

Sport Shorts

By The Old Pro
—Bob Prokop

Today's college athlete is the most misunderstood and ridiculed individual on campuses around the country. The non-collegiate set as well as the Ivy Leaguers usually jibe the jocks as college bums who play for pay. The faculty seem to get the idea that each and everyone of these physical specimens are in school to freeload and academically are the lowest of the homo sapiens class.

To some poor guys who have trouble lifting a ten pound barbell above their knees or the high school all stars with stars in their eyes, a varsity athlete at a school like Nebraska is the biggest thing since Quaker discovered oats. The image left in the minds of the man in this status is that each and everyone of these all Americans is a real dealer with the dollies, goes to class half the time and still gets the good grades, receives frequent publicity from a smelly toonail to outstanding accomplishments on the battlefield, and in general, is the matinee idol of the bygone days of the flicks.

Beware, you're being fooled by a picture that just hasn't hit the college campuses during this day and age. How about going through a normal day with a star or a bench warmer and analyzing what the school program contains in the way of academics to take up his spare time.

For example, let's take a basketball player's routine from October until March. Normally a cager will start his day by getting up at 7 a.m. to finish preparations for the 8:00 class. Attending lectures all morning and possibly an early afternoon class, he swings over to the Coliseum at 3:30 for the 4:00 practice session. After jaunting for a mile or two, at 6:30 he hops down stairs for a quick shower and heads for the training table for a little chow.

After stoking a little fuel into the system, a half hour rest is in order if you want to be the least bit bright at trying to obtain a little knowledge. After studying for 3-4 hours, the sack is a bright prospect at 1:00 in the morning. The next day, it is the same story but the second verse.

This is the ideal schedule. Further examination of his actual varsity competition shows that he must miss ten days of school due to the road schedule. Along with this, he must make preparations and take finals during the middle of the season.

The physiological problem still has to be taken athlete has when he's worried about bad practice sessions or games, a coach's verbal dress down, and the scholastic assignments that he must finish by deadlines. He's fighting a war by himself in keeping his mind on academics and trying to stay away from daydreaming about the things which transpire on the courts.

Further, he has to worry about maintaining a decent average to stay in school and the further stipulations that he must comply with to stay eligible for varsity sports.

No matter how hard he tries, his mind still wonders to the day's proceedings, why did he antagonize the coach, what about the up coming game, and how can I improve my mistakes. Then, to the backseat coaches of the crowd who boo loudly at mistakes, an athlete wonders how much he's actually accomplished.

The next point is the fantasy of the social life of our hero. Few people realize that athletes practice Saturdays in addition to the other five days a week. If he has enough energy left on weekends and he doesn't have to catch up on scholastic work, he might have time to enjoy himself on the weekend. Sunday nights are out because of school preparation, road trips and clinics cut out whole weekends. To further make life miserable, the jock doesn't know what is in store for him during the coming week.

At Nebraska, the further complication arises of having to get dates in advance provided you aren't going steady. If the athlete doesn't concentrate on his training program, he might lose his only means of getting through school as well as not being able to do the job expected of him on the court. It's also nice for the jealous set to point the accusing finger at the idols of the court in order to further bolster their own ego. You guessed it, this poor guy is caught in a vicious circle.

The Old Pro always gets a kick out of the non-athletes who wear the red triangle sweatshirts with the black dot in the middle to fill the old ego. They just don't realize that this isn't bigtime and it really doesn't impress anybody.

One must really admire the great athletes who are also excellent scholars. They really went through hell to make it and they're well deserving of the honor and credit that they have received. Colorado's Joe Romig and Utah State's Merlin Olsen are good examples.

I also admired men like Don Oberlin, all-Big Seven tackle who is presently a topflight engineer, Dr. Rex

(Continued on page five)

NEBRASKAN Sports

Nebraska's Grupe 2nd In Big 8 Rebounding

Ivan Grupe, Nebraska junior from Byron, ranks second in rebounding in Big Eight games with 33 in three games.

Cecil Epperley of Oklahoma State is the conference leader in that department with 40 in three games, while Ken Fouts of Oklahoma is right behind Grupe with 32.

Grupe, a 6-5 battler who likes tough competition under

performer has been bothered by a sore throat.

Colorado continues to lead the Big Eight chase with a 3-0 mark after Monday night's 58-55 win over Iowa State. The Buffs edged Nebraska 58-55 win over Iowa State. The Buffs edged Nebraska 58-56 Saturday night for win No. 2.

In leading the conference race the Buffs have compiled the top scoring average in the Big Eight with an average of just under 66 points per game while holding their opponents to 58 points per outing.

Oklahoma State continues its familiar role as the toughest defensive team in the league, allowing only 51 points per game.

Nebraska ranks third in defense with a 60 point per game average while averaging about the same on offense. Kansas and Missouri have given up the most points, allowing an average of 64 points per contest.

The Big Eight race is divided right down the middle with four teams above the .500 mark and four below that figure.

