

Sports Talk

BY FRITZ SIMPSON

(Daily Nebraskan Sports Editor)

Congratulations to Coach Harry Good and his Nebraska basketball team. The Huskers won 11 games and lost 13 to finish their most successful season since 1937. The Nebraska quintet of 1937 won 13 and lost seven. Coach Good has made great strides in building basketball into an increasingly popular sport in Nebraska. During his first two seasons as head cage mentor, he has produced teams which finished with better records than other Husker cage teams in the past decade. And next year's team should be even better. With another year of experience under their belts, the 1948-1949 Cornhuskers should be a definite title contender.

An interesting comparison is noted in the scoring of this year's cage team and that of the 1937 squad. The Huskers broke the old point-per-game average this year with a 56.2 average in conference play. This mark was made while the Nebraskans were winning five games and losing seven. In 1937 Coach Harold Browne's quintet won nine loop contests and lost two. The point average then was 38.9. This is another example of basketball's change in the past several years from a defensive game to an offensive game.

Every sports writer thinks he is qualified to pick an all-American, all-conference or an all-star team of some kind when the end of a season rolls around. So I'll stick my neck out and pick an all-conference cage squad. My basis for choosing these players will have to be, basically, on their performances against the Huskers here in the Coliseum.

First Team.

- Forward, Courty, (Okla.).
- Forward, Retherford, (Neb.).
- Center, Waters, (Okla.).
- Guard, Shannon (K-State).
- Guard, Schnellbacher, (Kas.).

Second Team.

- Forward, Pippin, (Mo.).
 - Forward, Howey, (K-State).
 - Center, Jenkins, (Mo.).
 - Guard, Merchant, (Okla.).
 - Guard, Peterson, (I-State).
- Honorable mention: Peirpont, Missouri; Eskridge, Kansas; Harman and Brannum, Kansas State; Ray Wehde and Paulson, Iowa State; Metzger and Besemann, Colorado; Mosser and Cox, Nebraska.

Here are my reasons for picking these men: Courty was a high scorer and a top rebounder on Oklahoma's defending conference champions. He was placed on many all-star teams this season, so he merits a berth on my team.

Claude Retherford, Nebraska's high scorer, was one of the most deceptive players in the loop. His change of pace, aggressiveness and good basket eye made him a difficult man to stop.

Waters showed his ability against the Huskers when those two teams broke all kinds of scoring records here in Lincoln. He was rough under the basket, and was deadly on tip-ins. Waters' last half 17-point performance against the Huskers was a main factor in his winning a berth on the first team. Shannon was the top performer on Kansas State's championship quintet. He was an excellent long shot and a terrific jumper. Schnellbacher was the outstanding player on a not-too-successful Kansas team. He was the play-maker and number one rebounder on Coach Phog Allen's five.

The same remarks could be said about the second team members. Howey was Kansas State's play-maker and an excellent shot with plenty of speed. Pippin played steady, cool basketball all season for the Tigers, and Jenkins was their top scorer and rebound man. Merchant demonstrated that he was one of the best ball handlers in the conference when the Sooners played here. Bob Petersen, Iowa State, completes the second team. The Cyclone guard was shifty, fast and dangerous on long one-handed push shots.

So those men are my 1947-48 all-star players in the Big Seven conference. Any writer would have a difficult time trying to pick an all-loop squad. The Big Seven had one of its best seasons in history, and every team was loaded with outstanding players.



FRANK POTTS, veteran University of Colorado track coach, who has been named referee of the twenty-third Kansas Relays to be held April 17 in Lawrence. The selection honors the Big Seven's newest school, the Buffaloes having been officially admitted to the old Big Six last December 1.

Vet Sports

Nearly one-third of all patients in Veterans Administration hospitals take part in sports activities, many of which have been adapted to the limitations of veterans' disabilities. During November, 1947, for example, 31 percent (31,567) of the 106,000 patients participated in some form of sport.

16 Frosh Win Cage Numerals

Coach Tony Sharpe, freshman cage mentor, announced the names of sixteen freshmen who were awarded numeral sweaters for the past basketball season.

Altho the frosh were unable to have outside competition, under Big Seven conference rules, they had several intra-squad tilts. In the games against the Nubbins the freshmen handed them three defeats while only losing one.

Those awarded sweaters were Doug Barry, Bill Cronan, Bob Gasten, Bob Gates, Dave Graef, Dick Garver, Dick Means, Ralph Haynes, Bob Pierce, Joe Malaceh, Jesse Sell, Darrell Brandenberg, Jim Walsh, Larry Walsh, Merle Reiding and Ray Lucht.

Vet Water Basketball

Sports directors in several Veterans Administration hospitals devised a water-basketball game for patients paralyzed from the waist down. All participants must obtain permission from their physicians before playing. Inner tubes or pontoon swimming trunks are worn by those who feel the need for added buoyancy. Although rules vary at each hospital, all call for a single goal located either in the center of the pool or hanging from a diving board.

TRYOUTS FOR THE KOSMET CLUB spring review will be held today from 3 p m to 6 p m in Room 315 of the Union



GOPHER CENTER—Big Jim McIntyre was named by Nebraska's cagers to a berth on their all-opponent team. McIntyre scored 27 points against the Huskers early in the season when Minnesota defeated Nebraska, 63-58. McIntyre was the second high scorer in the big nine.

Grand Island Defeats Prep In First Game

Grand Island's cage quintet edged Creighton Prep, 38-29, Thursday afternoon before 11,000 fans, largest crowd ever to witness a state tournament opening round game.

The Islanders, defending Class A champions, jumped to an early lead and held a 16-8 first quarter margin. At one time in the second quarter they had extended their lead to 21-8. Prep found the range late in the second stanza and brought the score to 21-15 at half-time.

Dale Toft topped scorers on both teams with 13 points. Knickrehm, Grand Island forward, took runner-up honors with 11 counters. Benson dropped four fielders and a free toss for the Omaha team to collect nine points.

Two overtime contests featured the class C games, Valley defeated Sargent, 31-29, in an extra period, and Wakefield defeated Grant, 35-31.

- Other first round scores:
Stanton 33, Answorth 31.
Ord 35, Wahoo 26.
Crete 47, Gering 44.
Seward 41, Cozad 33.
Waverly 38, Arapahoe 25.
Friend 51, Springview 37.

The girl's intramural swimming meet has been postponed until a later date. All participants will be notified as to the future date as soon as it has been definitely set.

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