# daily nebraskan sports

### Cagers clash for lead

The Nebraska basketball team, which leads the Big Eight Conference, collides with defending conference champion Kansas at Lawrence Saturday night.

Kansas, which is currently tied with Oklahoma for second place, takes a 3-1 conference record into the 8:05 p.m. match.

Kansas' Allen Field House has always been a difficult place for the Huskers. Nebraska Coach Joe Cipriano, now in his ninth season at NU, has never won in the KU arena.

Nebraska goes into the Kansas game with a 4-0 conference record, after edging Oklahoma State 64-63 Wednesday night at Stillwater.

#### Tracksters open season

The Nebraska track team opens its 1972 indoor season Saturday with a dual meet against Indiana, Big Ten outdoor champions for the past two years, at Bloomington.

Nebraska track coach Frank Sevigne is confident 1972 can be a good year for the Husker track team.

"We'll be improved in the field events and in the hurdles and should get quality performances in the micdle distances," Sevigne said.

Garth Case, who was victorious in the 500 at the recent National Invitational in Maryland, heads the strong middle distance corps. Nebraska's two-mile relay team, which also finished first in the National Invitational meet, gives Sevigne good reason to believe that this is the best middle distance corps he's ever had at Nebraska.

### Gymnasts invade KU

"This is by far the best all-around team Nebraska has had," gymnastics coach Francis Allen said of his current squad.

Allen's young team will get its first taste of Big Eight dual meet competition Friday against Kansas at Lawrence. The Husker gymnasts will be in Manhattan Saturday for another dual against Kansas State.

"We really had a good preseason," Allen said, pointing to his team's performances in five regional meets earlier this season.

The Huskers finished fifth in the Rocky Mountain Open and placed third in the KU Invitational behind Iowa State and Kansas State earlier this season. In addition, Hoppy Batten's individual performance earned him a first place in the horizontal bar competition at the East-West All-Star meet in December at Tucson, Ariz.

Allen figures he needs two outstanding specialists and three all-round performers to be strong for the upcoming Big Eight dual meets.

### Swimmers face duals

After being routed in a double dual meet last Saturday against Kansas and Missouri, the Nebraska swimming team will be trying to recover in two meets this weekend.

The Huskers swimmers, in their last home meet of the season, will host Southwest Minnesota at 7 p.m. Friday at the Coliseum pool. Saturday, they go against a tough Iowa State team in Ames.

Husker Swimming Coach John Reta admits his tankers took their lumps in losing to Kansas and Missouri at Lawrence, but he isn't really to give up. "I was really impressed with the way the kids never gave up," he said.

## gary seacrest sports

"I've got a problem: I'm suffering from an identity crisis. Not in my mind, but in the minds of many people.

Everywhere I go recently people ask me what I'm doing for the Daily Nebraskan this semester after being editor last semester. I tell them that I'm sports editor.

The usual reaction is peels of laughter or "Aw come on, you must be kidding."

But I have been telling the truth. I really am sports editor.

People ask me why I'm writing sports and whether I'll miss covering the politics of the Regents, the Legislature and the governor. I reply: "The only difference between sports and politics is that sportsmen play fair and admit that they're playing games. I enjoy this honesty."

However, there are many things wrong with sports, including some sports writing. Sports writers too often lapse into operating as public relations men for the teams they cover.

But that doesn't mean I won't be objective. It does mean that I'll cover sports completely at Nebraska, not just what's on the surface. I'll tell what's good as well as what's bad.

Last week I ran into NU Basketball Coach Joe Cipriano at the Coliseum. I mentioned to him that I was "moving down" from editor to sports editor for this semester.

Cipriano corrected me: "You're not moving down, you're moving up."

On this campus I'm afraid he might be right.

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