



INSIDE, C6

**Long time coming for Earnhardt Jr.**  
Dale Earnhardt Jr. gets an emotional win in the Geico 500 for his first victory at Talladega since 2004, and his sixth there overall.

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LINCOLN MARATHON

Tabut, Kelly Herrick win titles

Wind, heat hurt times in 38th running of race.

By KEN HAMBLETON  
Lincoln Journal Star

The Lincoln Marathon is a grueling, consuming grind for almost all of the 12,500 runners entered.

For Sunday's men's champion, Edward Tabut, who won for the second consecutive year, and women's champion Danna Kelly Herrick, the marathon was a tuneup of sorts.

Tabut, a Kenya native who runs for a team in Coon Rapids, Minnesota, said his second win in Lincoln was a good way to get ready for the rest of the season, after completing the 38th annual race that finishes on the 50-yard line in Memorial Stadium.

Tabut, 31, beat National Guard champion Ken Rayner of Boston by almost 10 minutes, while Lincolniters Pete Kostelnick, Chad Sellers, Ryan Regnier and Kyle Clouston finished third through sixth,

respectively.

Kelly Herrick, a Des Moines, Iowa, native, said her first marathon victory in Lincoln is the first step in training for a triathlon in Kona, Hawaii, to compete with her husband, Justin, next fall.

She placed second two years ago in her first Lincoln marathon. The physical therapist from Urbandale, Iowa, finished in 2 hours, 43 minutes, 22 seconds, more than 3 minutes ahead of Liubov Denisova of New York.

Tabut ran the 26.2-mile course through Lincoln in 2:27:38, 10½ minutes slower than last year's victory.

"I wanted the record but I knew that halfway through I wasn't going fast enough to get a record or even near last year," said Tabut, who won the Earth Day half-marathon two weeks ago in St. Cloud, Minnesota.

He beat the Lincoln half-marathon winner, Sammy Rotich, a teammate on the Duma Runners Club team, in that race.

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TESSA LIGHTY/Lincoln Journal Star

**Edward Tabut wins the 38th running of the Lincoln Marathon on Sunday at Memorial Stadium. Tabut finished in 2 hours, 27 minutes, 38 seconds.**

Inside/C3

■ Half-marathon winners and notes from the Lincoln Marathon.

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Find more photos from Sunday's races.



**MEN'S WINNER**  
Edward Tabut  
Coon Rapids, Minn.  
**2:27:38**



**WOMEN'S WINNER**  
Danna Kelly Herrick  
Urbandale, Iowa  
**2:43:22**



**MEN'S HALF**  
Sammy Rotich  
West Des Moines, Iowa  
**1:06:36**



**WOMEN'S HALF**  
Katie White  
Broken Bow  
**1:18:16**

@HuskerExtra.com

Join Steven M. Sipple for a live chat at 1:30 p.m. Monday



SOFTBALL SUNDAY

Nebraska 9, Illinois 1 (5 inn.)

Online: See more photos from Nebraska's victory over Illinois.



MATT RYERSON/Lincoln Journal Star

**Nebraska Kylee Muir (20) celebrates with Steph Pasquale (25) and other Huskers after Muir scored against Illinois during the second inning Sunday at Bowlin Stadium. Pasquale scored on Muir's single to right field.**

Perfect finish

Huskers handle Illini, get ready for Big Ten tourney.

By LORI GRIFFIN  
Lincoln Journal Star

Between the a cappella version of the national anthem by the Nebraska softball team and 885 fans, and the sunshine deciding to finally peek through for Senior Day events, it looked like a picture-perfect day for the Huskers.

And despite the clouds and a 30-minute lightning delay, the Huskers were able to maintain the

momentum they started with and earn a 9-1, run-rule victory in the rubber game of their series with Illinois at Bowlin Stadium.

Nebraska (32-20, 17-6 Big Ten) got on the board early and often against the Illini. Mattie Fowler's RBI single capped a 3-0 first inning.

The Huskers walked four times in the first inning and had seven walks in the game.

"You talked about the seven walks — and we actually gave up six — and were able to capitalize on the seven and then to hold them at bay," NU coach Rhonda

Revelle said. "Then we had some clutch hits."

