. 28	Tulsa	W	3-0
Aug. 29	Grand Canyon	W	3-0
Aug. 29	Pittsburgh	W	3-1
Sept. 4	at Texas	L	2-3
Sept. 5	vs. Oregon	W	3-2
Sept. 11	UC Davis	W	3-0
Sept. 12	South Florida	W	3-0
Sept. 12	Georgia Tech	W	3-0
Sept. 15	at Creighton	W	3-0
Sept. 19	at Iowa State	W	3-1
Sept. 23	at Iowa#	W	3-0
Sept. 26	Iowa#	W	3-0
Oct. 2	at Penn State#	W	3-2
Oct. 3	at Ohio State#	L	2-3
Oct. 7	Michigan State#	W	3-1
Oct. 10	Michigan#	W	3-1
Oct. 16	at Northwestern#	W	3-0
Oct. 17	at Illinois#	W	3-0
Oct. 23	Minnesota#	L	1-3
Oct. 24	Wisconsin#	L	1-3
Oct. 30	Rutgers#	W	3-0
Oct. 31	Maryland#	W	3-0
Nov. 4	at Purdue#	W	3-0
Nov. 7	at Indiana#	W	3-0
Nov. 11	at Michigan State#	W	3-2
Nov. 14	at Maryland#	W	3-1
Nov. 18	Indiana#	W	3-0
Nov. 21	at Michigan#	W	3-1
Nov. 25	Illinois#	W	3-0
Nov. 28	Penn State#	W	3-0
Dec. 4	Harvard	W	3-1
Dec. 5	Wichita State	W	3-0
Dec. 11	vs. BYU	W	3-0
Dec. 12	vs. Washington	W	3-1
Dec. 17	vs. Kansas	W	3-1
Dec. 19	vs. Texas	W	3-0

Denotes Big Ten Conference match



2015 National Champion Huskers - (Back row from left): Head Coach John Cook, Assistant Coach Dani Busboom Kelly, Director of Operations Lindsay Peterson, Olivia Boender, Alicia Ostrander, Cecilia Hall, Kelsey Fien, Mikaela Foecke, Kadie Rolfzen, Meghan Haggerty, Assistant Coach Chris Tamas, Athletic Trainer Jolene Emricson. (Front row from left): Briana Holman, Amber Rolfzen, Brooke Smith, Kelly Hunter, Justine Wong-Orantes, Sydney Townsend, Annika Albrecht, Kenzie Maloney and Tiani Reeves.

Huskers Trust Each Other, Peak At Right Time

Nebraska's goal for the 2015 season was clear from the beginning: Destination Omaha. With the NCAA Championship returning to Omaha's CenturyLink Center for the first time since 2006 - when Nebraska won the national title in front of an NCAA record crowd - the goal always had to be to return to Omaha. The Huskers' mantra "Ultimate Trust" took off in late October, and they never looked back. After back-to-back home losses to Minnesota and Wisconsin in mid-October, the Huskers reeled off 16 straight wins en route to their fourth national title in program history and first since 2006. After bowing out in the NCAA regional final three straight years, the Huskers cleared that hurdle with a 3-1 victory over No. 1-ranked Washington in Lexington, Ky., reaching the Final Four for the first time since 2008.

Semifinals

The fourth-seeded Huskers used a strong finish to push their way past No. 9 Kansas, punching their ticket to the NCAA Championship match. Nebraska won the final seven rallies of the match to defeat the Jayhawks in front of 17,551 fans at the CenturyLink Center.

The Huskers led for all but six rallies in the first two sets, taking a 2-0 lead into the locker room following a 25-20 victory in set one and a 25-21 win in set two. The Jayhawks used six blocks to take the third set, 25-20. In the decisive fourth set, Kansas pulled within 18-16 on the strength of a 4-0 run, only to see Nebraska win the final seven rallies to advance to its seventh NCAA Final.

Final

The Huskers won their fourth national title, sweeping the second-seeded Texas Longhorns at the CenturyLink Center in Omaha. Kelsey Fien's 22nd swing of the night tool the Texas block and set off a raucous celebration in front of an NCAA-record crowd of 17,561 inside the CenturyLink Center, most of whom were wearing red.

The Huskers won their first national title since taking the crown in 2006, when Omaha hosted the NCAA Championships for the first time.

Nebraska head coach John Cook won his third national title since taking over for the legendary Terry Pettit in 2000.

Nebraska ended its championship season with a 16-match winning streak to finish the year with a 32-4 record. The Huskers had to work for their fourth national title, 20 years after topping Texas, 3-1, for their first NCAA Championship in 1995. The first set was tied at 23 before Nebraska won the final two rallies to earn a 25-23 win. In set two, Nebraska led 24-23 before winning the final rally. The Huskers took set three by a 25-21 margin, winning the title on their third match point.

Freshman Mikaela Foecke, the tournament's Most Outstanding Player, had a match-high 19 kills for the Huskers and hit .385.

Highlighting the 2015 Season

- Nebraska won its fourth national title in program history and first since 2006.
- The Huskers led the nation in attendance for the third consecutive season with 8,206 fans per match.
- Nebraska's three AVCA All-America honors increased its nation-leading total to 80.
- Mikaela Foecke was named the Most Outstanding Player of the NCAA Championship, becoming just the third freshman to earn the honor. Kelly Hunter, Amber Rolfzen and Justine Wong-Orantes were also named to the All-Championship team.

Quoting Coach John Cook

"It's hard to put into words the environment tonight, the setting, Nebraska versus Texas, and the crowd, national championship match, ESPN - everything else that went with it. For us to come out and play a great match against a great team, it was just awesome to see. It was just awesome to watch. So I can say I'm really proud, which I am, but I'm really more proud of this team on the journey they took to get to this point and to be able to come out and trust it and play their best match."
 - Cook following the national title match



From left: Kelsey Fien, Justine Wong-Orantes, Kadie Rolfzen, Kelly Hunter and Kenzie Maloney celebrate match point - a kill by Fien - in the 3-0 sweep of Texas in the 2015 NCAA Championship match.

2006 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS (33-1, 19-1 BIG 12)

HONORS & AWARDS

- **Honda-Broderick Cup**
Sarah Pavan
- **AVCA National Player of the Year**
Sarah Pavan
- **AVCA All-Americans**
Jordan Larson, First Team
Sarah Pavan, First Team
Tracy Stalls, Second Team
Rachel Holloway, Third Team
- **Academic All-American of the Year**
Sarah Pavan
- **Academic All-America**
Sarah Pavan, First Team
- **NCAA Regional All-Tournament**
Jordan Larson, MVP
Sarah Pavan
Rachel Holloway
- **NCAA Championship All-Tournament**
Sarah Pavan, MVP
Rachel Holloway
Jordan Larson
Tracy Stalls
- **First-Team All-Big 12**
Sarah Pavan (Player of the Year)
Jordan Larson
Rachel Holloway
Tracy Stalls

RESULTS (33-1, 19-1 Big 12)