Kansas State, Nebraska and Oklahoma are all tied for second place with 2-1 records, while Iowa State, Oklahoma State and Kansas are knotted in fifth place with 1-2 marks. Missouri is still looking for its first win of the Big Eight campaign and goes against Kansas State Thursday night at Columbia.

Nebraska goes into action again Saturday night against Iowa State at Ames.

Big Eight Standings

	W	L	Pct.	W	L	Pct.
Colorado	3	0	1.000	8	3	.615
NEBRASKA	2	1	.667	4	8	.333
Kansas State	2	1	.667	12	2	.857
Oklahoma	2	1	.667	1	9	.100
Iowa State	1	2	.333	6	7	.462
Oklahoma State	1	2	.333	3	6	.371
Kansas	1	2	.333	5	8	.384
Missouri	0	3	.000	5	8	.384

the boards, also ranks 9th in scoring average. He is tied with Oklahoma State's Eddie Bunch with a 12.3 scoring average.

Ken Charlton of Colorado is the leading scorer with a 23.5 average. He is the only player on the league-leading Buffalo squad in the top 16 scorers.

Nebraska sophomore Daryl Petsch, 6-5 sharpshooter from Marysville, Kan., is fourth on the scoring chart with a 16.3 per game average. Petsch is equally deadly with a set shot or a jumper as the southpaw shooter has pumped in 21 field goals in conference play and added seven free throws.

Senior Tom Russell is 11th in Big Eight scoring with an 11.7 mark. Russell's performances have fallen off slightly in recent games as the 6-7

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IM Cage Standings

1 Jan. 15	Includes Games of	Parishing Rides	LEAGUE 9-A
LEAGUE 1-A		Bachelors	4-0
Kappa Sigma	5-0	The Loers	4-1
Sigma Alpha Epsilon	5-0	Pharmacy College	4-1
Phi Delta Theta	5-0	Uteschables	4-1
Sigma Chi	5-0	Physicists	4-1
Beta Theta Pi	5-0	The Kers	4-1
Alpha Tau Omega	5-0		
Phi Kappa Psi	5-0		
LEAGUE 2-A		Alpha Tau Omega	5-0
Sigma Phi Epsilon	5-0	Sigma Alpha Epsilon	5-0
Delta Tau Delta	5-0	Beta Theta Pi	5-0
Sigma Nu	5-0	Phi Kappa Psi	5-0
Theta Xi	5-0		
Phi Gamma Delta	5-0		
Delta Sigma Pi	5-0		
LEAGUE 3-A		Sigma Nu	4-0
Beta Sigma Psi	5-0	Phi Delta Theta	4-1
Brown Palace	5-0	Delta Upsilon	4-1
Farm House	5-0	Sigma Phi Epsilon	4-1
Cornhusker Co-op	5-0	Phi Gamma Delta	4-1
Ag Men	5-0	Theta Xi	4-1
Alpha Gamma Rho	5-0	Phi Kappa Psi	4-1
Alpha Gamma Sigma	5-0		
LEAGUE 4-A		Beta Sigma Psi	4-0
Sigma Alpha Mu	5-0	Sigma Alpha Epsilon	4-0
Pioneer Co-op	5-0	Sigma Chi	4-1
Delta Sigma Phi	5-0	Beta Theta Pi	4-1
Theta Chi	5-0	Phi Delta Theta	4-1
Phi Kappa Psi	5-0	Delta Upsilon	4-1
Acacia	5-0	Alpha Tau Omega	5-0
LEAGUE 5-A		Kappa Sigma	5-0
Burnett	5-0	Phi Kappa Psi	5-0
Manatt	5-0	Lappa Sigma	5-0
Seaton II	5-0	Theta Xi	5-0
Suffek	5-0	Sigma Phi Epsilon	5-0
Seaton I	5-0	Delta Upsilon	5-0
Gus I	5-0	Farm House	5-0
LEAGUE 6-A		Sigma Nu	5-0
Canfield	5-0		
Andrews	5-0		
MacLean	5-0		
Boucher	5-0		
Gus II	5-0		
Beaton	5-0		
LEAGUE 7-A		Canfield	5-0
Avery	5-0	Andrews	5-0
Hitchcock	5-0	Manatt	5-0
Kinschbach	5-0	Avery	5-0
Smith	5-0		
Gus III	5-0		
Beasey	5-0		
Gooding	5-0		
LEAGUE 8-A			
Navy ROTC	5-0		
Phi Epsilon Kappa	5-0		
Dental College	5-0		
Newman Club	5-0		
Vocational Ed	5-0		
Law College	5-0		
Play Boys	5-0		

LM Winners

Table Tennis

Blummer, Delta Sigma Phi; Klimes, FarmHouse.

Hand Ball

Papadakis, Delta Upsilon, McDonald, Phi Kappa Psi.

IM Winners

Table Tennis

Blummer, Delta Sigma A

Phi; Klimes, FarmHouse.

Hand Ball

Padakis, Delta Upsilon.

McDonald, Phi Kappa Psi.

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