

Spring drills begin April 3 for gridders

Nebraska's national championship football team completed its 1971 season only three months ago, but the team begins preparations for another season April 3 when spring drills open.

Nebraska Coach Bob Devaney said an unprecedented third straight national title is "improbable, but possible." He added that "there's not a guy on the team who doesn't think it (a repeat title) can happen."

One of the big problems the Huskers face is finding a replacement for quarterback Jerry Tagge, who was drafted by the Green Bay Packers. Red-shirt sophomore Dave Humm is not an automatic replacement for Tagge, according to Devaney.

The Huskers lost six offensive and five defensive starters off the 1971 squad through graduation.

NU splits double-header

TULSA, OKLA.—The Nebraska baseball team opened its 1972 season Wednesday by splitting a doubleheader with Oral Roberts University.

Oral Roberts won the first game over the Huskers by a score of 1-0.

In the second game Oral Roberts out hit the Huskers 13-6, but could only manage to tie the Huskers, 1-1, after the regulation seven innings. But in the top of the ninth inning, Husker third baseman Jim Smith hit a double to drive in a pair of runs to give Nebraska a 3-1 winning margin.

The Huskers will play another doubleheader against Oral Roberts Thursday before traveling to the University of Houston to play a six-game series.

Track season opens on road

What do you do for an encore after you've won the Big Eight championship, tied for fifth in the NCAA and gone undefeated in dual meet competition?

That's the question facing the Nebraska track team after a successful indoor season. Husker Track Coach Frank Sevigne, a man of few words, has a succinct answer: "We should do as well outdoors." But he isn't making any prediction on whether his team can win the Big Eight outdoor meet.

Sevigne takes his squad on the road next week to open the 1972 outdoor season. The Huskers will be in Tempe, Ariz., March 28 for a dual with Arizona State. April 1 the team goes to El Paso, Tex., for a triangular meet with Washington and the University of Texas-El Paso.

One of the top performers for Nebraska in the indoor season was Jamaican Garth Case who was undefeated in the 600 as he won his third Big Eight title. Case was nipped in the NCAA 440 by Lawrence Jones of Northeast Missouri even though both were timed in 48.3 seconds. Outside Case will compete in the 440 and the mile relay.

In addition, the Husker mile relay team, which finished second to Adelphi University in the NCAA indoor meet, will be on hand for the outdoor campaign. The strongest segment of the team should continue to be the middle distance runners. The Husker

middle distance men are considered by many to be the finest group of 440 through 880 runners ever assembled by a Big Eight team.

The Huskers appear to be comparatively weak in the field events—a fact that could hurt the team in the outdoor season. In fact, the team doesn't even have a regular javelin thrower. However, any weakness in the field events is expected to be offset by the Huskers' dominance in the track events.

One of the Huskers' top performers in the field events is Jamaican Hopeton Gordon, who competes in the long and triple jumps.

Nebraska will once again compete in three top relay meets this spring—the Texas Relays, the Kansas Relays and the Drake Relays.

"Obviously we should do pretty well in the relays," Sevigne said. "We can get together some strong relay teams."

A welcome addition to the Nebraska track program is the new \$180,000 outdoor Tartan track, located just northeast of Memorial Stadium. The Huskers will inaugurate the new track on April 15 with a meet against the University of Oregon.

The outdoor track and field complex will rank as one of the finest in the nation when a planned concrete stadium seating 7,000 is completed.

Probable Nebraska entries for the first two meets with career bests in parentheses:

440 Relay—Ron Childs, Doug Gregory, Jim Novak, Horace Levy.

100—Novak, Levy (9.5), Gregory.

220—Novak, Levy (9.5), Gregory.

440—Leighton Priestley (47.5), Garth Case (46.7), Reuben Givens.

880—Jeff Wisemiller, Roger Chadwick (1:52.7), Larry Cimato (1:52.0).

Mile—Jim Hawkins, Dan Speck (4:10.0), Lynn Hall (4:12.3).

2-Mile—Bob Unger (9:14.2), Mike Fertig (9:17.1).

440-Intermediates—Wes Leonard (52.5), Gary Gressett.

120 Highs—Randy Butts, Gressett (14.3)

Mile Relay—Case, Leonard, Cimato, Priestley, or Givens.

Shot—Phil Righetti (55-2 indoors), Bob Keesling (53-3½ indoors), Jerry Hannon (51-7½).

Discuss—Righetti, Keesling, Hannon.

High jump—Dan Brooks (6-9), Steve Eymann (6-8 indoors), Howard Burns (6-9)

Pole Vault—Bill Lauer (15-0).

Long Jump—Hopeton Gordon (24-9), Childs (24½ indoors), Leonard (23-6 indoors).

Triple Jump—Gordon (50-4¼), Childs (47-2 indoors), Leonard (47-4½).

Javelin—Hannon.



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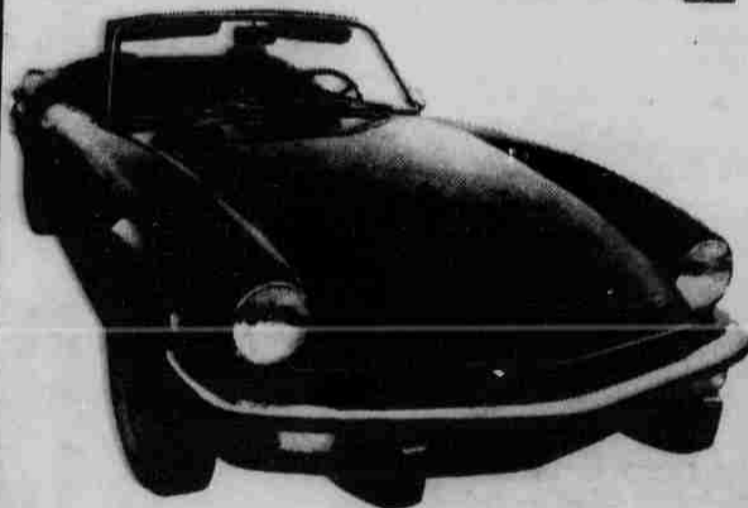
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