Aug. 29	San Diego	W	3-0
Sept. 1	Saint Mary's	W	3-0
Sept. 2	Middle Tennessee	W	3-0
Sept. 3	Long Beach State	W	3-0
Sept. 8	Louisville	W	3-0
Sept. 9	Cal Poly	W	3-0
Sept. 10	Minnesota	W	3-1
Sept. 13	Kansas#	W	3-0
Sept. 16	at Oklahoma#	W	3-0
Sept. 20	Iowa State#	W	3-0
Sept. 23	Texas Tech#	W	3-0
Sept. 24	at Creighton	W	3-1
Sept. 30	at Baylor#	W	3-1
Oct. 4	Kansas State#	W	3-0
Oct. 7	at Texas A&M#	W	3-0
Oct. 11	at Missouri#	W	3-0
Oct. 14	Colorado#	W	3-0
Oct. 18	at Texas#	W	3-2
Oct. 25	Missouri#	W	3-0
Oct. 28	at Kansas State#	W	3-0
Nov. 1	at Texas Tech#	W	3-0
Nov. 4	Oklahoma#	W	3-0
Nov. 8	at Iowa State#	W	3-1
Nov. 11	at Colorado#	L	2-3
Nov. 15	Texas A&M#	W	3-0
Nov. 18	Baylor#	W	3-0
Nov. 22	at Kansas#	W	3-0
Nov. 25	Texas	W	3-0
Dec. 1	American	W	3-1
Dec. 2	Northern Iowa	W	3-0
Dec. 8	vs. San Diego	W	3-0
Dec. 9	vs. Minnesota	W	3-2
Dec. 14	vs. UCLA	W	3-1
Dec. 16	vs. Stanford	W	3-1

Denotes Big 12 Conference match



2006 National Champion Huskers - (Back row from left): Head Assistant Coach Lee Maes, Rachel Schwartz, Dani Mancuso, Christina Houghtelling, Maggie Griffin, Dani Busboom, Rachel Holloway, Head Coach John Cook, Assistant Coach Charlene Johnson-Tagaloa. (Front row from left): Athletic Trainer Jolene Emricson, Student Manager Ben Boldt, Kori Cooper, Jordan Larson, Tracy Stalls, Sarah Pavan, Amanda Gates, Brooke Bartek, Student Manager Bill Egbert and Director of Volleyball Operations Lindsay Wischmeier. Not pictured: Strength Coach Laura Pilakowski.

A Magical Season

Nebraska enjoyed a storybook season in 2006, putting together a 33-1 record en route to the school's third national title. Despite the loss of AVCA National Player of the Year Christina Houghtelling before the start of preseason practice and a lineup that featured three new starters, the Huskers won their first 23 matches, including 18 sweeps, before suffering their only loss of the year. The Huskers rebounded by losing just one game over the next seven matches before running into their toughest test of the postseason. One game away from the national semifinals in Omaha, the Huskers overcame a 2-0 deficit to topple Minnesota and win a regional for the first time outside the state in school history. That win set the stage for one of the biggest volleyball events in history, as the Huskers played for a chance at a national title in front of sold-out crowds of 17,000-plus at the Qwest Center in Omaha.

Semifinals

Nebraska used a career night from Tracy Stalls to advance to the finals with a 3-1 victory over fourth-ranked UCLA. Stalls totaled a career-high 17 kills on .577 hitting, out-shining UCLA All-American Nana Meriwether, who was held to 12 kills and a season-low .190 hitting. The Huskers dropped the opener and trailed 28-26 before a Pavan kill pulled NU within a point. Stalls then closed out the game with three straight points from the service line, tying the match at one. Nebraska took control of the third game behind the strong serving of Pavan, who ran off nine straight points at the service line including three aces that turned a 13-all game into a 23-13 cushion. Stalls had seven kills in each of the final two games. While Pavan finished with a match-high 22 kills, the Husker defense held UCLA in check behind 29 digs from Dani Busboom and 25 from Jordan Larson, as both enjoyed career bests in digs against the Bruins.

Final

The Huskers followed a similar script as the semifinals, dropping the opening game before regrouping. Trailing 24-23 in game two, the Huskers seized the momentum with three straight points, highlighted by a Dani Mancuso kill that gave NU a 25-24 lead. In game three, another unlikely hero emerged to spark a Husker comeback. Trailing 23-19, Amanda Gates came off the bench and sparked NU with two big blocks, the second of which put the Huskers up 29-28. In the finale, the Huskers rode the arm of Sarah Pavan, who had six of her match-high 22 kills, before Jordan Larson's 19th kill of the night closed out the match after the Cardinal pulled within 29-27. NU had four players total at least 10 kills, as Mancuso finished with 12.

Highlighting the 2006 Season

- The Huskers led the country in both kills (17.40) and assists (16.20) per game, the first time Nebraska had led the country in either category.
- Nebraska set school records for kills per game, assists per game and block assists (823).
- Nebraska became the third team in NCAA history to lead the AVCA poll the entire season, joining UCLA (1992) and USC (2003), and the first team to win a national title while hosting since UCLA in 1991.
- Sarah Pavan became the first Husker athlete to win the Honda-Broderick Cup - symbolic of the top female athlete in college athletics. Pavan also became the first Big 12 student-athlete to win the award since the league's inception in 1996.

Quoting Coach John Cook

"This team maxed out to their abilities. They really never wavered the entire year, and they embraced it if they did. To win this here in Nebraska, with this group of people and overcoming the obstacles to get here and dealing with this pressure, it has to be No. 1."
- Cook following the national title match



Nebraska shattered NCAA single-match and all-session records at the 2006 NCAA Championships in Omaha, drawing 34,222 for the two matches, including a then-NCAA record crowd of 17,209 for the title match against Stanford. At the time, that was the largest crowd to ever see a volleyball match in the United States.

2000 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS (34-0, 20-0 BIG 12)

HONORS & AWARDS

- **AVCA National Player of the Year**
Greichaly Cepero
- **AVCA Division I Coach of the Year**
John Cook
- **Honda Award for Volleyball**
Greichaly Cepero
- **AVCA All-Americans**
Greichaly Cepero, First Team
Laura Pilakowski, First Team
Amber Holmquist, Second Team
- **Academic All-America**
Laura Pilakowski, Second Team
- **NCAA Regional All-Tournament**
Greichaly Cepero, MVP
Angie Oxley
Laura Pilakowski
- **NCAA Championship All-Tournament**
Greichaly Cepero, MVP
Amber Holmquist
Laura Pilakowski
- **All-Big 12**
Greichaly Cepero (Player of the Year)
Amber Holmquist
Jenny Kropp
Laura Pilakowski

RESULTS (34-0, 20-0 Big 12)

Sept. 1	Northwestern	W	3-0
Sept. 2	Georgia	W	3-0
Sept. 2	Colorado State	W	3-1
Sept. 4	Oral Roberts	W	3-0
Sept. 8	at Notre Dame	W	3-0
Sept. 9	vs. Michigan State	W	3-0
Sept. 10	vs. UCLA	W	3-2
Sept. 13	Texas#	W	3-0
Sept. 16	Missouri#	W	3-0
Sept. 20	at Kansas#	W	3-0
Sept. 23	Oklahoma#	W	3-0
Sept. 27	at Colorado#	W	3-0
Sept. 30	Texas A&M#	W	3-0
Oct. 3	Creighton	W	3-0
Oct. 8	at Iowa State#	W	3-0
Oct. 11	Baylor#	W	3-0
Oct. 14	Texas Tech#	W	3-1
Oct. 18	Kansas State#	W	3-0
Oct. 22	at Texas#	W	3-1
Oct. 25	at Missouri#	W	3-0
Oct. 28	Kansas#	W	3-0
Nov. 1	at Oklahoma#	W	3-0
Nov. 4	Colorado#	W	3-0
Nov. 8	at Texas A&M#	W	3-1
Nov. 15	Iowa State#	W	3-0
Nov. 19	at Baylor#	W	3-0
Nov. 22	Texas Tech#	W	3-0
Nov. 26	at Kansas State#	W	3-2
Dec. 1	Princeton	W	3-0
Dec. 2	South Carolina	W	3-2
Dec. 8	Ohio State	W	3-0
Dec. 9	Arizona	W	3-0
Dec. 14	vs. Hawaii	W	3-1
Dec. 16	vs. Wisconsin	W	3-2

Denotes Big 12 Conference match



2000 National Champion Huskers - (Back row from left): Lindsay Wischmeier, Pam Krejci, Kim Behrends, Amber Holmquist, Jenny Kropp, Jill McWilliams, Jenae Dowling. (Front row from left): Rachel Baumstark, Laura Pilakowski, Angie Oxley, Greichaly Cepero, Nancy Metcalf (Meendering), Anna Schrad, Sara Westling.

