daily nebraskan sports

Last Second Switch

Nebraska track coach Frank Sevigne changed his mind at the last second and evidently, everything worked as he

The team was to compete in the U.S. Track and Field Federation meet in Houston, Tex., but Sevigne had second thoughts and decided to attend the Michigan State Relays in East Lansing instead.

Sevigne switched with hopes of qualifying some of his relay teams for the March NCAA championships in Detroit.

Nebraska's distance medley, two-mile relay and mile relay thindlads posted times good enough to qualify for the NCAA meet.

But the meet's most encouraging performance came from one of Sevigne's distance runners, Bob Unger.

Unger smashed the Michigan State fieldhouse two-mile run record with a winning time of 8:48.1. The new mark breaks the record of 8:48.9 set by Doug Brown of Tennessee last year.

After an average cross-country season, Unger has regained the form that made him one of the top Big Eight Conference runners last year.

He not only broke the two-mile Michigan State fieldhouse record, but set a new meet record and broke his own UNL mark.

Nebraska's next meet will be a dual Saturday against the University of Wisconsin at Madison. Sevigne says the meet will provide a great opportunity for his athletes to qualify for the NCAA individual events.

"Wisconsin has superb track facilities and some men that should provide tremendous competition for us," he said.

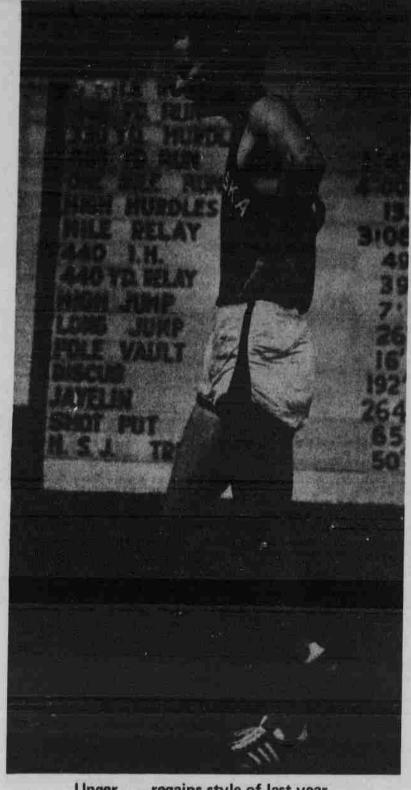
Coach Bill Perrins' Badgers have high expectations for the 1973 season with 24 returning lettermen. They placed third in the Big 10 indoor meet and second in the conference outdoor championships last year.

Although the Badgers lost all-american high jumper Pat Matzdorf through graduation, the team has a balanced team including Gordon Crail, Wisconsin's first pole vaulter to clear 16 foot (16-1); and two natives of Nairobi, Kenya-Patrick Onyango, the defending Big 10 triple jump champion and freshman sprinter Tariq "the Streak"

One of the top races could be the two-mile run featuring Unger and Wisconsin's top distance star Glenn Herold.

Herold won the three-mile run at the Michigan State Relays in record time of 13:39, only three seconds off the U.S. record for the event. Herold finished fourth in last fall's NCAA cross country meet.

While qualifying team members for the NCAA meet will be Nebraska's main goal Saturday, winning the meet will also be on the minds of Sevigne and his squad, Sevigne said.



Unger . . . regains style of last year.

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UNL imports rugby

Another British import is making its way to UNL, according to Phil Sienna, director of recreation and intramurals. A rugby club is now being started. Sienna said starting the team was Chuck Snell's idea. Snell had been on a rugby team at a college in Missouri.

"This will be an inexpensive sport to compete in," he said.

"All we need to supply is a couple of rugby balls."

An intramural league is possible if there's the interest. Sienna said the team also may be able to play teams from other universities.

"I think with good participation and effort we can compete against other teams in the area," he said.

"Rugby is a natural for spring," Sienna said. "It combines good conditioning with skill and it is a good contact sport."

"Since football is such a big sport here in the fall," he continued, "I see no reason why a rugby team won't succeed in the spring."

Snell said he expects rugby to be received well here because it is popular throughout the Midwest.

Rugby teams in Missouri, Kansas and Iowa have developed the Heart of America Football-Rugby Union. In this program, Midwest teams play in a league.

Anyone wishing to participate in this program should contact Phil Sienna at the Department of Recreation and



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