

## UNL cagers expected to be Big 8 contenders

Tuesday marks the traditional opening of the basketball season with the Red-White intrasquad game, and Husker sports fans might find it worthwhile to divert their attention from the Nebraska-Oklahoma football match.

This year's basketball squad is expected to be a contender in the Big 8, and one of the newcomers expected to play a big role is junior college transfer Steve Willis.

Willis, the smallest player on the team at 5 ft. 10 in., is battling it out with senior Kent Reckewey for the starting guard spot opposite Jerry Fort. Although still learning the Husker system, Willis believes he has the upper hand.

### dennis onnen press box review

"If I work and do everything all right, I'm pretty sure I'll start," he said.

According to Willis, his strong points are leadership, quickness, defense and "decent passing ability."

"And I can shoot a little bit, too," he added.

#### Honorable mention All-American

That is definitely an understatement. In his two seasons at Northern Idaho Junior

College, he averaged 22 and 21 points a game, making honorable mention All-America both years. He said he hopes to continue his high scoring, "at least in double figures."

"But as long as we win, that's all that counts," he said. He pinpoints the Huskers' team defense as the factor which should contribute the most toward those hoped-for wins.

"We're not that big and strong, but we're awful quick," he said. "If we gel and play our defense all the time, we'll be a top contender."

A weakness which he said may hurt the team is a relative lack of rebounding strength.

"We're going to have to outwit a lot of big teams," he said.

#### Defensive adjustment difficult

The most difficult adjustment Willis said he has had to make in the jump from junior college to major college basketball is in the defensive phase of the game. He said there are fewer zone defenses and more movement here. An added complication is the Big 8's 30-second clock, which requires the offensive team to shoot the ball within 30 seconds, preventing stalls. Willis also said the players are generally quicker and bigger at the major college level.

Although basketball is overshadowed by football on the UNL campus, he said that

doesn't bother him. He pointed out that football has a winning tradition and deserves fan support.

"People want to see people winning," he said. "If we start winning, people are going to come and watch us."

The Red-White game starts at 7:35 p.m. in the Coliseum, and besides Willis, fans will get their first look at the other newcomers—junior college transfer Ernie Martin and freshmen Eric Coard, Terry Novak and Curt Hedberg. Regular season play begins with a home contest against South Dakota State, Nov. 30.

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The Alpha Xi Delta/Alpha Gamma Rho co-rec football team had its championship hopes dashed in the final playoff game Nov. 6. For four years in a row, the team has won its league title, only to lose in the playoffs.

The winner this year was a squad called Loser's Lost, which overcame a 22-6 halftime deficit to win 23-22 in the championship game. On the last play of the game, Vicki Maseman hit Larry Wetterberg with a touchdown pass to tie the score. The winning extra point came on a pass from Laura Carse to Kathy Hawkins.

The win enabled the first-year team to post an 11-0 season record, an amazing feat, considering the fact the players conducted no practice sessions.

## Rodeo Club tries to 'round-up' student interest

By Pete Wegman.

Once rodeoing gets into a person's blood "it's kind of hard to quit," said Jack Fudge, team captain of the University of Nebraska Rodeo Assoc. (UNRA).

Fudge, a senior from Ashland who has been rodeoing for four years, said he is trying to build up student interest in the rodeo club.

There are six male members and one female in the club this fall. "It seems like the fall is busier for students and not too many have time to rodeo," he said.

According to Fudge, interest picks up in the spring, as students have more free time and the number of rodeos increase.

#### Team makeup

A complete rodeo team consists of six males and three females. Men participate in bareback, saddle bronco and bull-riding; steer wrestling; and calf and team roping. Barrel racing and goat tying are the women's events.

Fudge said he considers the sport to fall in the amateur class but conceded that most partici-

pants at the college level belong to the Rodeo Cowboys Assoc., a professional organization.

He said the UNRA is a nonprofit group which raises most of its money from a rodeo held at the State Fairgrounds Coliseum in the spring. He added that the club received a small amount this fall from the student activities fees.

The club has participated in three rodeos this semester. In the first, held at the University of Wisconsin at River Falls, John Mundorf finished fourth in bull riding. At the Black Hills State College rodeo in South Dakota, team members didn't fare quite as well, Fudge said.

#### First place

However, at the most recent rodeo at the University of North Dakota-Fargo, Mundorf finished first in bull riding.

Fudge said the number one rodeo school in the area is the National College of Business at Rapid City, South Dakota. Team members there receive rodeo scholarships and have all travel expenses paid by the school.

