

Sports

Nebraska can use suspended players in opener

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — The NCAA will allow the University of Nebraska to use all 60 of its suspended players when the Cornhuskers open their football season Saturday night against Florida State, Chancellor Martin Massengale said Thursday.

Massengale said the National Collegiate Athletic Association has granted the university's request for a stay of the suspensions.

He said the NCAA Council Subcommittee On Eligibility Appeals will consider the university's appeal on Tuesday.

Earlier in the day, Nebraska Coach Tom Osborne had said his Cornhuskers, ranked eighth in the preseason poll, might forfeit their opener against No. 11 Florida State because of the suspensions.

A decision Wednesday by the NCAA Eligibility Committee re-

sulted in the suspension of 53 Cornhusker players for one game and seven other players for two games.

NCAA spokesman Dave Cawood said the eligibility committee gave Nebraska an option of suspending at least 10 players per game over a number of games, instead of holding all the players out of one contest.

The penalties involve about 30 of

Nebraska's top 40 players, Osborne said. He said most of the suspended players had provided complimentary passes for people not authorized to use them.

He announced the penalties after practice Wednesday. Osborne said he was dumbfounded by the penalties because Nebraska coaches and players had been "totally open and honest" with the NCAA.

Fiancées and friends were identified on pass lists as being family members and students, said Tom Simmons, NU associate sports information director. Under NCAA rules, family members and students are the only people allowed to use players' passes.

NCAA spokesman Jim Marchiony said Nebraska had declared 77 of its players ineligible last Friday for vio-

lating the complimentary ticket rule. After hearing an appeal by the university, Marchiony said, the eligibility committee restored eligibility to 17 of the players and upheld the suspension of the others.

Under NCAA procedure in such cases, players are declared ineligible by their schools and not by the NCAA. Nebraska did this, then went to the NCAA for relief.

No. 7 seed bounced by hot Czech; Becker wins

NEW YORK (AP) — Miloslav Mecir of Czechoslovakia entered the men's semifinals of the U.S. Open Tennis Championships with a 6-4, 6-2, 3-6, 6-2 upset of seventh-seeded Joakim Nystrom of Sweden.

Mecir, seeded 16th in the year's final Grand Slam tournament, will meet West Germany's Boris Becker, the reigning Wimbledon champion, in Saturday's semifinals. Becker advanced to the semifinals by easily defeating Czechoslovakia's Milan Srejber 6-3, 6-2, 6-1.

The other semifinal will pit yet another Czechoslovak, defending champion and top-seeded Ivan Lendl, against fourth-seeded Stefan Edberg of Sweden.

The women's singles semifinals today will send top-seeded Martina Navratilova, seeking her third U.S. Open title in four years, against No. 3 Steffi Graf of West Germany, and No. 2 Chris Evert Lloyd, a six-time winner of America's premier tennis event,

against No. 7 Helena Sukova of Czechoslovakia.

On Thursday, Navratilova teamed up with Pam Shriver to gain the women's doubles final with a 6-3, 6-1 victory over Graf and Argentina's Gabriela Sabatini.

Top-seeded in the 64-team doubles draw, Navratilova and Shriver's opponents in Sunday's final won't be decided until later. Hana Mandlikova of Czechoslovakia and Australia's Wendy Turnbull defeated Zina Garrison and Kathy Rinaldi 6-1, 7-6 in a quarterfinal match that had been postponed by rain Wednesday night. The winners will meet Elise Burgin and South Africa's Rosalyn Fairbank for a spot in the final.

Mecir continued his mastery over the Swedes. He defeated second-seeded Mats Wilander in the fourth round. And he did it with his patient attacking game, waiting for the right opportunity, then following deep approach shots to the net for easy volleys.

"I had many chances to break him, but I lost all of the important points," Nystrom said. "It's tough for me to do anything against him. My game is not serve and volley. If you have a good serve-and-volley game, you have a good chance to beat him."

"From the baseline, you must play the ball very deep and I hit too many short balls today."

