

Last Place At Stake:

Huskers In Cage Showdown Face Improved Oklahomans

Fighting to remain out of the cellar position, the Husker basketball team will host their co-sharers of that peg tonight in an attempt to stop the Oklahoma Sooners basket ball team from a repeat performance of the last game between the two.

When the two hard court cage squads met in their last outing

The Sooners slipped by the Huskers by a score of 55-53. The big spark for the Sooner squad was their leading scorer and also fifth in Big Seven scoring, Don Schwall. The 6-6½ sophomore bucketed 23 points that night as the Huskers, led by Reimers with 16 points, fell into their usual slump early in the game and again at the beginning of the second half to accept their seventh loop loss.

Schwall, by scoring 23 points that night gained the fifth peg in the Big Seven's individual scoring column with a 17.9 points per game average.

The Huskers must win this game or be contented with the last position in the Big Seven Basketball League. The Oklahoma cagers nudged the Missouri Tigers last Saturday to gain a tie with the Nebraska team, each with a 37 loop record. For the Huskers one game remains on their regular season schedule after this one tonight with Iowa State Cyclones this Saturday on the home court for their final 1957 basketball appearance.

Although the darker side of the Bushmen situation was presented first, there does remain a brighter picture. If Nebraska were to win one of their two remaining games, it would boost them to a tie for fifth place in the league as Missouri has completed all of its loop games and finished with a 4-8 mark.

Nebraska may even advance higher than that on the loop ladder if they could down the Iowa State Cyclones as well as the Oklahoma Sooners while Colorado would drop their two remaining games (which is very probable as they play the league leading Jayhawks in their final games). This would leave the Huskers with a 5-7 mark for the season while Colorado would drop to a tie for fifth place with the dormant Missouri.

If Nebraska were to do this, they could finish their season in the fourth position, which is very respectable in the Big Seven Conference (which is rated one of the toughest in the nation this year.



Schwall . . . top Sooner scorer

Gymnast Earns Award: Strickler Named Star Of The Week For All-College Tourney Performance

By STAN WIDMAN Staff Sports Writer

Wayne Strickler, senior in Teachers College, has been named Star-of-the-Week by the Daily Nebraskan sports staff for his brilliant performance in the All-College Invitational gymnastics meet, held Saturday at Manhattan, Kansas.

Wayne left all nine teams in the meet something to remember him by as he took a first in the horizontal bar, seconds in the flying rings, side horse and parrallel bars and a seventh in the free exercise. He piled up a record 41 points and received the all-around gymnast award for his efforts. His total judges points were 1,017 for four events which gave him the award.

Winning is nothing new to the "Wee one" as he is called by his teammates. In 1952, his first year of competition, he received the all-around gymnast award in the novice division of the Nebraska High State meet. The next year while a senior at Lincoln High, he won the all-around award again, this time in the optional division which meant that he was the top gymnast in the state.

In his sophomore year at NU, he continued to pile up points and win events, as he collected 125½ markers. He scored this many points even though he had to play second fiddle to all-time great Tom Kidd.

Last year, while performing behind Bruce Riley, he scored 167 points. Riley set the record for total points with 396, but coach Jake Geier puts a good share of the credit on Strickler who kept Riley on his toes in every meet, always coming in a close second and occasionally beating out his teammate.

It was this year that Wayne really came into his own and established himself as one of the best of all time.

He entered a total of sixty events winning 32 of them. He also finished second 19 times, third six times, fourth three times and seventh once. His seventh came at the all-college and was picked up against 25 other men entered in the event. The seventh was good for a first, a second and a fourth against the three teams NU dualed at the all-college.

In 59 events this year, he has finished no lower than fourth which means that every event he entered produced some points for

his team. His total points for the year add up to 36 and his three year total to 608. No man other than Bruce Riley has totaled as many for Nebraska.

At one time or another, Wayne has worked everything but tumbling. This year, he entered in at least four events at every meet, and most of the time five. His specialties were the horizontal bar which he won 12 out of 13 times, the parrallel bars in which he won 10 times and the flying rings which produced eight victories. The side horse can't be counted out as he took nine seconds, all of them against teammate Kenney Kohler, and four thirds. In the free exercise, he has managed two wins, three seconds, one third, two fourths and the seventh.

A major share of Wayne's success should go to Jake Geier, his coach the last three years. Jake worked with Strickler, always keeping faith with him and never having his faith go for naught. Jake made Wayne work day after

day on the sidehorse and finally molded him into the second top man in the mid-west in that event.

After Wayne picked up his second place medal for the side horse at the all-college, he went over to Jake and presented him with it saying, "you earned this more than I did." Probably, one of the main reasons for Wayne's skill can be attributed to his respect for the coach and his teammates.

Wirz Predicts: Tigers To Finish Second; Kuenn, Kaline Key Men

By BOB WIRZ Staff Sports Writer

With a new manager at the helm it is always hard to predict how a team will finish in their league, but Jack Tighe at Detroit seems to have the material to bring him a second place American League finish. The Tigers possibly cannot challenge the Yankees yet this year but they could finish ahead of Cleveland, Boston and Chicago.

The Tigers are a fairly young team but still have quite a bit of seasoning. Tighe is very fortunate to have at hand in spring training quite a bunch of sluggers, plus a 21 game winner and a good crop of rookies.