Mission Accomplished

Nebraska entered the 2000 season with a No. 11 preseason ranking and an eagerness to prove the pollsters wrong. Competing with a new coach, a new setter and without two-time All-American Nancy Metcalf (Meendering) didn't scare the Huskers. A trio of sophomore All-Americans, including AVCA Player-of-the-Year Greichaly Cepero, emerged to lead NU to a 34-0 record and the program's second national title. With a 3-2 win over Wisconsin Dec. 15 in the championship final, the Huskers became just the second team in NCAA history to finish a season undefeated. First-year Head Coach John Cook earned AVCA Coach-of-the-Year honors.

Semifinals

In the first match, Nebraska relied on its greatest strength - its block - to stifle Hawaii at the net in a 3-1 victory. The Huskers out-blocked the Rainbow Wahine 23-7.5, as Jenny Kropp and Amber Holmquist each tallied 10 block assists. With the win, the Huskers broke the school record for consecutive victories in the modern era of five-game matches. NU produced 36 victories in 1976 when all matches were played as two-out-of-three contests.

Final

After falling behind 2-1 to Wisconsin, Nebraska breezed to a 15-2 win in the fourth game to force a rally-scoring fifth game for the national title. With senior Kim Behrends at the service line, Laura Pilakowski slammed her 23rd kill of the match to secure the championship. Pilakowski was joined on the NCAA All-Tournament team by classmates Greichaly Cepero

and Amber Holmquist. Cepero added 52 assists, eight digs, eight kills and seven blocks, while Holmquist added 16 kills on a .387 hitting efficiency with five blocks.

Highlighting the 2000 Season

- Nebraska claimed its 23rd Big Eight/Big 12 championship in 25 seasons. With a 20-0 run through the league, the Huskers improved their all-time mark against Big 12 schools to 375-32-1, an amazing .920 winning percentage.
- Nebraska, ranked No. 1 in the AVCA/USA Today Coaches poll for 14 straight weeks, swept 26 of its 34 opponents and 17 of its 20 conference opponents, losing just five games in Big 12 play. Only three teams took NU to five games.
- Amber Holmquist shattered three Nebraska single-season blocking records, setting new marks with 199 block assists, 220 total blocks and 1.98 blocks per game. Holmquist also broke the Big 12 record for total blocks in a single game with 16 at Texas on Oct. 22.
- Nebraska bettered its own then-NCAA record for single-match home attendance, as 12,504 fans cheered the Huskers to a 3-0 win over Colorado, Nov. 4, at the Bob Devaney Sports Center.

Quoting Coach John Cook

"If there are 10 teams better than us, I think it's going to be a heck of a year in college volleyball, because believe me, we're going to be pretty good."

- Cook before the 2000 season



The Huskers celebrate with the championship trophy following their win over Wisconsin in the 2000 NCAA Championship match.



Laura Pilakowski had a match-high 23 kills and a team-best 15 digs in the five-set win over Wisconsin in the NCAA Championship match.

1995 NATIONAL CHAMPIONS (32-1, 12-0 BIG EIGHT)

HONORS & AWARDS

- **Morgan Trophy Award**
Allison Weston
- **AVCA Co-National Player of the Year**
Allison Weston
- **Honda Award for Volleyball**
Allison Weston
- **Volleyball Magazine Player of the Year**
Allison Weston
- **AVCA All-Americans**
Allison Weston, First Team
Christy Johnson, First Team
Lisa Reitsma, First Team
- **Academic All-America**
Allison Weston, First Team
Christy Johnson, Second Team
- **NCAA Regional All-Tournament**
Allison Weston
Christy Johnson
Lisa Reitsma
- **NCAA Championship All-Tournament**
Allison Weston
Billie Winsett
Christy Johnson
Kate Crnich
- **All-Big Eight**
Allison Weston (Player of the Year)
Christy Johnson
Lisa Reitsma
Billie Winsett

RESULTS (32-1, 12-0 Big Eight)

Aug. 25	Penn State	W	3-0
Aug. 26	Stanford	L	1-3
Sept. 1	vs. Santa Clara	W	3-0
Sept. 2	at Pacific	W	3-0
Sept. 8	Purdue	W	3-0
Sept. 9	Wisconsin	W	3-0
Sept. 15	vs. Gonzaga	W	3-0
Sept. 16	vs. Georgia	W	3-0
Sept. 16	at Wyoming	W	3-0
Sept. 22	Baylor	W	3-0
Sept. 23	George Washington	W	3-0
Sept. 27	at Colorado#	W	3-0
Sept. 30	Oklahoma#	W	3-0
Oct. 4	Kansas#	W	3-0
Oct. 7	at Iowa State#	W	3-0
Oct. 11	at Kansas State#	W	3-0
Oct. 14	at Missouri#	W	3-0
Oct. 21	Colorado#	W	3-0
Oct. 25	Kansas#	W	3-0
Oct. 28	Iowa State#	W	3-0
Nov. 1	Kansas State#	W	3-0
Nov. 4	at Texas	W	3-0
Nov. 7	Notre Dame	W	3-0
Nov. 10	at Oklahoma#	W	3-0
Nov. 12	Florida	W	3-2
Nov. 15	Missouri#	W	3-0
Nov. 24	Oklahoma	W	3-0
Nov. 25	Iowa State	W	3-0
Dec. 2	George Mason	W	3-0
Dec. 8	Penn State	W	3-1
Dec. 9	UCLA	W	3-0
Dec. 14	vs. Michigan State	W	3-2
Dec. 16	vs. Texas	W	3-1

Denotes Big Eight Conference match



1995 National Champion Huskers - (Back row from left): Volunteer Assistant Coach Doug West, Assistant Coach Cathy Noth, Head Coach Terry Pettit, Allison Weston, Stacie Maser, Lisa Avery, Lisa Reitsma, Jen McFadden, Jaime Kronidak, Assistant Coach Todd Raasch, Jenny Livers, Tara Kramer. (Front row from left): Christy Johnson, Billie Winsett, Maria Hedbeck, Fiona Nepo, Renee Saunders, Kate Crnich, Kim Legg, Denise Koziol.

One Goal - One Team - One Champion

Nebraska entered the season with one goal in mind, win the national championship. Led by a talented trio of seniors, the Huskers capped their championship run by hammering Texas 3-1 in the title match at Amherst, Mass. After three previous trips to the NCAA Championships, the Huskers' incredible drive and focus fueled them to their first national title.