In the bottom of the second, the Huskers scored five runs. After two walks and an Armstrong single loaded the bases, Steph Pasquale hit a three-run double.

"Steph's bases-clearing double was really, really a very significant blow at that point in the game," Revelle said.

Kylee Muir and Fowlers added RBI singles to give the Huskers an 8-0.

Then the lightning came. After the delay, Illinois scored its run

See SOFTBALL, Page C5

NU's Riley supports satellite camps

Things I know, and things I think I know:

Mike Riley understands why football coaches in the ACC and SEC speak out against satellite football camps.

But he generally disagrees with their stance.

"I don't think there are borders to recruiting," the first-year Nebraska coach

said last week.

With that in mind, Riley said essentially all of the Huskers' full-time coaches and a few support personnel soon will take to the road for at least five satellite sites. He said the Big Red army (of sorts) will be on hand for camps in Georgia, Florida, California and two in Texas.

For the uninitiated, satellite camps have been a hot-button topic the past two offseasons. The camps allow coaches to travel long distances to work as guests at camps run by other institutions. For instance, Penn State coaches last summer were invited to camps at Stetson and Georgia State.

Georgia State will host to a camp that Riley's crew plans to attend in June. Indeed, it'll be a Big Red army — 15 members strong, Riley said — taking to the road to ostensibly make it easier for players in the aforementioned regions to get a better feel for Riley's staff and his program in general.

Riley said the camps are "awesome" for programs in remote areas — Nebraska and Oregon State come to mind. The Beavers made good use of such camps during Riley's tenure there.

"We can basically take ourselves to these places that are too far away from Lincoln for these kids to drive for unofficial visits very easily," Riley said. "It gives the players an opportunity to work with you, maybe learn a little something in the camp, and maybe get a feel for if they want to play for Nebraska."

"All of a sudden, the player has a chance to be exposed to something new. It might end up being

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Latest boys soccer rankings



Who's on top as districts loom? The Journal Star presents its final regular-season boys soccer rankings.

INSIDE/C6

Huskers roll over Northwestern

Nebraska wins first road series of season behind Burkamper, 14 hits.

By RYLY JANE HAMBLETON  
Lincoln Journal Star

Derek Burkamper gave himself a little talk and the Nebraska offense added the pep to the conversation.

Burkamper threw seven innings and Nebraska collected 14 hits to beat Northwestern 11-0 Sunday in Evanston, Illinois. The Huskers took the series



BASEBALL SUNDAY

Nebraska 11, Northwestern 0

2-1 from the Wildcats, the first road series win for Nebraska this season.

Nebraska (33-17 overall, 8-10 Big Ten) will host Purdue this weekend in a Saturday-through-Monday series. Saturday's first pitch at Haymarket Park is at 2:05 p.m., followed by games at 1:05 p.m. both Sunday and Monday. The Huskers then close the season at league leader Illinois, winner of 21 straight, on May 14-16.

Burkamper worked his way out of a jam in the second inning and counted on leaping catches by Jake Placzek and Luis Alvarado

in the third before breezing through the Wildcats the next four innings.

"They got a couple of good swings on the ball and Jake made a great jumping play and Luis made a great snag," said Burkamper, now 5-2. "I just told myself I can't throw pitches over the plate. I needed to be a bulldog and go after them."

Burkamper had a career high seven strikeouts and scattered six hits over seven innings before giving way to Garrett King and Jake Meyers for an inning apiece.

"I knew I needed to have command of all my pitches after that. My slider was pretty effective," he said. "I'd start with a slider and get a strike and come back with a fastball."

Nebraska coach Darin Erstad

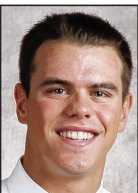
was impressed with Burkamper's ability to bounce back.

"After we got our three-spot in the third, they got a hit and then a walk," Erstad said on his post-game radio show. "Then there were a couple of rocket shots that could have been hits."

"So he weathered the storm in that inning and he really settled down after that. Not quite super-sharp right away, but as he got going, it was pretty good."

A hauntingly familiar start to the game — a baserunner and then hitting into a double play — didn't faze the Huskers. Blake Headley singled to open the second and NU loaded the bases on hits by Scott Schreiber and Luis Alvarado. Jake Schleppenbach's groundout plated Headley, and

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BURKAMPER