Such men as Harvey Kuenn, Al Kaline, Charley Maxwell and Ike Boone provide the slugging power. Kuenn is only 26 but has several years of major league competition under his belt. The 6-2 shortstop hit around 330 last year and may challenge for the batting title this season.

Kaline, a veteran at 22, won the league batting title in 1955 and again topped the .300 mark last year. He will be in right field.

Maxwell also plays in the outer garden and slugs the ball to all parts of the field. He has good power as does Kaline.

Boone is 33 but still going strong. Ike may try another position this spring. He started a few years back at shortstop for Cleveland but has been playing third base with the Tigers. Tighe may switch Boone to first and put Reno Pertois or Jack Dittmar at third. Boone attended the early Detroit school and reportedly has looked good at the initial sack.

Other regulars for the Tigers will probably be: Bill Tuttle completing the outfield; Frank Bolling at sec

ond base and he may have help from Dittmar, who came to Detroit from Milwaukee in a winter trade; Bob Wilson, J. W. Porter or Hank House will do the receiving. Porter who hasn't shown much the past couple of seasons is still given a chance to develop.

Pitching remains as one of the Tigers top worries. Frank Lary, who won 21 games last year, Paul Foytack, and Billy Hoelt appear set as starters. A fourth man taking a regular turn on the hill could be Jim Bunning or Steve Gromek. Bunning was with the Tigers part of last season and looked good on occasions. He also played winter ball and was one of the better looking hurlers in the Cuban League. Gromek at 37 still has a lot of fire left in him. Others being considered are Duke Maas, Al Aber, old-timer Virgil Trucks and Pete Wejey who had a trial with Brooklyn.

The Tigers have just fair reserves. Eddie Robinson and Earl Torgeson will probably be the top pinch hitters. Both men play first base and could become regulars if Boone doesn't stick at this position.

Don Lee a 6-4 right handed pitcher heads a impressive list of Detroit rookies. Lee has been drawing a lot of praise in the tiger camp this spring. He is the son of Thornton Lee, a 22-game winner in 1941. Lee was signed right out of the University of Arizona last year and played for Class A Augusta. He posted a 7-3 record and had a 2.51 ERA.

Other first year men are Charles Lau, who caught for Charleston last season; George Risley, third baseman, and Malcolm Simmons, pitcher.

If the Tigers can stay free of injuries and their pitching comes through as expected then they should finish in second place.

Airmen Practice For March 12 Tilt

The statement by Nebraska Athletic Director, Bill Orwig, that said the officers of the Lincoln Air Force Base were "too fat and out of shape" has led to a challenge by those officers for a grudge basketball game.

The game will be starring the "Clumsey Colonels" of the air force base and their hard court talents will be pitted against the "Corny Coaches" of the University.

The "Corny Coaches" have been forging any regular practice sessions until Saturday, however, Orwig said, "We will be ready for them."

Game time is 8 p.m. Lincoln sportswriters Dick Becker and Don Brandt will be game officials. Tickets are \$1.00 for adults and \$.50 each for students and airmen. The tickets may be purchased in Lincoln banks or at the door Tuesday night.

The proceeds from the game will be contributed to a program sponsored by Lincoln Civic clubs who are furnishing day room in the dormitories at the base to make "a home away from home" for airmen in 23 squadrons.



Eccentrics look over prize winning auto . . . University students Kirk Easton, Butch Jones and

Jim Murphy look over the recent grill conversion on Jones' 1951 Chevrolet.

NU Students Active: Hot Rodders Form Clubs; Adopt Safe Driving Motto

One of the most recent developments in the automobile craze has been the establishment of Hot Rod Clubs. Hot Rod Clubs, contrary to popular belief, are safety organizations.

Lincoln like most other cities has its own clubs. Three of these clubs are the Rebels, the Customs, and the Eccentrics.

The Eccentrics is a club that is made up mostly of University students. The club was organized in November, 1954, by three University students—Kirk Easton, Jim Murphy and Jim Cary. There are 45 active members.

The club is not just a group organized to conduct speed tests. It has a constitution and a set of by-laws. It is stated in this constitution that the goal of the organization shall be to promote safety while endeavoring to further the understanding between the car enthusiasts of Lincoln, and surrounding areas, and the citizens of that area.

Before one can become a member he must agree to carry out the purposes of the organization and if the member operates a car, it must be above average in appearance and in good mechanical condition. An important stipulation in the by-laws is that if a member of the club is fined for a traffic violation, he must pay a ten per cent assessment of that fine to the club.

The Lincoln Police Department, according to Captain Graves, is in full support of the organizations, especially the Eccentrics Hot Rod Club. Graves said, however, in a conversation Tuesday, that Police Departments over the country are not in favor of the clubs. Graves added that teenagers who speed down the streets and are continually arrested for traffic violations are not Hot Rodders.

The Hot Rodders are the members of safety organizations and they have a patent on their name to prove it. The traffic violators are called "shot rodders."

Lincoln as of yet does not have an authorized "drag strip". But,

as Captain Graves said, the Police Department was all in favor of the idea. The Eccentrics do have a dirt strip west of Lincoln.

In reply to the National Safety Council's question, "What is the purpose of drag racing?" one Hot Rodder came up with this rhetorical answer "Why do we have foot races, swimming races, airplane races and big auto races?" The answer is simple — competitive spirit.

Any student who is interested in the Hot Rod organization, Eccentrics, should contact Kirk Easton at 67695.

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