

Wrestlers hope for big crowd at meet tonight

Large crowds have been rare at Nebraska wrestling matches in the past and coach Orval Borgialli said he hopes the trend will change in the future—Wednesday night, to be exact.

The Husker wrestling squad hosts the Northwest Missouri State (NWMSU) Wildcats following the Nebraska-Oklahoma State basketball game tonight.

"There will be 9,000 people in the Coliseum for that basketball game," Borgialli said. "We'll be starting the match five minutes after the game is over. We hope all 9,000 will stay in their seats."

4-1 record

Borgialli has reason to hope for a good turnout. His team has a 4-1 dual meet record. Heavyweight Bruce Conger, 190 lb. Bob Johnson, 167 lb. Dave Luth, 142 lb. Tony Jennings and 118 lb. Tim Rimpley are undefeated in dual meets this year.

Conger, 19-2 overall, is leading the team in scoring with 81 points. Jennings has scored 59 and Johnson

and Rimpley each have 50 points. Last weekend against Minnesota and Superior State, Rimpley won in the 134 lb. bracket.

Three weeks ago, Borgialli was concerned about the ineligibility of several wrestlers and injuries to key athletes, especially Johnson, who was out with a knee injury. According to Borgialli, the ineligibility problem has been solved, but the team remains plagued with injuries.

"Smelling like a rose"

"We came out of that ineligibility deal smelling like a rose," he said, "but the injury factor is killing us." Johnson, who hasn't wrestled since the end of December, could be ready this week, Borgialli said.

He said 158 lb. Mark Boer and Luth both pinched nerves at Minnesota last weekend, but that both of them should be ready to wrestle by late this week.

"I think we can handle them," Borgialli said of the NWMSU Wildcats. Last year the Wildcats lost to the

Cornhuskers 28-11, enroute to a 10-6 dual season. Unbeaten against their conference competition last season, the Wildcats return eight of last year's 10 starters.

Following the NWMSU meet, the Huskers have two days rest before traveling to Columbia to face Missouri Saturday. The Tigers lost to Kansas State 26-18 one day after the Huskers defeated the KSU Wildcats 36-3.

Tigers tough

"They're tougher than their record indicates," Borgialli said. He said he thinks the Tigers are a stronger team than the Wildcats.

After the meet Saturday, the Huskers have three dual meets remaining before the Big 8 Tournament Feb. 28 to March 1 at Oklahoma State. According to Borgialli, the Cowboys' overall talent and their home mat advantage makes them the team to beat.

"I don't think there is any doubt about them being the favorite," he said. Borgialli added that if the Huskers remain healthy they would be in the thick of it at the tournament.

He said he also hopes Nebraska will send at least six wrestlers to the NCAA championships, but admits his biggest concern now is "keeping the Coliseum filled for that match Wednesday."

sports

Pride key to Husker success; freshman new hope for netters

Nebraska's scrappy basketball team is two wins away from a Top Twenty berth.

If the Huskers could knock off Oklahoma State tonight and whip Missouri on the road Saturday, they would find themselves 12-5 overall and 5-0 in the Big 8.

Those lofty marks would likely be enough to propel the young Huskers into the ranks of the elite next Tuesday.

The key to the Huskers new-found respectability has been their stable performances in road games. Husker basketball teams in the past have been known for their inability to cope with hostile crowds.

cover of *Sports Illustrated*. However, if they can retain their present sense of determination and pride, Coliseum partisans might really have something to scream about.

Speaking of rags to riches, things might be looking up for the Nebraska tennis team this season.

The Husker netters, though undeniably intelligent (a 3.8 team grade point average last year) finished eighth in the Big 8 last season for the third time in a row.

Last weekend at an invitational tournament in Grand Island, Mario Hamdan defeated Bill Jackson for the championship.

Both are freshmen at UNL. Hamden is from Mexico, where he is the third-ranked junior player in the country. Jackson was rated 26th in California last summer.

An Omaha woman made news recently with her battle to be allowed to compete in the Golden Gloves boxing tournament.

It doesn't look as if she is going to win her struggle because officials feel she would not be safe in the ring.

I would like to see a mixed boxing doubleheader featuring Gloria Steinem vs. Ron Stander, followed by Billie Jean King against George Foreman.



Husker Steve Willis goes up for two of his 18 points scored against Colorado Saturday. Tonight the Huskers will meet Oklahoma State, 7:35 p.m. in the Coliseum.

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Playing at the Coliseum, they would run and gun their way to a comfortable victory the majority of the time. On the road, they would disintegrate into confusion, usually committing turnovers.

None of the players on the 1975 version of the Huskers are likely to make it on a future

NFL drafts 'Minnesota Twins' and Starkebaum

By Larry Stunkel

The UNL football team may have had the best linebacking corps in the nation last year, as the first three Huskers chosen in the National Football League draft were defenders Tom Ruud, Bob Nelson and John Starkebaum.

Ruud, a 6 ft. 3 in. 225-pounder from Bloomington, Minn., was the first Husker chosen in the draft, going in the first round to the Buffalo Bills.

His teammate and other half of the "Minnesota Twins," Bob Nelson, also was chosen by Buffalo in the second round.

But the biggest surprise for Husker fans so far in the draft would have to be John Starkebaum going to

the New Orleans Saints in the fourth round.

Advances for the draft said quarterback David Humm, offensive tackles Marvin Crenshaw and Mark Doak would be the first Nebraskans drafted. However, after the fourth round, Ruud, Nelson and Starkebaum were the only Huskers picked.

Ruud was also the first and only player from the Big 8 conference picked in the first round.

"I'm kind of shocked because there are a lot of good ballplayers in the Big 8," Ruud said. He also said he was surprised that Humm and Crenshaw were by-passed the first round.

Nelson, too expressed surprise at the draft.

"I don't know what the story is, but the whole

draft has been kind of funny," he said.

Both Ruud and Nelson are from Minnesota and are similar in their physical and playing statistics. In three years as blackshirts, Nelson and Ruud were in on 202 and 216 tackles respectively. Ruud intercepted a total of three passes and recovered five fumbles, while Nelson made one pass interception and recovered two fumbles during his career.

Starkebaum was the third man and alternated as linebacker spot throughout most of his career. Starkebaum, 6 ft. 2 in., 213 pounds from Haxton, Colo., had 114 tackles to his credit, recovered two fumbles and intercepted two passes.

The NFL draft will continue today, after drafting through the seventh round Tuesday.

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