Semifinals

In the first match, Nebraska countered a 15-10 loss in game one, by winning the second and third games, 15-8. Michigan State responded to NU's challenge, winning the fourth game, 15-9. In the fifth and decisive game, with the score deadlocked at 7-7, NU scored four consecutive points, forging to an 11-7 lead. The Spartans added one more point, but the Huskers prevailed, 15-8. Allison Weston led the Husker charge, recording a team-high 30 kills.

Final

In the finals, Texas jumped to an early 12-4 lead in game one, but the Huskers rallied to make it close, losing 15-10. Although they lost the first game, the Huskers gained momentum, playing solidly at the end of the game. NU cruised to wins in games two and three, thumping the Longhorns, 15-2 and 15-7. Game four swayed back and forth, but the Huskers persevered, sealing NU's first national title with a 16-14 victory. Billie Winsett and Kate Crnich led the way, posting 25 kills each. Crnich's 25 kills were a career high, hitting .500 for the match.



Outside hitter Kate Crnich had a career-high 25 kills on .500 hitting in the NCAA title match against Texas.

Highlighting the 1995 Season

- After losing its second match of the season to then-No. 1 Stanford, NU reeled off 31 consecutive wins to claim the NCAA title. An amazing 28 of Nebraska's 32 victories were 3-0 wins.
- Not only did Nebraska claim its first-ever national championship, the Huskers posted school records for wins and winning percentage that would stand until the 2000 season. Nebraska finished with a 32-1 (.970) record, bettering the .969 percentage it posted in 1994 (31-1). NU also matched the then-school record for wins, equaling the 1990 squad's record total of 32.
- Allison Weston shattered Eileen Shannon's Husker school record for career kills (1,521), finishing her career with 1,778.
- Nebraska bettered its own NCAA record for single-match home attendance, as 11,529 cheered the Huskers to a 3-0 win over Colorado, Oct. 21, at the Devaney Center. NU set the previous record of 11,032, Sept. 14, 1991, also at the Devaney Center. The mark would stand until the 2000 season.

Quoting Coach Terry Pettit

"We certainly should be strong. We have great senior leadership in Allison Weston, Billie Winsett and Christy Johnson. We were 31-1 last season (1994), and I think we're going to be better this year."
- Pettit before the 1995 season



Christy Johnson, Allison Weston and Billie Winsett raise the trophy following the NCAA Championship match win over Texas.

2023 NCAA FINALISTS (33-2, 19-1 BIG TEN)

HONORS & AWARDS

- **AVCA All-Americans**
Lexi Rodriguez, First Team
Merritt Beason, First Team
Bergen Reilly, Second Team
Harper Murray, Third Team
- **AVCA Region Player of the Year**
Merritt Beason
- **AVCA Region Freshman of the Year**
Harper Murray
- **Academic All-America**
Lexi Rodriguez, First Team
- **NCAA Championship All-Tournament**
Rebekah Allick
Merritt Beason
- **Big Ten Setter of the Year**
Bergen Reilly
- **Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year**
Lexi Rodriguez
- **Big Ten Freshman of the Year**
Harper Murray
- **All-Big Ten**
Merritt Beason, First Team
Harper Murray, First Team
Bergen Reilly, First Team
Lexi Rodriguez, First Team
Rebekah Allick, Second Team
Andi Jackson, Second Team



Front Row (L-R): Graduate Manager Brennan Hagar, Assistant Coach Kelly Hunter, Graduate Manager Nicklin Hames, Hayden Kubik, Maisie Boesiger, Lexi Rodriguez, Laney Choboy, Kennedy Orr, Bergen Reilly, Athletic Trainer Jolene Emricson, Director of Operations Lindsay Peterson, Video Coordinator Brian Magbitang. Back Row (L-R): Graduate Manager Colin Hassoun, Graduate Manager Jarrod Ferguson, Head Coach John Cook, Harper Murray, Andi Jackson, Lindsay Krause, Maggie Mendelson, Ally Batenhorst, Merritt Beason, Rebekah Allick, Caroline Jurevicius, Assistant Coach Jaylen Reyes, Strength Coach Brian Knitta. Not Pictured: Assistant Coach Jordan Larson.

Historic Season Ends With Runner-Up Finish

The 2023 season went down in history as Nebraska drew a crowd of 92,003 to Volleyball Day in Nebraska in Memorial Stadium on Aug. 30, a world record attendance for a women's sporting event. It was the beginning of a magical season, as the Huskers went on to win the Big Ten title before reaching the NCAA Championship match. The Huskers, with no seniors on their roster, were the top overall seed for the NCAA Tournament but fell to Texas 3-0 in the final in Tampa, Fla.

Highlighting the 2023 Season

- Nebraska ended its season with a 33-2 record. The Huskers' .943 winning percentage ranked fourth in school history and was the highest since the 2006 season.

- NU won the Big Ten title with a 19-1 record. It was their fourth Big Ten title and first since 2017.
- The Huskers won their first 27 matches en route to a 28-1 regular-season record, their best since going 28-1 in 2005.
- NU led the nation defensively for the second straight season (.137).
- The sellout crowd of 92,003 at Volleyball Day in Nebraska set a world record attendance for a women's sporting event.

Quoting Coach John Cook

"I'm very proud of our team for getting here. We've had a heck of a year, one of the greatest seasons we have ever had at Nebraska. So this match isn't going to define that and what we've accomplished this year."
- Cook following the NCAA Championship match

2021 NCAA FINALISTS (26-8, 15-4 BIG TEN)

HONORS & AWARDS

- **AVCA National Freshman of the Year**
Lexi Rodriguez
- **AVCA All-Americans**
Lexi Rodriguez, First Team
Kayla Caffey, Second Team
Madi Kubik, Third Team
- **AVCA Region Freshman of the Year**
Lexi Rodriguez
- **CoSIDA Academic All-District**
Lexi Sun
- **NCAA Championship All-Tournament**
Nicklin Hames
Madi Kubik
- **Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year**
Lexi Rodriguez
- **All-Big Ten**
Madi Kubik, First Team
Lexi Rodriguez, First Team
Lauren Stivrins, First Team
Nicklin Hames, Second Team
- **All-Big Ten Freshman**
Lindsay Krause
Lexi Rodriguez



Front Row (L-R): Volunteer Assistant Kelly Hunter, Director of Operations Lindsay Peterson, Kenzie Knuckles, Keonilei Akana, Kennedy Orr, Kayla Caffey, Whitney Lauenstein, Nicklin Hames, Anni Evans, Lexi Rodriguez, Video & Administrative Coordinator Brian Magbitang, Graduate Manager Joby Ramos. Back Row (L-R): Head Coach John Cook, Graduate Manager Remi Pourrat, Assistant Coach Jaylen Reyes, Graduate Manager Ryan Vorderer, Kalyann Meyer, Rylee Gray, Ally Batenhorst, Callie Schwarzenbach, Lauren Stivrins, Lindsay Krause, Lexi Sun, Madi Kubik, Strength Coach Brian Knitta, Graduate Manager Jeremiah Gonidakis, Athletic Trainer Jolene Emricson.

