

First invitational launches golf season

Nebraska will have its own version of the Masters golf tournament this week when collegiate golfers compete in the first annual Cornhusker Invitational at Holmes Park Golf Course Thursday and Friday.

Larry Romjue, Nebraska golf coach, noted the tournament may draw up to eight college teams. Romjue said he will enter two Husker teams to compete against teams from South Dakota, Creighton, Kansas, Northern Iowa, Kansas State and maybe Iowa State.

"We always had dual meets in the past," Romjue remarked. "But this is the first year for the invitational and I hope to expand it in future years."

Thursday's action starts at 12:30 p.m. and Friday's round starts at 8:30 a.m. The tournament will be scored on the basis of team medal play.

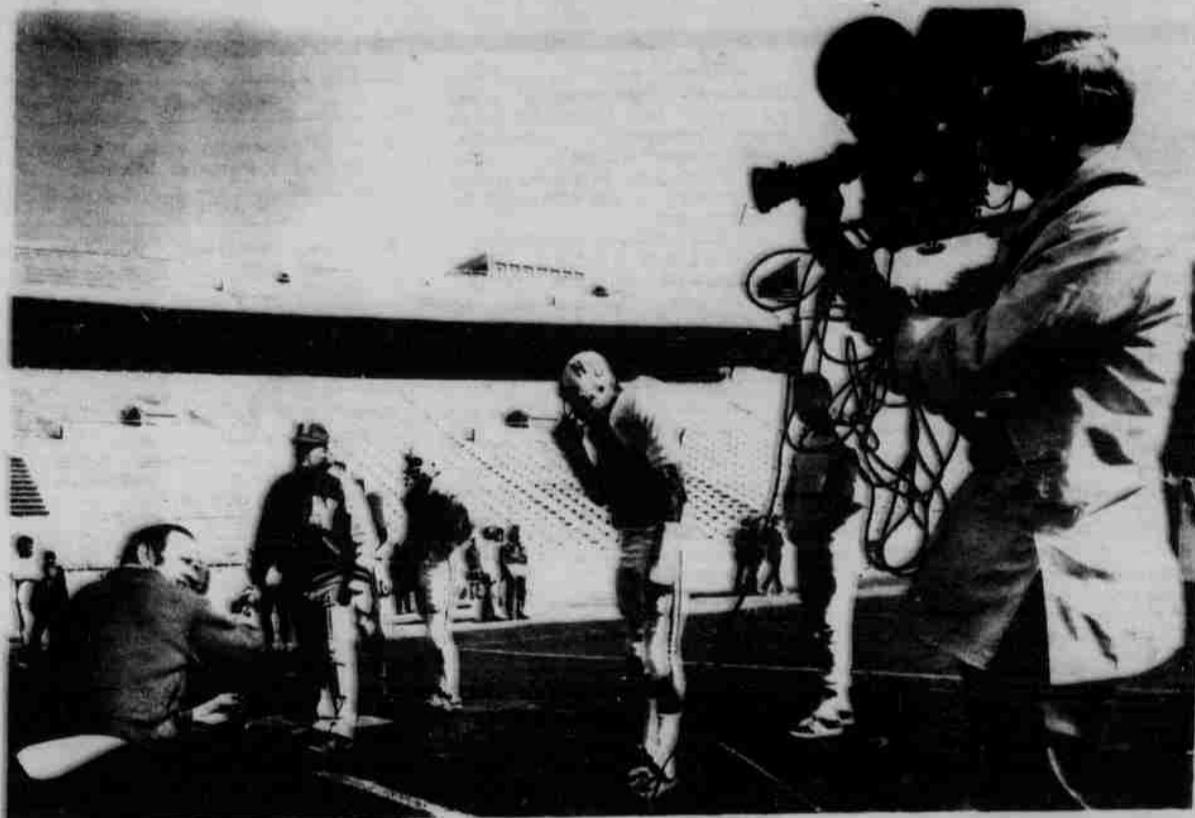
The Cornhusker Invitational is the first competition of the year for the Husker golfers. The team will be led by two veterans-junior Rick Schultz of Omaha and senior Scott Brunzell of Lincoln. Schultz, who qualified for the NCAA tournament last year, is rated by Romjue as "one of the top golfers in the conference." Brunzell won the Lincoln city title last year.