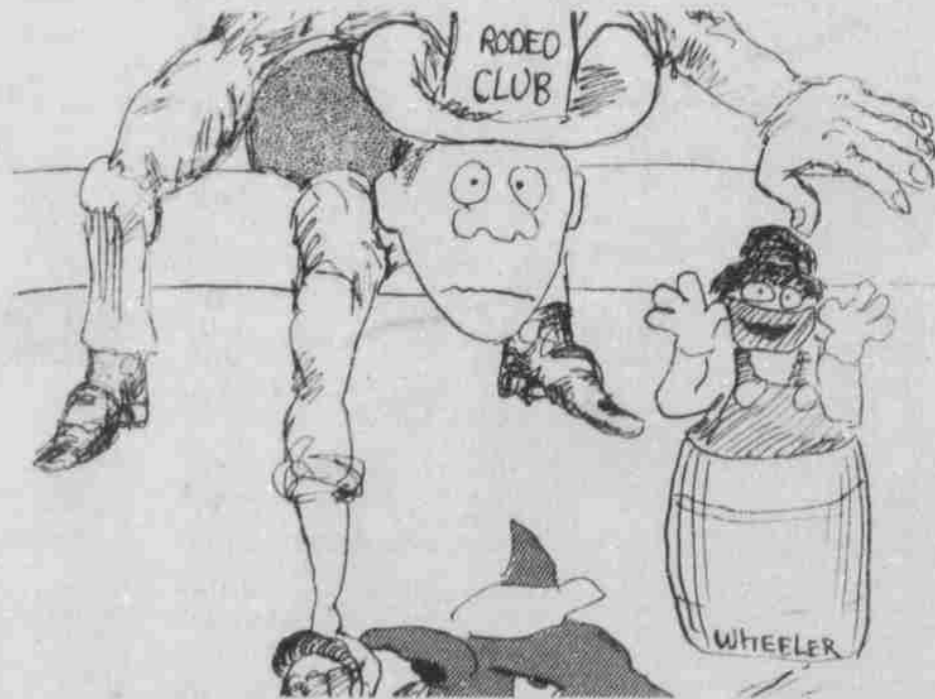
While Fudge said he wishes

for much of the same at Nebraska, he added that it is more realistic to work on getting more club members for next spring.

The next rodeo the club will send a team to is at Michigan State in East Lansing in February. Following that rodeo, there will be a series of about ten

others throughout the Midwest, ending in Montana in June with the national championships.

In the interim between now and the trip to East Lansing, Fudge and the other club members will be rounding up support for the organization and searching for new members, he said.



## Women's rugby: 'definitely better'

By Steve Taylor.

Chris Frodyma didn't hedge when asked to compare the women's rugby team with the men's squad.

"The men are pretty good," conceded Frodyma, who is the captain of the women's team. "But we are definitely better."

This might seem a fairly bold analysis, especially since this is the first year for the women's team and they don't even have uniforms.

#### 3-3-1 record

The squad just completed its fall season, posting a record of 3-3-1.

Frodyma and teammate Jo Williams said they hope to have the uniform matter cleared up before they begin their spring schedule.

"We hope the university will chip in and help us get the uniforms because we plan to be great by next fall," Frodyma said.

"We advertise pretty well,"

pointed out Williams. "Next spring we'll have more people and a bigger team."

Williams, who also participates in swimming, basketball, tennis and boxing, said there are numerous benefits in playing rugby.

#### Meeting people

One of them is the opportunity to meet people, she said, and the constant running the sport requires keeps rugby players in good enough shape "to run the Boston Marathon."

Both women mentioned a third place finish in a tournament at Kansas City as the highlight of the fall season.

Besides the benefits and opportunities it provides, rugby also has its share of hazards, they said.

"In the tournament at Kansas City, one girl broke a vertebrae and was paralyzed for a while," Frodyma reported. "People are always getting knocked out."

#### Quick, aggressive players

Despite the injury risk, Frodyma and Williams agreed that a good rugby player has to be quick, aggressive and not afraid of being hurt.

Frodyma, a 21 year-old senior from Omaha, says the women's athletic program has made great strides since she was a freshman.

In her estimation, the Women's Physical Education Bldg. is one of the finest women's facilities in the nation, she said.

A student assistant on one of Abel's coed floors, Frodyma sees similarities in her roles of rugby player and floor overseer.

"They are both new adventures and both are really challenging," she commented. "In both cases you have to work with people."

However, she added, "People on the floor aren't quite as understanding when you tackle them."