Huskers' Title Run Comes Up Just Short

Entering the NCAA Tournament with a 21-7 record and a lineup featuring four freshmen in the rotation, the 10th-seeded Nebraska volleyball team faced a challenging NCAA Tournament path in the Austin Regional with No. 2 Texas. But the young Huskers peaked at the right time, knocking off the Longhorns on their way to an NCAA Semifinals appearance. After a 3-1 win over No. 3 Pittsburgh, NU got a third chance that season against Big Ten champion Wisconsin in the NCAA Final. The match went to five sets, where the Huskers fell behind 7-0. A furious rally pulled the Huskers to within 14-12, but ultimately Wisconsin edged NU for the crown.

Highlighting the 2021 Season

- Three Huskers earned AVCA All-America honors, led by Nebraska's

second-ever AVCA National Freshman of the Year in libero Lexi Rodriguez, who was also the Big Ten Defensive Player of the Year.

- The Huskers reached the NCAA Championship match for the fourth time in seven years, the most finals appearances by any program since 2015.

Quoting Coach John Cook

"I told our team that this might be the most proud I've been of a Nebraska team, how they handled the season, the setbacks, the losses. To get to this match and play like that and even get way down in the fifth and fight our way back...just tremendous amount of heart, grit and resiliency. And these guys have done it every day. So I'm a very, very proud coach."
- Cook following the NCAA Championship match

2018 NCAA FINALISTS (29-7, 15-5 BIG TEN)

HONORS & AWARDS

- **VolleyballMag.com Coach of the Year**
John Cook
- **AVCA All-Americans**
Mikaela Foecke, First Team
Lauren Stivrins, First Team
Kenzie Maloney, Third Team
- **Senior CLASS Award**
Mikaela Foecke
- **Academic All-District**
Mikaela Foecke
- **NCAA Championship All-Tournament**
Mikaela Foecke
Lauren Stivrins
- **All-Big Ten**
Mikaela Foecke
Kenzie Maloney
Lauren Stivrins
- **All-Big Ten Freshman**
Nicklin Hames
Callie Schwarzenbach



Front Row (L-R): Graduate Manager John Henry, Graduate Manager Andrew Sato, Video Coordinator Kelly O'Connor, Megan Miller, Chen Abramovich, Kenzie Maloney, Mikaela Foecke, Brooke Smith, Hayley Densberger, Graduate Manager John La Rusch, Graduate Manager Bre Mackie, Strength Coach Brian Kmitta.
Back Row (L-R): Director of Operations Lindsay Peterson, Assistant Coach Jaylen Reyes, Head Coach John Cook, Mari Kurkova, Capri Davis, Anezka Szabo, Jazz Sweet, Callie Schwarzenbach, Lauren Stivrins, Lexi Sun, Sami Slaughter, Nicklin Hames, Athletic Trainer Jolene Emricson, Assistant Coach Kayla Banwarth.

Young Huskers Achieve Program First

The 2018 Nebraska volleyball team entered the season with 11 underclassmen and a true freshman starting at setter, so a fourth-straight NCAA Final Four appearance wasn't expected by many. After a 16-6 start to the season the Huskers hit their stride, winning 13 straight matches to make it all the way to the NCAA Championship match against No. 1 Stanford. Nebraska's trip to Minneapolis marked its fourth-straight NCAA Final Four appearance, a first in program history.

Highlighting the 2018 Season

• Nebraska's two senior captains who were with the program for four years - Mikaela Foecke and Kenzie Maloney - finished with a 21-2 record in their NCAA Tournament careers. Foecke and Maloney played in more postseason sets and matches and won more NCAA Tournament matches

than any other player in Husker history.

- The Huskers finished the season with a .144 opponent hitting percentage, which ranked No. 3 in the nation and was the Huskers' best defensive mark since 2005. NU held 13 teams to their season-low hitting percentage.

Quoting Coach John Cook

"I thought last year it couldn't get any better. I've had more fun coaching this year, more satisfaction, more enjoyment because of where we started, all the mountains we had to climb, and we get to this point and play a competitive match against a great Stanford team. For us to compete and be in there in the end, it's pretty rewarding."

- Cook following the NCAA Championship match

2016 NCAA SEMIFINALISTS (31-3, 18-2 BIG TEN)

HONORS & AWARDS

- **AVCA Central Region Coach of the Year**
John Cook
- **Big Ten Coach of the Year**
John Cook
- **AVCA All-Americans**
Kadie Rolfzen, First Team
Justine Wong-Orantes, First Team
Kelly Hunter, Second Team
Amber Rolfzen, Third Team
- **Academic All-America**
Kadie Rolfzen, First Team
- **NCAA Elite 90 Award**
Sydney Townsend
- **NCAA Regional All-Tournament**
Kadie Rolfzen, MVP
Kelly Hunter
Andie Malloy
- **All-Big Ten**
Kelly Hunter
Amber Rolfzen
Kadie Rolfzen
Justine Wong-Orantes



2016 Big Ten Champion Huskers - Back row (L to R): Director of Operations Lindsay Peterson, Assistant Coach Dani Busboom Kelly, Head Coach John Cook, Briana Holman, Olivia Boender, Kadie Rolfzen, Lauren Stivrins, Mikaela Foecke, Amber Rolfzen, Andie Malloy, Annika Albrecht, Assistant Coach Chris Tamas, Volunteer Assistant Jen Tamas, Athletic Trainer Jolene Emricson. Front row (L to R): Graduate Manager Joe Klein, Student Manager Ryan Coomes, Justine Wong-Orantes, Sydney Townsend, Tiani Reeves, Kelly Hunter, Hunter Atherton, Brooke Smith, Kenzie Maloney, Video Coordinator Natalie Morgan, Graduate Manager Cole Aiazzi.

Huskers Win Big Ten, Return to Final Four

The Huskers captured their first Big Ten title since 2011 and made a return trip to the NCAA Semifinals before falling just short of their goal to become the first Husker team to repeat as national champions. Still, the Huskers reached the pinnacle of the Big Ten for the second time in their six seasons in the conference with an 18-2 record. NU began the season with 12 straight wins, and after a setback at home to Ohio State, reeled off 14 consecutive conference wins to take control of the title race. The Huskers earned the No. 1 seed in the NCAA Tournament.

NU Stuns Penn State in Epic Regional Semifinal

Nebraska hosted Penn State in a regional semifinal and won in the most dramatic of fashions. After falling behind 2-0 in the match, NU

trailed 24-22 in set three and was on the brink of elimination. But the Huskers produced an epic comeback to win the set 26-24 and went on to win the match in five sets. The Huskers breezed past Washington in the final before the season ended in a 3-0 loss to Texas in the Final Four.

2016 Season Highlights

- Four Huskers were named AVCA All-Americans - Kadie Rolfzen and Justine Wong-Orantes (first team), Kelly Hunter (second team) and Amber Rolfzen (third team). Kadie Rolfzen was also a CoSIDA Academic All-American.

- Wong-Orantes became Nebraska's all-time career digs leader with 1,890, surpassing Kayla Banwarth.

- NU's .912 winning percentage was its best since 2008.

