

ReMarks . . .

By MARK GORDON
Sports Editor

Pre-season ratings of college teams are about as accurate in predicting the final national rankings as some weather forecasters are in predicting tomorrow's rain or sunshine.

We feel it's next to impossible to rank the top 10 or 20 football or basketball squads in the nation before teams have even stepped on the playing field.

All ratings seem to do is put undue strain on the top-ranking teams as they try to battle against the over-confidence that usually accompanies the national thrust into glory.

For examples, we cite two of the most highly-regarded pre-season football selectors, Sports Illustrated and Look Magazine.

★ ★ ★ ★
The 1967 Football champion, the Southern California Trojans were picked sixth by Look and eighth by Sports Illustrated.

Both publications picked Notre Dame as national champions, but when the final game had been played this season, the Fighting Irish were fifth according to the Associated Press and fourth in the United Press International polls.

Oklahoma gives further evidence that a team can build itself into a winner regardless of the pre-season predictions.

The Sooners finished third this season behind USC and Tennessee, yet the highest either magazine picked them was Look's 16 spot ranking.

★ ★ ★ ★
Both magazines favored Nebraska to be high among the country's football powers. In fact, Look was bold enough to proclaim the Huskers would go undefeated in the 10-game regular season and then earn a Cotton Bowl bid to meet the Texas Longhorns.

As we now know, neither of those two teams sparked this season and neither are headed for a post-season bowl appearance.

★ ★ ★ ★
Among other teams which placed in the final top ten ratings this fall but didn't even draw a lifted eyebrow by the pollsters of those two magazines was Indiana, which earned a trip to the Rose Bowl by winning the Big Ten title.

Oregon State, which upset the top ranking USC Trojans, and Penn State are also two eventual national powers that were overlooked in pre-season polls.

While we have nothing against pre-season polls, we really haven't put much faith in them and pre-season basketball polls bear this out with last weekend's upset-sprinkled cage schedule.

Sports Illustrated favored Kansas as Big Eight champ, yet with two losses in its last three games, the Jayhawks are battling just to stay at the .500 level.

★ ★ ★ ★
Kansas was beaten by a powerful (according to pre-season polls) Louisville squad 57-51 and then dropped an 83-73 decision to an unnoticed Chicago of Loyola squad.

Then Northwestern University spanked Louisville 88-83 in Chicago Saturday night to give further proof that many pre-season polls aren't worth the paper they are written on.

While most Nebraska basketball fans are worrying about the Huskers' erratic showing this season after opening impressively against two-obviously inferior teams, they have overlooked fine performances by both the wrestling team in the Great Plains Tournament and the Gymnastics squad's victory over the Air Force Academy.

★ ★ ★ ★
We admit both squads have seen little action so far, but what they have shown has been favorable. This weekend, the gymnasts host Hays State College in Lincoln and the wrestlers travel to Minnesota to meet Mankato State College Friday and then meet the University of Minnesota Saturday night in the Twin Cities.

What Was That Score?

By LES HELLBUSCH
When NU football and basketball were in their lean years in the late fifties, there was another sport which thrilled fans with many excellent athletes.

Avid track fans remember today the names of Keith Gardner, Victor Brooks and many others. That the University of Nebraska could have a good track team in those lean financial years is a credit to the present coach Frank Sevine.

Track has been a consistent sport at Nebraska over the years. This sport seems to be at its best, however, in recent years.

Over the last two years, the Husker track team has three second places and one first place finish in the Big Eight field that rates as one of the better leagues in the nation.

TRACK LOOKS GOOD
Since track has both an indoor and an outdoor title, it actually counts double on compilations such as the all-sports title, while football and basketball count one each. Thus track, along with cross-country, reflects largely the measured success of the NU athletic program.

Sports fans have been known to complain occasionally that, if these all-sports compilations must be published, football and basketball should be given a heavier weighting.

Track receives additional emphasis and publicity because it actually is a five month season.