Mecir jumped all over the short balls and drove them deep into the corners, either for winners or setting up his volleys.

The bearded Mecir broke Nystrom's serve at love in the fifth game of the match. And when he lost his service in the eighth game, he broke right back to capture the first set.

With Vice President Bush among the crowd at the National Tennis Center, Mecir broke Nystrom's service at 30 to begin the second set. After he broke again in the seventh game, he then held to take a 2-0 lead in the best-of-five-sets match.

Nystrom delayed the inevitable when he took the third set, pulling off the only service break in the fourth game. But on a day that saw the match delayed twice by brief showers, it was all Mecir.

After the two held through the first four games of the fourth set, Mecir took the next four games to clinch the victory and a semifinal berth.

Becker, seeded third in the 128-player men's singles field, had no problems with his 6-foot-8 opponent, who was booed repeatedly for his uninspired effort. Srejber, the tallest player in professional tennis, repeatedly let Becker's passing shots sail by without even lifting his racket or attempting to try for the ball.

It is the third time the 18-year-old Becker has reached the final of a Grand Slam tournament. And he won the first two — Wimbledon last year and again this year.

A&M home tickets still available

Tickets for the six Texas A&M home games are still available and on sale at window No. 7 at G. Rollie White Coliseum.

Tickets are \$15 each and can be purchased by phone with a Visa or Mastercard. The phone number for orders is (409) 845-2311.

The only tickets remaining for road games are \$15 to the Houston game (Oct. 11) in the Astrodome, and the SMU game (Nov. 1) in Texas Stadium in Dallas.

Baseball Hall of Famer Hank Greenberg, 75, dies

BEVERLY HILLS, Calif. (AP) — Hank Greenberg, whose home run prowess with the Detroit Tigers put him in baseball's Hall of Fame, died Thursday at age 75.

Greenberg died at his home after suffering from cancer for 13 months, according to Arn Tellem, law partner of Greenberg's son, Stephen.

Greenberg, who was the American League's most valuable player in 1935 and 1940, finished his career with 331 home runs and a .313 batting average. He hit 58 homers in 1938.

A first baseman and outfielder, Greenberg led the American League in homers and RBI four times. His best season was 1938 when, in addition to hitting 58 homers, he drove in 146 runs.

Tribble says he didn't anticipate Bias' death

WASHINGTON (AP) — Brian Tribble, indicted in connection with the cocaine death of University of Maryland basketball star Len Bias, said in a published report he did not think his friend would die when he collapsed in a dormitory room in June.

"I was waiting for him to get up," Tribble said. "I knew he was going to get up."

"The only reason why he didn't get up is we didn't know what we were doing. We knew CPR, but we didn't have the equipment," Tribble

said in an interview published in Thursday's editions of *The Washington Post*.

Tribble, during the interview at his family home in Washington, said he followed the ambulance that took Bias to Leland Memorial Hospital in Riverdale, Md., but left when he was told Bias still had a faint heartbeat. Bias was declared dead at the hospital.

"I was sure that I wasn't in trouble," Tribble said. "I didn't think I was going to be in any trouble. I just was trying to make sure he (Bias)

didn't get in any trouble. I didn't want nobody to know."

Tribble did not elaborate, the *Post* story said.

Tribble, a former University of Maryland student who describes himself as one of Bias' closest friends, was indicted on July 25 by a Prince George's County grand jury on charges of possession of PCP, possession and distribution of cocaine and possession with intent to distribute cocaine in connection with the death of Bias.

Tribble, speaking about his

relationship with Bias for the first time since he was indicted, declined to discuss the events in the early-morning hours of June 19 that led to the death of Bias, a 22-year-old all-American forward. He also would not say whether his friendship with Bias involved drugs.

But Tribble told the *Post* he is still shocked by Bias' death, confused by the publicity that made him feel like a hunted man and determined to save his memories of June 19 for his own defense. A trial is tentatively scheduled to start on Nov. 17.



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