2008 NCAA SEMIFINALISTS (31-3, 18-2 BIG 12)

HONORS & AWARDS

- **AVCA Central Region Coach of the Year**
John Cook
- **Big 12 Coach of the Year**
John Cook
- **AVCA All-Americans**
Jordan Larson, First Team
Sydney Anderson, Second Team
Tara Mueller, Second Team
- **Academic All-America**
Amanda Gates, First Team
Kori Cooper, First Team
Jordan Larson, Second Team
- **NCAA Regional All-Tournament**
Tara Mueller, MVP
Sydney Anderson
Lindsey Licht
Jordan Larson
- **All-Big 12**
Jordan Larson (Player of the Year)
Sydney Anderson, First Team
Kori Cooper, First Team
Tara Mueller, First Team



2008 Big 12 Champion Huskers - (Back row from left): Athletic Trainer Jolene Emricson, Strength Coach Laura Pilakowski, Volunteer Assistant Ryan Walthall, Assistant Coach Erik Sullivan, Kaitlynn James, Brigitte Root, Sydney Anderson, Kayla Banwarth, Rachel Schwartz, Head Coach John Cook, Assistant Coach Lizzy Stenke and Director of Volleyball Operations Lindsay Peterson. (Front row from left): Tara Mueller, Allison McNeal, Jordan Larson, Lindsey Licht, Brooke Delano, Jordan Wilberger, Kori Cooper, Amanda Gates, Jessica Yanz and Jordan Haverly.

NU Reaches NCAA Semifinals

The Huskers inspired the state, reaching the NCAA Semifinals for the third time in four years. Led by Big 12 Player of the Year Jordan Larson, NU went 31-3 and won a share of the Big 12 title. John Cook was the Big 12 Coach of the Year. After dropping the first two sets to Penn State, the Huskers thrilled an NCAA-record crowd of 17,430 at the Qwest Center in Omaha by winning the next two sets to even the match, marking the only time that Penn State lost a set all year. NU led 10-8 in the fifth set, but six unanswered points ended the Huskers' NCAA title bid.

NCAA Regional

After opening regional action with a sweep of Michigan, the Huskers faced Washington for the first time since the 2005 NCAA title match. The Huskies won the first two sets before Nebraska fought back to win the next

two sets. The Huskers trailed 9-3 before running off nine straight points, including eight off the serving of Kayla Banwarth, to take a three-point lead. Washington pulled even at 13 apiece, but a Husky hitting error and a service ace from Larson completed the comeback. Tara Mueller led the way with a career-high 24 kills and 16 digs, while Larson matched her career best with 21 kills and added 18 digs.

2008 Season Highlights

- Nebraska tied the NCAA record for most consecutive home wins with 87, matching the mark Penn State set between 1995 and 2000.
- The Huskers won 30 matches for the 20th time in program history and fifth consecutive year.
- Jordan Larson set Nebraska's school career mark with 186 career aces, breaking the mark of 161 set by Val Novak.

2005 NCAA FINALISTS (33-2, 19-1 BIG 12)

HONORS & AWARDS

- **AVCA National Coach of the Year**
John Cook
- **Big 12 Coach of the Year**
John Cook
- **AVCA National Player of the Year**
Christina Houghtelling
- **AVCA All-Americans**
Melissa Elmer, First Team
Christina Houghtelling, First Team
Sarah Pavan, First Team
Jennifer Saleaumua, third team
- **CoSIDA Academic All-Americans**
Sarah Pavan, First Team
Christina Houghtelling, First Team
- **NCAA Regional All-Tournament**
Christina Houghtelling, MVP
Sarah Pavan
Melissa Elmer
- **All-Big 12**
Sarah Pavan (Player of the Year)
Christina Houghtelling, First Team
Melissa Elmer, First Team
Jennifer Saleaumua, Honorable Mention
Jordan Larson, Honorable Mention



2005 Big 12 Champion Huskers - (Back row from left): Head Assistant Coach Lee Maes, Assistant Coach Charlene Johnson-Tagalao, Jordan Larson, Melissa Elmer, Tracy Stalls, Sarah Pavan, Christina Houghtelling, Dani Mancuso, Amanda Gates, Director of Volleyball Operations Tina Westerhold, Volunteer Assistant Coach Christie Landry and Head Coach John Cook. (Front row from left): Manager Ben Boldt, Athletic Trainer Jolene Emricson, Rachel Schwartz, Maggie Griffin, Rachel Holloway, Dani Busboom, Jennifer Saleaumua, Meghan Smith, Strength Coach Laura Pilakowski and Student Manager Bill Egbert.

Huskies Earn NCAA Runner-Up Honors

The 2005 season proved to be one of the most memorable in school history. The Huskers went 33-2, falling one victory shy of a third NCAA title. Behind All-Americans Christina Houghtelling, Melissa Elmer, Sarah Pavan and Jennifer Saleaumua, the Huskers won their first 28 matches and earned their second straight Big 12 title. Nebraska rolled into the national semifinals in San Antonio, sweeping UCLA and fourth-ranked Florida in front of then-NCAA-record crowds in Omaha.

Huskies Play for NCAA Title

The 2005 season proved to be one of the most memorable in school history. The Huskers went 33-2, falling one victory shy of a third NCAA title. Behind All-Americans Christina Houghtelling, Melissa Elmer, Sarah

Pavan and Jennifer Saleaumua, the Huskers won their first 28 matches and earned their second straight Big 12 title. Nebraska rolled into the national semifinals in San Antonio, sweeping UCLA and fourth-ranked Florida in front of then-NCAA-record crowds in Omaha.

2005 Season Highlights

- Nebraska became the first host team to win the AVCA Classic, defeating No. 4 Hawaii and No. 3 Stanford.
- The Huskers led the nation in blocking for the fifth time in six years, averaging 4.12 blocks per game.
- Melissa Elmer repeated as the national leader in blocks with 2.17 blocks per game and became the Big 12 all-time leader in that category with 767 blocks.

2001 NCAA SEMIFINALISTS (31-2, 20-0 BIG 12)

HONORS & AWARDS

- **NCAA Top Eight Award**
Nancy Metcalf (Meendering)
- **AVCA All-Americans**
Amber Holmquist, First Team
Nancy Metcalf (Meendering), First Team
Greichaly Cepero, Second Team
Jenny Kropp, Second Team
- **CoSIDA Academic All-Americans**
Nancy Metcalf, First Team
Laura Pilakowski, Second Team
Greichaly Cepero, Third Team
- **NCAA Regional All-Tournament**
Nancy Metcalf (Meendering), MVP
Greichaly Cepero
Jenny Kropp
- **All-Big 12**
Nancy Metcalf (Meendering), Player of the Year
Greichaly Cepero, First Team
Amber Holmquist, First Team
Jenny Kropp, First Team
Laura Pilakowski, First Team



2001 Big 12 Champion Huskers - (Back row from left): Manager Marcus Shorney, Head Coach John Cook, Kim Behrends, Nancy Metcalf (Meendering), Sara Westling, Amber Holmquist, Greichaly Cepero, Jenny Kropp, Anna Schrad, Melissa Elmer, Ally Rebholz, Assistant Coach Craig Skinner, Assistant Coach Staci Wolfe, Director of Operations Diane Mendenhall. (Front row from left): Manager Ben Boldt, Sara Parks, Michelle Lynch, Amy Sibbensen, Rachel Baumstark, Pam Krejci, Laura Pilakowski, Lindsay Wischmeier, Jenae Dowling, Athletic Trainer Amanda Hall.