NEW COACH
A new addition to the Husker track squad this year is assistant coach Dean Brittenham. That Brittenham is a respected coach

presenting IN PERSON

WILSON PICKETT

Dec. 17, SUNDAY 8:30-12:00 \$2.50 per person

AT PLA-MOR, WEST "O" St.

advanced tickets on sale at robbie's

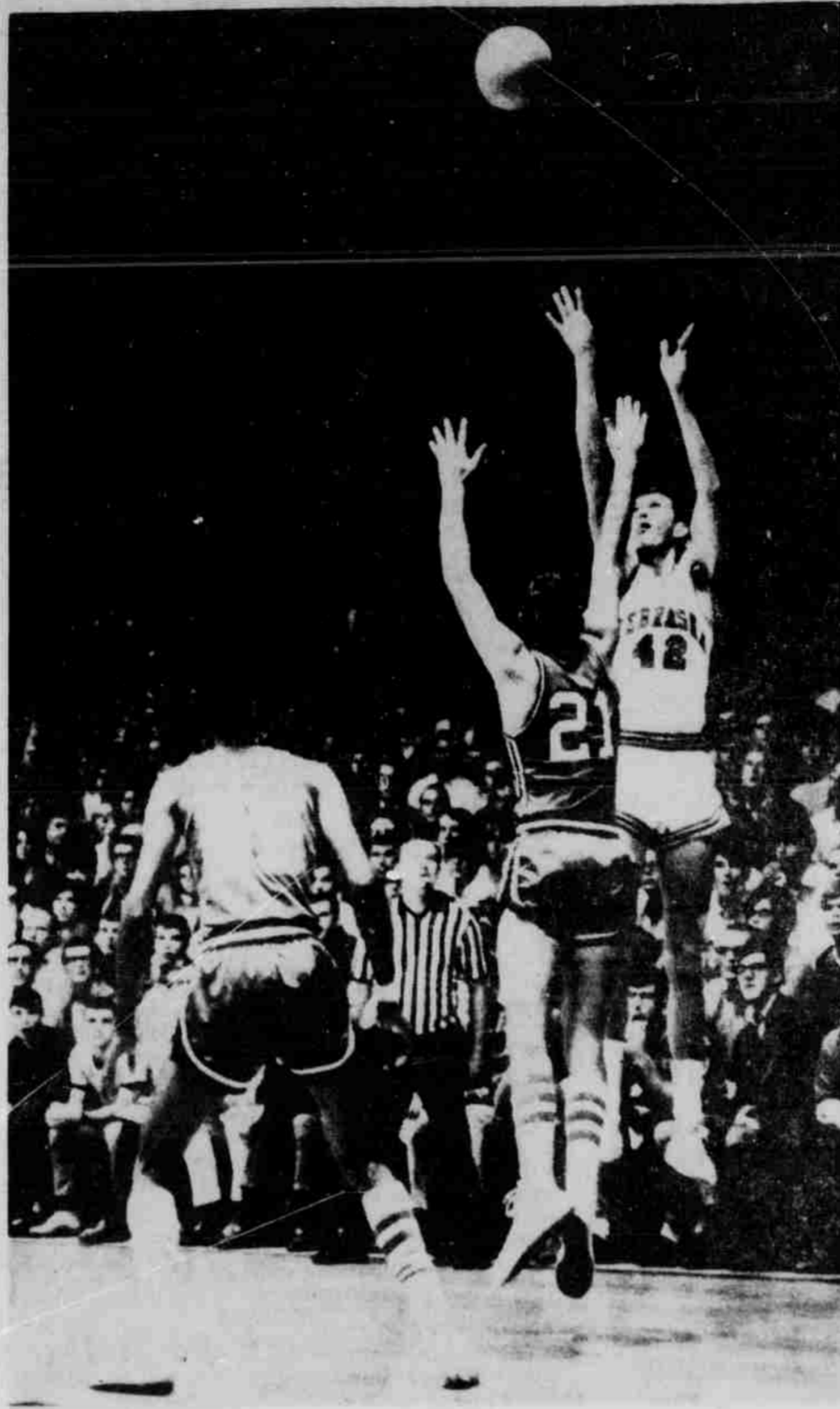


Photo by Robert Herrap

Roger Leitner (42) hits for two against Titans, but the Nebraska home basketball attendance fell nearly 3,000 behind last year's pace after three Coliseum appearances. Last season, Nebraska had attracted 17,270 fans for an average crowd of 5,756 fans, while the three home games this year have drawn 11,165 spectators for a 4,821 game average.

—Huskers Fall, 82-74—

Final Hawaii Tilt Tonight

Shades of the Washington State Cougar series at Pullman last weekend?

That's what the Nebraska basketball squad hopes will happen again Wednesday night when it faces the University of Hawaii in the final game of a two-game set, after dropping the opener at Honolulu Monday night 82-74.

The Huskers began a dual affair with the Cougars last Friday by bowing to the taller westerners 93-70, but regained their form in taking a 15-point match from WSU Saturday 91-76.

The Huskers, fell behind early Monday and then watched five Rainbow shooters hit double figures as they dropped their second game of the season.

Nebraska, now 3-2, spotted

ted Hawaii a 10 point bulge early in the match, but rallied to tie the count at 24.

The lead see-sawed between the two foes until Hawaii scored two buckets before the half to lead 44-40.

Hawaii outscored the Nebraskans 38-34 in the second half as last year's top scorer Harvey Harmon again led the Hawaiians with 18 points.

Nebraska placed three men in double figures, but Hawaii's five field goal edge 34-29 sunk Huskers hopes for the campaign's fourth victory.

Tom Scantlebury hit 22 points, Tom Baack pushed

