

From The Pressbox Hawkeyes Predicted To Win Over LaSalle

By BRUCE BRUGMANN
Sports Editor

The Municipal Auditorium at Kansas City will be so heavily deluged with blue chips tonight that the NCAA basketball semi-finalists may have difficulty finding a clearing to play on.

The sparkling two game docket, pitting Iowa's Big Ten champions against LaSalle's defending championship quint and Colorado versus the nation's top-ranked team, San Francisco, is expected to draw a capacity crowd of 10,000.

Thus far few sports scribes have come out and made any definite predictions. Most have been cleverly playing patsy with the printer's ink, and saying "Iowa is capable of beating LaSalle . . . Buffs may be Dons 'Spillers' . . . The Big Ten champs have the guns to do the job . . . San Francisco's Bill Russell will probably be too much for the Golden Buffaloes."

It might seriously hurt my chances for the presidency, but I predict that Iowa will beat LaSalle and Colorado will take the San Francisco Dons. Furthermore, I predict in tonight's twin bill that Bob Jeangerard of Colorado and Bill Logan of Iowa University will

vie for the tourney's individual laurels—not Tom Gola of LaSalle or towering Bill Russell of the California crew.

Colorado, probably chanting already "San Francisco, Open Your Scoring Gates," has met one mutual foe with the Dons. The Golden Herd lost to UCLA, 65-62, while the Uclan's handed San Francisco only loss, 47-50, then were later beaten by the West Coast darlings, 56-44.

The important point here is that Colorado lost this game during their four game slump early in the season. Coupled with the facts that they have played a stiffer brand of competition and star Don forward Jerry Mullen might not be able to play, I give the Coloradoans the nod. But it'll be close.

Iowa University, employing a well-balanced scoring attack, will face the task of holding All-everything Tom Gola "goalless." The outcome of the game will hinge on the performance of Bill Logan, the Hawkeye's high scorer and top rebounder, and probably one of the more underrated players in basketball. Iowa, by a hair.



Bill Tagney, University swimmer, is pictured in a backflip during the AAU Swimming Meet held in the Coliseum pool Sunday. Tagney placed first in the event.

Many Former Prep Stars

IM Cage Competition Lauded

By BOB COOK
Sports Staff Writer

As the cage season fades on campus, plaudits are in order for one phase of competition for a banner year.

Although the realm of intramural basketball was justifiably overshadowed by the inaugural chimes of Husker mentor Jerry Bush, this organized play should share the limelight. According to program director Ed Higgenbotham " . . . this year's intramural play has been one of our most outstanding."

When the climactic finale of IM play was staged last Saturday night as a prelude to the Class AA championship, only a few onlookers realized the caliber of ball being displayed. Perhaps the color of the preppers is lacking but that is made up for in experience and action.

A vast nebulae of former high school stars, many onetime greats at the Big Show, compile these line-ups. Even All-Staters aren't a rarity and the level of play could almost be compared to the Nebraska College Conference. Many a coach would give the proverbial right arm for some of these "dormant" athletes. Many of these flippers are varsity competitors in other sports and compete during their off seasons. Still another category are the onetime frosh and even varsity prospects who for various reasons decided to pass up intercollegiate competition.

Viewing a crosssection of the capabilities of some of these netmen many prep school standouts are present.

The ATO's, all-University champions, boasted a well-rounded quint of high school stars led by Bob Brown, Fairbury all-stater, Al Blessing, a five year competitor in intramurals from Ord, John Swanson, all-state forward on Hastings High's champ team, and Dave Jones, a former guard on Lincoln High's '51 state tourney five.

Canfield A, independent trophy winners, displayed the three-pronged scoring attack of Joe Houfek, former Clarkson ace and

state tourney high scorer of two years ago, LaVerne Torczon, two sport threat at Platte Center, and Gene Torczon, a crack forward at Humphrey. The Geologists were

sparked by the firing of Gary Heinze, former Chadron Prep star. The fraternity runnersup, Phi Delta Theta, combined the talents of Erik Olsen, Benson all-stater,

Bill Giles, Alliance great, Dean Sloan, former Lincoln High pivot, and Bill Ross, flashy guard from Gibbon. John Beideck, Don Erway and Le Roy Butherus, nucleus of the Links' powerhouse of '53, paced the Deltas to the semifinals. Charlie Smith, classy backcourt artist from New Hampshire, rounded out the evenly balanced Delt attack.

Hitchcock, a hotshot contender in the dorm league, was led by Chuck Jensen, former Pawnee City ace, and Phil Hass, a sharpshooting guard from Rock Valley, Ia. Theta Chi and Theta Xi, two strong quints, added two top rebounders and scorers to the IM arena in Bill Soelberg, a Sioux City Central import, and Fred Longacre, a former Schuyler standout.