Although Nebraska lost four out of its top six golfers from last year's team through graduation, Romjue isn't worried about his current squad. "We haven't lost that much by replacing the seniors with freshmen," he said.

Two freshmen, Steve King of Lexington and Gary Anderson of Norfolk, have broken into the top five of the squad. "Anderson was the top senior in Class A last year and King has won a lot of junior tournaments around," Romjue said. "They both have a lot of potential."

The Husker coach predicts Oklahoma State will repeat as king of Big Eight golf, but he has his sights on a goal the Huskers have never achieved—a second-place finish in the conference meet. Last year the Huskers finished fourth in the league meet.

"We have a pretty good chance for second," Romjue said of the meet, which will be in May at Colorado. "But we could end up in fifth, too. It will all depend on who gets the breaks."



Lights, camera, action. . . television newsmen focused in on Nebraska players and coaches Monday as spring football practice began.

Huskies spring into practice

by Gary Seacrest

Boring. That's how Nebraska players often view spring football practice, according to Bob Devaney. But the Husker head coach is quick to point out the importance of the spring drills, which began Monday for the Huskers.

"Spring practice is not boring for the coaches because we realize how much we have to do in the drills," he said. "The main thing we have to accomplish in the spring is to find the best players at the different positions."

"I also think that spring practice is important because it saves a lot of time in the fall if you can come up with answers in the spring."

Devaney said the "first" priority of the 1972 spring practice is to find a replacement for quarterbacks Jerry Tagge and Van Brownson, who led the Huskers for three seasons.

The Huskers find themselves without a proven quarterback—a fact that many observers say will make it difficult for the team to win an unprecedented third consecutive national championship. Junior Steve Runty has played a few minutes of varsity competition, but sophomore redshirt David Humm and sophomore Terry Luck have none.

The quarterback situation might have become more

critical Monday when Luck suffered a knee injury in a non-contact passing drill. Devaney said Tuesday the injury was a knee strain "which at the present time doesn't look like it will require an operation."

Besides the quarterback situation, Devaney said, "I-back, defensive secondary, linebacker and offensive guard are other problems."

The position hardest hit by graduation is linebacker where four of the five lettermen linebackers from last year are gone. However, Bill Sloey—a 1971 starter until injured—returns to action. He will be joined by Rich Sanger (better known for his placekicking) and Johnny Pitts, who was moved from the monster back position.

Several speedsters from the freshman team join returning starters Joe Blahak and Dave Mason in the defensive backfield. "We can have a good backfield again, but we need to find a safety to replace Bill Kosch and a cornerback to replace Jim Anderson," said Warren Powers, defensive back coach. "But we've got better speed than we've had."

In the offensive line the Huskers have to replace All-Big Eight player Dick Rupert and starter Keith Wortman. Carl Selmer, offensive line coach, said, "We lost three quality guards, but we have some fine young athletes back. We've got fine tackles in Daryl White and Al Austin, and we hope we can move Bob Wolfe to guard."

The Huskers also have to find a replacement for Jeff Kinney at the chief running position, I-back. Gary Dixon, who was No. 2 behind Kinney last season, and Don Westbrook, the 1970 freshman rushing leader, were assigned to the first offensive unit Monday in the I-back position.

sports shorts

The Recreation and Intramurals Department (R & I) is sponsoring a co-recreational tennis tournament. A team consists of one male and one female and entries for the double-elimination tournament are due at the

department's office, 1740 Vine St., by Friday.

R & I is sponsoring a co-recreational golf tournament. Two players (one male and one female) compete against two other players with each side playing one ball. Entries for the tournament are due at the departments office by Friday.

A doubles' horseshoes tournament, sponsored by R & I, will begin Monday. Entries for the single elimination tournament are due Thursday.

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