

Sports coming to East Campus

For students on UNL's East Campus it will be a convenience. As a whole, it will double existing outdoor recreation space for UNL students.

With 26.6 acres, the recreational complex planned for completion next spring will give UNL RECREATION SPACE "adequate for the student population," according to Kermit McMurry, assistant director of recreation. The complex will be northeast of the College of Dentistry on East Campus.

The absence of a recreation area on East Campus has made it necessary for students there to commute to the downtown campus to participate in recreational or intramural activities. Lack of parking space and having to wait to use activity areas like the tennis courts has inconvenienced students.

However, with six tennis courts, six handball courts, three basketball courts and flag football fields included in the plans for the new area, most of the inconvenience will be eliminated.

McMurry said the tennis courts especially were needed because of an increasing interest in that sport.

Larry Stunkel on record

Completion of the project probably will mean that East Campus intramural teams will be grouped into leagues exclusively for play on the new fields, according to Gail Wedlow, director of intramurals.

Until the complex is completed next spring, the present activity areas still will be crowded. The crowded conditions probably will worsen later in the year when cold weather forces recreation and intramural activities inside.

The lack of indoor recreation space and the limited availability of the existing facilities is one problem the east campus area will not solve.

McMurry commended Madge Phillips, chairwoman of physical education for women, for the effort her department has made to provide room for recreational and intramural activities. He also lauded the athletic and men's physical education departments for their cooperation.

Present indoor facilities are not enough to meet any additional demand for recreational activity nor are there plans to build additional indoor activity space.

"The initiative for the beginning stages for such a building will have to come from the students," said McMurry. "The students have to assess the need for such a project along with the professional staff."

Oklahoma predicted on top of Big 8 pile

by Steve Taylor

Predicted Order of Finish in the 1974 Big 8 season

- | | |
|-----------------|---------------|
| 1. Oklahoma | 5. Missouri |
| 2. Nebraska | 6. Kansas |
| 3. Colorado | 7. Iowa St. |
| 4. Oklahoma St. | 8. Kansas St. |

Oklahoma number one? It's a sad forecast for a Nebraskan to make but a disgustingly logical one. The 1974 Sooners return with an arsenal of talent primed to make a strong bid for the national championship. Still, they'll have to wade through the treacherous Big 8 conference before Sooner fans can wave their forefingers in the sky.

Perhaps the favorite role (138 of 143 Midwest sportswriters tabbed the Sooners as champions) will prove a jinx to Oklahoma as it did to Nebraska. The Huskers were labeled as the odds-on favorite each of the past two seasons but both times Oklahoma wouldn't cooperate in making the writers' choice accurate. Both years they defeated the Huskers and claimed the title. Nebraska and the other six Big 8 teams (once known as the seven dwarfs) will hope to halt the Sooner streak at two.

It won't be easy. Oklahoma's defense doesn't appear quite as unyielding as the '73 unit but the offense will be one that might make the Miami Dolphins shudder. Ten of the 11 starters return to recharge the Wishbone attack, including Joe Washington.

Washington led the conference in rushing last year with a 6.7 average on the ground.

Defensively, the Sooners return two of the Selmon brothers and All-American linebacker Rod Shoate. Husker fans are hoping to see no resemblance to the defensive unit that so frustrated Nebraska the past two years, both times holding them to less than 200 yards in total offense.

How good are the '73 Huskers going to be? On paper they look at least the equal of the previous two seasons' 9-2-1 teams. However, not everything is spelled out concerning Nebraska's football prospects.

Coach Tom Osborne is in the process of experimenting with different players and positions. If he can come up with the right combination, Husker fans might be participating in and not sadly watching the victory celebration after the Husker-Sooner clash this year.

Also not widely known around the Big 8 is the punt returning and pass-catching ability of Bobby Thomas.

Throw in a few potentially great freshmen and four All-American candidates (Humm, Davis, Bonness and Crenshaw) and there is good reason for optimism in Lincoln.

The rest of the Big 8 teams shape up this way:

Colorado—Every year the Buffs are tabbed as powerhouses and every year they mysteriously lose two or three games. With a new coach this year, they might surprise some.

Oklahoma State—The Cowboys will have to replace departed quarterback Brent Blackman but still will return a dangerous backfield with George Palmer and Leonard Thompson. The defense lost seven starters.

Missouri—The Tiger's defense will be tough, returning 9 of 11 starters. The offense won't do much unless some unheard-of players do the job.

Kansas—David Jaynes has left for the pro's so the Jayhawks will switch to the Veer offense this year. The defense appears strong so coaches hope for a new quarterback.

Iowa State—The Cyclones might finish in the first division if their defense comes around.

Kansas State—Everyone's pick for last place. A good quarterback in Steve Grogan, but that's it.

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CLIP AND SAVE

sports shorts

All freshmen wishing to try out for varsity baseball must attend a meeting Thursday in the south football stadium in Room 210 at 4:30 p.m.

This year's Daily Nebraskan sports section will include a weekly sampling of fan opinion called "The Megaphone." Send your questions, opinions and

accusations to the Daily Nebraskan in care of the Sports Editor. The feature will appear every Friday.

Anyone interested in joining the University of Nebraska Soccer Club should meet Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. in the Nebraska Union. New officers will be elected.