in 19 and Stuart Lantz scored 14 points to pace Nebraska.

The 3,019 spectators saw 19 fouls called on Nebraska and 15 on Hawaii. The Huskers hit 16 of 29 free tosses, while Hawaii sunk 14 of 24 tosses to give Nebraska additional hope.

HAWAII		NEBRASKA	
G	F	G	F
Caldwell	2-22	12 Baack	8-53
F. Smith	2-7	15 Hare	3-13
Halm	2-3	17 Grattip	2-45
Riffe	2-6	5 Lantz	6-25
Harmon	4-25	12 Scantlebury	8-44
Ash	0-1	0 Damon	1-8
Bensley	0-2	0 Leitner	1-0
Reynolds	2-6	11	
Totals	34-143	82	28-176
Nebraska			46-244
Hawaii			41-238

Fouled out: None
Total fouls: Hawaii 15, Nebraska 19
Attendance: 3,019

CAMPUS CRUSADE FOR CHRIST

SPONSORS

COLLEGE LIFE

Wednesday, 7:30 p.m.

Alpha Delta Pi House — 115 North 16th

Rialto Billiards

1332 P St.

45c an hour

Phi Delts Capture IM Football Title

By CHARLES DAVIES
Sports Assistant

Defending football champion Phi Delta Theta again flexed its muscles and captured the All-University football championship.

The Phi Delts first defeated Cornhusker A, 12-6, for the fraternity crown. Gus II, the dorm champion, and then went on to down the Falcons, the Independent champion, 25-6, for the football title.

In route to its fraternity championship the Phi Delts turned back a tough Sigma Chi team 8-6 and beat Beta Theta Pi, 13-0.

"The Sigma Chis were the toughest we faced," Tom Petsch, Phi Delt intramural chairman, said. "We beat them on a blocked punt in the end zone early in the game," he explained.

Petsch said the team was led by quarterback Bob Holmes, former Omaha Benson quarterback, and an outstanding defense.

"Holmes is an all-around good quarterback," he said. "You have to have a good quarterback to play this kind of football."

"On defense linebackers Tom Lewis and Dick Baldwin did a good job for us while former Husker varsity members Sam Beechner and Bill Daiss played well in the defensive backfield," Petsch said.

