

Flu hits wrestling team; record season in jeopardy

A flu bug could spoil the Nebraska wrestling team's chance to register their best season in a decade.

UNL Wrestling Coach Orval Borgialli spent last weekend with two of his regulars, Steve Ravenscroft (167) and Duayne Nelson (177), out with the flu and the Huskers lost two duals, 27-6 to South Dakota State and 18-15 to Southern Illinois.

Borgialli said he will probably have to go to Northwest Missouri Saturday afternoon for the season's final dual without two more starters. Monty Halstead, the regular at 126, came down with the flu Sunday as did Ravenscroft's replacement, Len Dickinson, on Monday.

"We don't have any backup power at most of those weights," Borgialli noted. "It's almost a question of forfeiting."

Borgialli said he doesn't expect any of the four to be ready Saturday. A win in Saturday's meet would give the Huskers a 9-5-1 final record, the best since 1962.

Last year Nebraska beat Northwest Missouri 31-3 in what is claimed to be the fastest match in history. It was wrestled during the state high school meet when eight mats were spread out on the Coliseum floor.

Borgialli said he doesn't know very much about this year's Northwest Missouri team except that they beat Missouri, 18-17, at Maryville, Mo., in January. The Huskers own an 18-12 decision over the Tigers.

Looking ahead to the Big Eight tournament later this month, Borgialli said, "Oklahoma State looks like the team to beat at this point. Iowa State is pretty tough, but Oklahoma State will take them out in the lower weights."

"Oklahoma will probably be third in the conference again with the rest of us fighting it out for fourth," he continued. "A lot depends on the seeding meeting as to whether we get fourth again."

Huskers eye relays title

Selected members of the Nebraska track team will be competing in Houston Saturday at the national Astrodome meet.

"We are mainly going to be concentrating on the relays," Nebraska Track Coach Frank Sevigne said. "We feel we have a good chance of winning both relays."

Nebraska will be sending both the mile relay and the two-mile relay team to Houston. The mile relay team will be running against Adelphi University from Garden City, N.Y., holder of the world

indoor record for the mile relay on an eleven-lap track. The Husker two-mile relay team, which won the National Invitational meet in College Park, Md., last month are strong favorites to win the event again.

The Cornhuskers will also have individual representatives in the long jump and the triple jump, the hurdles, the sprints and the two-mile run.

In the field events, Nebraska's Hopeton Gordon and Ron Childs will be competing in the long jump. Childs has already jumped over 24 feet this season and is considered by Sevigne as a strong challenger. Gordon, besides competing in the long jump, will see duty in the triple jump.

Allen sees second place finish

Nebraska's gymnastics team will face Colorado in a dual meet at the Men's P.E. Building Saturday at 2 p.m.

The Huskers stand 1-2 in dual meets this season after a loss to defending NCAA champions Iowa State last weekend. The Huskers only victory in the meet came in the horizontal bar competition, with Nebraska's Hoppy Batten defeating Iowa State's Jim Stephenson.

"The Iowa State meet indicated to me that if we perform like we can, we'll be second in the Big Eight," said Nebraska's Gymnastic Coach Francis Allen. "Iowa State came down with the idea we'd be an easy team. My kids didn't feel that way. After the

third event we were ahead and I wasn't hearing too much noise coming from their bench."

Besides Batten's performance on the horizontal bar, Allen said he was especially pleased with the efforts of Jim Gump in the floor exercise (8.8), Hal Traver and Larry Evermann on the pommel horse (both 8.65) and

Gene Mackie on the still rings (8.9). All the individual scores were their best of the season.

Colorado has finished last in the Big Eight the last two years, however, Allen said he isn't taking the meet too lightly.

"They have some good individuals," Allen said, "but their depth isn't too good."

sports shorts

Big Eight records (two indoor and four outdoor) in addition to the outdoor mile relay mark.

The Department of Recreation and Intramurals will sponsor a coed (one man and one woman) badminton tournament. Entries for the tournament are due Feb. 16 at the Recreation and Intramurals Office at 1740 Vine St.

Frank Sevigne, now in his 17th year as track coach at Nebraska, has been named referee of the 47th Kansas Relays April 19-22.

Sevigne will be the third Cornhusker coach to officiate at the meet. Sevigne has developed eight Olympic competitors and his athletes

The UNL Hockey Club will meet Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Nebraska Union to discuss organization and practices.

The UNL Ski Club will meet Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Union.

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