NU Reaches NCAA Semifinals

Nebraska fell two wins shy in its bid to repeat as national champions, as U.S. National Team member Logan Tom pounded 22 kills to lead Stanford to a 3-0 win over NU in the NCAA Semifinals in San Diego. The loss capped an otherwise successful season for the Huskers, who were 31-2 overall and 20-0 in the Big 12 Conference, dropping just three games in conference play. NU Coach John Cook was named Big 12 Coach of the Year, and Nancy Metcalf (Meendering) was named the Big 12 Player of the Year.

NCAA Regional

The Huskers' eighth semifinal bid did not come easy. After breezing to wins in games one and two, Nebraska dropped the next two games to Florida to tie the match. NU, which had not played a five-game match

all year, trailed 12-10 when Nancy Metcalf (Meendering) responded with back-to-back kills to even the score. After a Florida service error, Metcalf pounded another kill to bring Nebraska within a point of the win. All-American Aury Cruz held NU off with a kill, but Metcalf answered on the next rally with her 25th kill of the match.

2001 Season Highlights

- Nebraska earned its eighth NCAA semifinal bid and made its 20th consecutive NCAA Tournament appearance.
- The Huskers won 30 matches for the 12th time in program history.
- Nebraska broke the school record for opponent attack percentage, holding teams to a .106 combined mark to break the previous record of .109 set in 1995.

1998 NCAA SEMIFINALISTS (32-2, 19-1 BIG 12)

HONORS & AWARDS

- **AVCA District 5 Coach of the Year**
Terry Pettit
- **Big 12 Coach of the Year**
Terry Pettit
- **AVCA All-Americans**
Fiona Nepo, First Team
Nancy Metcalf, First Team
Megan Korver, Second Team
- **CoSIDA Academic All-American**
Megan Korver, Third Team
- **NCAA Regional All-Tournament**
Nancy Metcalf, MVP
Fiona Nepo
- **All-Big 12**
Fiona Nepo (Player of the Year)
Nancy Metcalf, First Team
Megan Korver, First Team



1998 Big 12 Champion Huskers - (Back row from left): Denise Koziol, Katie Jahnke, Pam Krejci, Megan Korver, Tonia Tauke, Jenny Kropp, Nancy Metcalf (Meendering) and Jill McWilliams. (Front row from left): Jaime Krondak, Angie Oxley, Kim Behrends, Nikki Henk, Kim Crandall, Mandy Monson and Fiona Nepo.

NU Reaches NCAA Semis for Third Time in Four Seasons

Nebraska's senior-laden team of Fiona Nepo, Megan Korver and Jaime Krondak guided the Huskers to one of the best seasons in NU history. The Huskers went 32-2 and reached the NCAA Semifinals in Madison, Wis.

Nebraska's victory over Wisconsin in the regional championship in Lincoln was a memorable one, as the longest match in school history spanned nearly three hours. NU avoided a two-game deficit by withstanding 14 game points to win game two, 18-16. Wisconsin won game three, 15-9, but Nebraska came right back to claim game four, 15-10. In the rally-scoring fifth game, NU recovered from a 9-7 hole to blitz to a 15-10 win. Nancy Metcalf (Meendering) was named the tournament MVP after posting 27 kills.

NCAA Semifinals

The match between the Huskers (32-1) and the Penn State Nittany Lions (34-0) featured three AVCA All-Americans on each side of the net and the top offense (PSU) and top blocking attack (NU) in the country. The third-ranked Huskers rallied from a two-game deficit by winning game three and led midway through game four, 6-2. But Lauren Cacciamani recorded seven kills in nine swings to lead Penn State to the victory. NU finished with 20 blocks.

1998 Season Highlights

- The Huskers went 18-0 at home to extend their NU Coliseum win streak to 65 matches.
- Nebraska also led the nation with 3.93 blocks per game.
- Three-time All-American Fiona Nepo shattered Nikki Stricker's career assist record by becoming Nebraska's all-time assist leader.

1996 NCAA SEMIFINALISTS (30-4, 19-1 BIG 12)

HONORS & AWARDS

- **USOC Elite Coach of the Year**
Terry Pettit
- **AVCA District 5 Coach of the Year**
Terry Pettit
- **Big 12 Coach of the Year**
Terry Pettit
- **AVCA All-Americans**
Lisa Reitsma, First Team
Fiona Nepo, First Team
- **CoSIDA Academic All-American**
Lisa Reitsma, Third Team
- **NCAA Championship All-Tournament**
Lisa Reitsma
- **NCAA Regional All-Tournament**
Lisa Reitsma
Megan Korver
Fiona Nepo
- **All-Big 12**
Lisa Reitsma (Player of the Year)
Fiona Nepo, First Team
Megan Korver, First Team
Kate Crnich, First Team



1996 Big 12 Champion Huskers - (Back row from left): Jen Livers, Assistant Coach Cathy Noth, Assistant Coach Nikki Best, Katie Jahnke, Tonia Tauke, Lisa Reitsma, Lisa Avery, Megan Korver, Head Coach Terry Pettit, Manager Marcus Shorney and Athletic Trainer Tara Kramer. (Front row from left): Stacie Maser, Mandy Monson, Kim Crandall, Denise Koziol, Renee Saunders, Kate Crnich, Fiona Nepo, Maria Hedbeck, Jaime Krondak.

Near Repeat

Despite the loss of three standout seniors who guided Nebraska to its first national title in 1995, and injuries to three key players, the Huskers nearly became the first team to repeat as NCAA champions since UCLA turned the trick in 1990 and 1991. NU fell only two matches shy of back-to-back national championships, dropping a hard-fought decision to eventual champion Stanford in the national semifinals.

NCAA Semifinals

The 30-3 Huskers faced top-seeded Stanford (29-2), which featured four AVCA All-Americans. Nebraska won the first game, 15-9, but the Cardinal amassed large leads in each of the next three games, securing a 3-1 win. Two days later, the Cardinal swept Hawaii for the national title. Lisa Reitsma led the Huskers with a match-high 22 kills. Kate Crnich smacked 16 kills and added a match-high 15 digs.

1996 Season Highlights

- NU opened the year by recording its then-school record 32nd-straight victory, a 3-1 triumph over Illinois State in the State Farm/NACWAA Classic.
- Nebraska claimed the first-ever Big 12 championship with a 19-1 league mark.
- Lisa Reitsma shattered Kathi DeBoer's single-season kill total (529 in 1987) with 611. In addition, Reitsma's 5.05 kills per game bettered Allison Weston's mark of 4.99 kills per game set in 1994.
- Fiona Nepo posted a school-record 1,653 set assists, eclipsing the 1989 standard of 1,608 set by Val Novak.

1990 NCAA SEMIFINALISTS (32-3, 12-0 BIG EIGHT)

HONORS & AWARDS

- **CoSIDA Academic All-American of the Year**
Janet Kruse
- **All-Americans**
Janet Kruse, First Team
Val Novak, First Team
Stephanie Thater, Second Team
- **CoSIDA Academic All-Americans**
Janet Kruse, First Team
Becky Bolli, Third Team
- **NCAA Regional All-Tournament**
Val Novak
Cris Hall
Janet Kruse
Stephanie Thater
- **All-Big Eight**
Val Novak, First Team
Janet Kruse, First Team
Cris Hall, First Team
Stephanie Thater, First Team



1990 Big Eight Champion Huskers - (Back row from left): Assistant Coach Cathy Noth, Head Coach Terry Pettit, Valerie Vermeulen, Linda Barsness, Stephanie Thater, Sara Hesch, Cris Hall, Janet Kruse, Carla Baker, Assistant Coach John Cook. (Front row from left): Katherine Pettit, Manager Kari Possehl, Becky Bolli, Debbie Brand, Eileen Shannon, Laura Luther, Nikki Stricker, Kim Kinnan, Jessica Walter, Val Novak, Athletic Trainer Therese Volmer.