Former freshman football player Tom Brazer did a good job at defensive end, he said.

Petsch said this year's team was better than the championship squad of last year.

LESS MISTAKES

"Our defense was a lot stronger and we didn't make as many mistakes as we did last year," he said. "Everybody played well, week in and week out."

The intramural chairman also said the balance of the team was exceptional. Nearly everybody played

together last year, he said. "We played 20 men a game which was a lot more than last year when we played only about 10," Petsch said. "This was a definite factor in winning," he explained.

"The guys would only play half a game which kept them less tired," Petsch said. "Also a player could play one position and get better at it this way," he concluded.

Are you Christmas shopping for a friend who aspires to be a lutanist?

We suggest:

A Bin Cho Chinese banjo or 18 inch round Italian basket or a hooting iron owl.

Open 10-6
Mon.-Fri. INTERIORS DIVERSIFIED Sat. 11-4

1230 South St. — Phone 432-8851



light up your lips with new merle norman

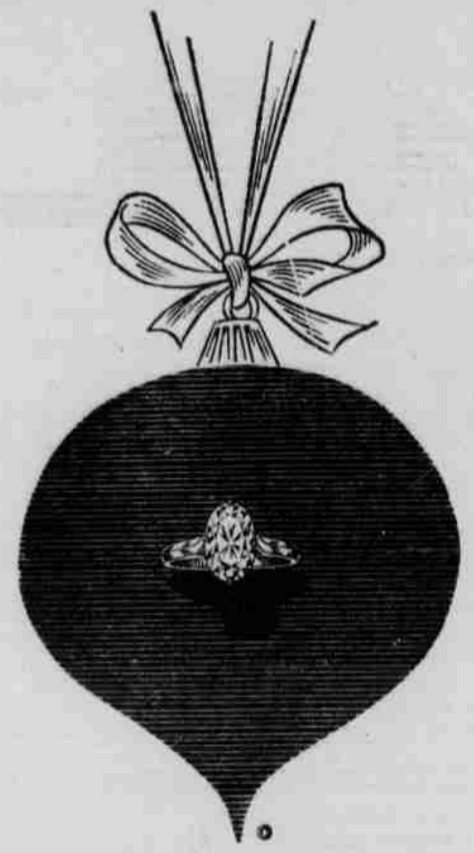
Lip Gloss

...and try it out...free!

A hint of shimmer, a glossy gleam; suddenly you're so kissable. Moisturizes, too. \$1.50 in mirror compact. Try Lip Gloss soon at your Merle Norman Cosmetic Studio.

MERLE NORMAN COSMETIC STUDIO 118 No. 14th 432-5235

Home of the "Free Hour of Beauty"



She'll Love an Oval Diamond

for this lovely gem is an interesting departure from the conventional. Of very fine color, it has all the brilliance and fire of a round diamond plus the grace and glitter of a marquise-cut.

Illustration slightly enlarged

Sartor Hamann

Serving Lincoln Since 1905
1129 "O" STREET

REGISTERED JEWELERS AMERICAN GEM SOCIETY

In the water, or out...

Swimming Instructor Miss Vicky Shanks enjoys the freedom of her Pearle Optical Contact Lenses!

Vicky wears her Pearle Optical Contact Lenses all the time, even swimming. Like over 7500 other active people who wear Pearle Optical Contact Lenses...day in and day out, Vicky appreciates her Contact Lenses, not only as a beauty aid, but for the unique feeling of security and freedom Verilite Contact Lenses bring to people on the go. (People like you!)

Find out about Verilite Contact Lenses. You can't buy finer Contact Lenses anywhere. See Pearle Optical now.



Verilite Contact Lenses \$65 Pearle Optical Budget Terms Available
Lincoln: 1132 "O" Street Phone: 432-7583
Also in Omaha • Grand Island • Hastings • Norfolk
All Offices Open Daily Including Saturdays