



Usually a starter, Husker pitcher Denny O'Doherty was pressed into relief duty in the first game against Creighton University yesterday.

UNL baseball team wins doubleheader

By Steve Taylor

UNL survived two scares from Creighton University Tuesday to top the Bluejays, 7-5, in the first game of a doubleheader, and 6-5 in the second at the UNL diamond.

The Huskers unleashed a 13-hit attack on the Bluejays in the first game with Norm Gilsman cracking three singles and Paul Haas a triple and a single. Bob Leise had two of the Jays' six hits, including a 400 ft. blast over the fence in right-center field.

Dave Buehrer started the game for UNL and was staked to an early 3-0 lead. He had a no-hitter going until Leise's first-pitch home run in the fourth. The Bluejays scored two runs in that inning to narrow the Husker lead to 3-2.

The fifth inning proved to be the turning point in the contest. After the Huskers repelled a Creighton threat in the top of the inning, they roared back with four runs in the bottom half to move out to a 5-run lead. Bryant Akisada's 2-run double was the key blow as the Huskers paraded eight men to the plate in the fifth.

The Bluejays, who had been talking College World Series before the game, weren't ready to play dead yet, however.

The visitors from Omaha countered with two runs in the sixth and put a severe scare into the Huskers in the seventh.

UNL reliever Denny O'Doherty served up four walks in that stanza to walk in a run and load the bases. So with the score 7-5 and two outs, Kirk Eymann was brought in to pitch to Bluejay catcher George Maness. Eymann blew the third strike by Maness to seal away the dramatic win.

Rowing team shell destroyed

A motorboat rammed broadside into one of the UNL crew team's shells Monday night, causing "heavy structural damage," according to Coach Peter Zandbergen. He said the shell was the best of the four used by the various Husker teams and that it won't be able to race again.

Team members Scott Lewis and Ted Frodyma were treated at the University Health Center for cuts and bruises suffered in the accident. It occurred while the team was practicing on Branched Oak Lake.

Zandbergen said the shell was worth \$4,200. Three oars worth \$90 each also were broken.

He said he is checking the insurance policies of both the team and the motorboat owner to determine if either will cover the accident.

End of season no end to gymnasts' work

Most people would think the season ended for the UNL gymnastics team last March at the Big 8 meet. But don't expect to find Husker gymnasts taking it easy in the off season. In fact, they're still hard at work.

Take, for example, Gene Mackie, Gary Jeurink and Duane West. All will compete in the U.S. Gymnastics Federation (USGF) regional meet in Ames, Iowa, April 26-27. That event is a preliminary qualifying meet for the World Games in June.

According to Jeurink, "I'm out to gain some experience, try out some new moves and get some better ideas from the gymnasts there."

But for Mackie, the meet will be his first since the Big 8 Invitational Tournament last fall, after which he suffered the broken leg that sidelined him this semester.

"I'm healthy now and have been working real hard for this meet," said Mackie. "If I have a couple more good workouts, I'll be right in there."

"I'm rusty in a few events," he continued, "but by the same token, I'm a lot better in some events too."

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TODAY WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17

sports shorts

The UNL tennis team's record fell to 0-16 when it was defeated 5-4 by Washburn University in a Tuesday match at Woods Park.

Husker golfers finished third out of a 7-team field in the Great Plains Invitational Thursday and Friday in Wichita, Kan. UNL's total of 604 placed it behind Oklahoma State University's 587 and Wichita State University's 597. Low Husker shooter was Steve King with a 150, followed by Gary Teel and Dan Bahensky with 151s and Tom Steckmann with a 152.

The UNL varsity crew team finished first and second in two races in Kansas last weekend. Kansas State University, ranked in the Top 10 nationally, defeated the Huskers by three seconds in Saturday's race at Manhattan. UNL came back to take Sunday's meet in Topeka by beating Minnesota University, Washburn University and Oklahoma State University.

The UNL women's tennis team improved its record to 6-0 with victories over Creighton University and Baker University Saturday.

Larry Stunkel on record

Mackie agreed that like Jeurink and West, the meet will provide him with a learning experience because the range of competition in the meet will go beyond the college level, including many men who have had international experience.

Husker Coach Francis Allen said Mackie "is in better shape, and mentally is a better gymnast after the long layoff."

"This meet isn't just a training meet, but is to get these guys up in the lights so people will know who they are," he added.

In order to advance to the USGF national meet in California, a competitor must place in the top seven in regional competition. The tourney is strictly all-around competition, with gymnasts being judged on their performance in all events instead of those they specialize in.

Beyond the USGF meet, the Huskers are into their vital off season program, which for the most part involves four practice sessions a week during the summer, plus competition in various clinics.

According to Mackie, "Some people take vacations fishing or camping; we take vacations at clinics."

"Off season is a time when you learn new moves for next season's routines, work on techniques you need to improve on, improve different aspects of flexibility and strength you may be weak in and practice events in which improvement is needed," he said.

"We really look forward to the summer," Mackie added. "It's a fun, more relaxed atmosphere. You do the things you want to, and it is more enjoyable from a physical standpoint since you're not tearing yourself down each day."

Allen, who himself will conduct three clinics this summer for younger boys and girls, said the summer is a time when the gymnast can play, and play in a healthy environment. "We'll have a real busy summer, and hopefully, a profitable one," he said.