Back-to-Back

For the second consecutive year, Nebraska returned to the NCAA Championships, only to be ousted one match short of the finals. Once again, as it did in 1986, Pacific sent the Huskers home with a 3-1 loss. It was the Tigers' second victory of the season against Nebraska, as the Tigers defeated the Huskers 3-1 in an early season tournament.

NCAA Semifinals

A close match throughout, Nebraska and Pacific's intense game one set the tone. Nebraska led 13-11, but saw the Tigers score four unanswered points and claim the crucial first game. The Huskers rebounded for a 15-11 win in game two, scoring the game's final three points. Games three and four were equally competitive, but the Tigers had the stamina to thwart Nebraska's attack, winning 15-9 and 15-12.

Cris Hall led NU with 18 kills, while Val Novak had 46 assists and a match-high 17 digs. Krissy Fifer led the Pacific attack with 21 kills.

1990 Season Highlights

- In terms of winning percentage, Nebraska finished with its then-best season ever at 32-3 (.914). Before losing to Pacific in the semifinals, Nebraska had won 16 straight contests.
- Nebraska set team records in block assists (558) and opponent hitting percentage (.135).
- Nebraska won its 15th consecutive Big Eight title with a perfect 12-0 record and the tournament crown with a win over Colorado.
- The 1990 season was the last at the Nebraska Coliseum until it reopened for volleyball in 1992. In 1990 the Huskers were a perfect 18-0 and drew an average of 2,816 fans per match.

1989 NCAA FINALISTS (29-4, 12-0 BIG EIGHT)

HONORS & AWARDS

• All-Americans

Janet Kruse, First Team
Val Novak, First Team
Virginia Stahr, Second Team

• CoSIDA Academic All-Americans

Virginia Stahr, First Team
Carla Baker, Second Team
Janet Kruse, Third Team

• NCAA Championship All-Tournament

Eileen Shannon

• NCAA Regional All-Tournament

Cris Hall
Janet Kruse
Val Novak
Virginia Stahr

• All-Big Eight

Janet Kruse, First Team
Val Novak, First Team
Eileen Shannon, First Team
Virginia Stahr, First Team



1989 Big Eight Champion Huskers - (Back row from left): Assistant Coach Terri Killion, Assistant Coach John Cook, Carla Baker, Janet Kruse, Cris Hall, Sara Hesch, Stephanie Thater, Linda Barsness, Student Trainer Jill Douglas, Head Coach Terry Pettit, Assistant Coach Cathy Noth. (Front row from left): Manager Kari Possehl, Trainer Therese Volmer, Becky Bolli, Valerie Vermeulen, Virginia Stahr, Val Novak, Eileen Shannon, Debbie Brand, Katherine Pettit.

A Second Time

After a two-year hiatus, Nebraska seniors Virginia Stahr and Carla Baker led NU to its second appearance at the NCAA Championships. In 1986, the Huskers had advanced to the championship match before losing to Pacific. In 1989, NU was hoping for better luck in Honolulu, Hawaii. But fate was not on Nebraska's side. The Husker hitters made quick work of UCLA, before losing, 3-0, to Long Beach State.

NCAA Semifinals and Final

A balanced Husker attack and solid defensive play propelled Nebraska past a UCLA team that had lost just two matches all season. Cris Hall led NU with 19 kills, while Janet Kruse had 12, Eileen Shannon had 11 and Virginia Stahr added 10. NU out-hit UCLA .265 to .160.

Unfortunately, Nebraska's second championship match was much like its first in 1986. Nebraska battled hard in the first game, only to lose

15-12. From that point on, the Huskers could not regain their winning ways, as Long Beach State cruised, 15-0, 15-6 to win the match. Shannon led Nebraska with 11 kills, and Hall added 10.

1989 Season Highlights

- Virginia Stahr captured several awards in 1989 including Delta Scholar Athlete of the Year, Woody Hayes Female Athlete of the Year, Big Eight Female Athlete of the Year and the NCAA Today's Top Six Award.
- Nebraska set team records in 1989 with 2,031 kills, 1,803 assists and a 17.07 kills per game average.
- Nebraska won its 14th consecutive Big Eight title with a perfect 12-0 record.
- The Huskers started the year with a season-high 14-match winning streak.

1986 NCAA FINALISTS (29-6, 10-0 BIG EIGHT)

HONORS & AWARDS

• AVCA Coach of the Year

Terry Pettit

• Honda Award for Volleyball

Karen Dahlgren

• All-Americans

Tisha Delaney, First Team
Karen Dahlgren, First Team
Enid Schonewise, First Team

• CoSIDA Academic All-American

Karen Dahlgren, First Team

• NCAA Championship All-Tournament

Karen Dahlgren
Tisha Delaney

• NCAA Regional All-Tournament

Karen Dahlgren
Kathi DeBoer
Enid Schonewise

• All-Big Eight

Karen Dahlgren, First Team
Enid Schonewise, First Team
Tisha Delaney, First Team
Kathi DeBoer, Second Team
Virginia Stahr, Second Team



1986 Big Eight Champion Huskers - (Back row from left): Assistant Coach Jay Potter, Assistant Coach Jeff Nelson, Virginia Stahr, Enid Schonewise, Linda Barsness, Michelle Davis, Carla Baker, Karen Dahlgren, Kathi DeBoer, Head Coach Terry Pettit. (Front row from left): Manager Tina Siefkes, Barbara Young, Lori Endicott, DeLisa DeBolt, Jackie Cook, Angie Millikin, Susan Hansen, Tisha Delaney, Katherine Pettit.

Breakthrough Season

After losing in the Midwest Regional final the previous two seasons, Nebraska broke through the field in 1986 and made its first-ever trip to the NCAA championship. Led by senior All-Americans Karen Dahlgren, Tisha Delaney and Enid Schonewise, the Big Eight champion Huskers traveled to Stockton, Calif., with an impressive 28-5 record. The Huskers defeated Stanford, 3-1, before falling to Pacific, 3-0.

NCAA Semifinals

In the semifinals, Schonewise led the Husker attack with 15 kills, while Angie Millikin had 11 kills and a match-high 18 digs. Nebraska hit .258 for the match and held the Cardinal to just .089 hitting. In the championship match, Nebraska met a Pacific team that had lost just one game during the entire NCAA Tournament. The Huskers hung tough in

game one, coming back from a 14-9 deficit to cut the margin to two at 14-12. But the Tigers were too much, as they converted their third game point for the 15-12 win. The first game took too much out of the Huskers, as they fell in games two and three by scores of 15-4, 15-4.

1986 Season Highlights

- Nebraska set four single-season team records, including most kills, attacks, hitting percentage and digs. Schonewise set individual season records for kills, kills per game and attacks.
- The Huskers set an NCAA record with a .331 hitting percentage, a mark that still ranks in the top 15 all time.
- Nebraska won its 11th straight Big Eight championship in 1986 with a 10-0 record and defeated Oklahoma, 3-0, for the tournament trophy in Salina, Kansas.