Other outstanding IM performers throughout the campaign included Gus Lebsack, Lincoln; Doran Jacobs, Deadwood, S.D.; Ed Dugan, outstater; Tom Healey,



IM Softball
Intramural softball team entries are due Thursday, March 31, at 102 Physical Education building, Ed Higgenbotham, director of the University intramural program, announced. The softball tourney will begin April 15, and will be divided into intra-fraternity, independent, and dormitory leagues, if enough teams register.

Regular softball rules will apply to these games, and any student not on varsity baseball squads is eligible. Each team must furnish one umpire at every game, and games will be six innings long.

Baseball Managers
Baseball Coach Tony Sharpe has requested anyone interested in working as a baseball manager during the spring season to contact him as soon as possible in his Coliseum office.

LAST CHANCE
All intramural managers are urged to get their All-league and all-A and B ballots into the sports desk of The Nebraskan by today at 3 p.m. If a team does not turn in all star team ballots, their men will not be considered for recognition in The Nebraskan ratings.

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Frosh Thumbnail Sketches

Jim Kubacki, Lyle Nannen Lead Frosh Basketball Scoring For '54-55 Season

By DON CAMPBELL
Sports Staff Writer

With the Colorado contest several weeks ago another cage season ended, and the scorebooks have been stowed away for another year. It was a good season, much better than expected, and especially thrilling for Nebraska fans as the Huskers tasted defeat only once on the home court.

Everytime the Nebraskans went out on the court, fans could expect a good game. Even when the Huskers were behind they hustled, and this hustle paid off with seven wins out of eight home games.

Prelim Battles
The Nebraska games were made doubly interesting by the preliminary battles between the two freshmen squads. The frosh showed the same hustle and determination as the varsity. The first-year men this season were extraordinarily sharp. Coached by Tony Sharpe, they showed a brand of basketball that promises great things for the varsity in the next few years.

Jim Kubacki led the frosh this year in scoring, hitting 31.4 per cent of his shots for 146 counters. Right behind him were Lyle Nannen, with 50 per cent for 122 points; Gary Reimers, also hitting 50 per cent for 120 points; Don Smidt, who meshed 40.2 per cent of his shots for 118 points, and Gary Ruck, with 39.4 per cent for 102 points. Other high scorers were Jim Thom with 71, Jim Arwood with 65, Cal Johnson with 61, Ron Peters with 56 and Terry Howard with 47.

Thumb-nail sketches of the individual players:
Jim Arwood—6-2, from Fostoria, Ohio . . . very aggressive, good driver . . . top rebounder for his size . . . somewhat weak as outside shooter . . . can improve ball-handling . . . will be definite threat in future years.

Terry Howard—6-6, from Elkhorn . . . good rebounder . . . has good "touch" with either hand . . . needs to improve defensively and must learn to move better.

Cal Johnson—6-5½ All-Stater from Hastings . . . has many good shots with either hand . . . was slow in rounding into shape but was showing steady improvement . . . needs work defensively.

Jim Kubacki—5-10 sharpshooter from Toledo, Ohio . . . very good outside set shot . . . terrific jump shot and driving shot . . . good ball-handler . . . could develop into good playmaker . . . perhaps best prospect for varsity.

Jerry McKay—6-1 Lincolnite . . . fine playmaker and ballhandler . . . can improve defensively and be more aggressive.

Lyle Nannen—6-3 All-Stater from Syracuse . . . fine outside shot . . . terrific jump and drive shots . . . passes well . . . with continued

improvement defensively can become a fine collegiate ballplayer.

Ron Peters—6-5, from Murdock—good shooting ability . . . needs more speed and agility . . . should learn to jump better.

Gary Reimers—5-9½, from Millard . . . very good one-hand set and jump shot . . . fastest man on squad . . . good deception . . . good playmaker . . . very aggressive . . . could develop into very fine ballplayer with experience.

Gary Ruck—5-11, from Omaha . . . fine one-hand set shot . . . aggressive . . . needs to improve defense and ball-handling.

Don Smidt—6-4, from Helena, Montana . . . very good all-round player for a big man . . . variety of good shots . . . good rebounder . . . very aggressive on both offense and defense . . . good prospect.

Jim Thom—Moves with good speed and agility for a big man . . . needs work on rebounding and shooting . . . with proper desire and will to work could become very good big man.

Badminton Entries

Entries to the all-University badminton tournament must be submitted by 5 p.m. Tuesday, to Room 102, Physical Education Building. Each organization may submit six singles and six doubles teams. The badminton matches will begin April 12, and a trophy will be awarded to the team with the greatest score.

Gymnasts To Compete In AAU Meet Saturday

The Husker gymnastic team will compete in the Midwest AAU Meet to be held in Beatrice Saturday. The Husker gymnasts, winners of 10 of 11 meets this year, will be favored to repeat their AAU win of last year.

Coach Geier will take a full squad to the meet and said he will depend strongly on Bruce Riley, Way Strickler, Dan Fogel, Don Hodge and George Lang for most of the teams points, with the rest of the team filling in where needed. Two freshmen, Terry Lambert and Don Pakieser, will be competing for the Huskers for the first time.

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