

sports

Coach Borgialli:

Wrestlers merit top 20 rank

By Pete Wegman

Five Nebraska Cornhusker wrestlers flew to Princeton, N. J., Tuesday to participate in the NCAA wrestling championships March 13-15. The five will attempt to give Nebraska a position in the nation's final top twenty ratings, according to coach Orval Borgialli.

"We're going to prove we should have been rated in the top twenty all year," Borgialli said. Nebraska has yet to be listed this season in the rankings by *Amateur Wrestling News*.

Current ratings have Iowa on top, followed by Big 8 champion Oklahoma State, Wisconsin, Oklahoma and Iowa State. Big 8 schools have been NCAA team champions 39 out of the last 44 years. Oklahoma won last year's tournament.

The five Huskers who qualified for the nationals by placing in the top four in their weight class at the Big 8 tournament are 150 lb. freshman Doug Hassig, sophomore heavyweight Bruce Conger, junior Tony Jennings at 134 lbs., junior 190 lb. Bob Johnson and 126 lb. senior Gary Harnisch.

Johnson was the lone Husker among the five to attend the nationals last year. Johnson said he has a much better chance of placing this year (the top six wrestlers in each 32-man weight class receive medals.)

"The first year at nationals, just taking it all in really overwhelmed me. Also, the number one and two guys in my weight class aren't back this time like last year," Johnson said.

The opposite of Johnson is freshman Doug Hassig. Hassig, a two-time state high school

champion in Kansas, said he had no expectations whatsoever of going to nationals when he came to UNL.

Hassig, who qualified for the nationals by defeating two wrestlers at the Big 8 tournament who beat him in the regular season, said the main difference between high school and college wrestling is the length of the season.

"The six month college season, compared to three months in high school, is really tiring," Hassig said.

Gary Harnisch, a senior who has wrestled for four years at UNL, said his senior season seemed the shortest of the four to him. He called the nationals, "my last big fling."

"I had to make it to nationals this year," he said, "It was my last chance."

Tony Jennings became the first Husker in recent years to complete the season with a perfect dual mark, including no forfeits, according to coach Borgialli.

"I think my chances are real good at placing at nationals," he said. "I can't let up at all out there though-there's no easy matches at nationals."

Nebraska's heavyweight Bruce Conger said he has to learn by his mistakes. "I got beat by a wrestler at the Big 8 tournament I had never wrestled before, but that's the way it goes sometimes," he said.

He added that although the competition will be rough, he hopes to place and receive a medal.

Nebraska's previous high team finish at the NCAA championships was ninth. The high individual finish under coach Borgialli was sixth.

Cagers end season, salvage 14-12 record

Nebraska closed their basketball season in unspectacular fashion Saturday, bowing to Hercl Ivy (Iowa State) 82-69.

The loss, preceded by several unlucky conference defeats, relegated the Huskers to mere repetition of last year's 14-12 record.

Despite that modest mark, Nebraska stirred the most excitement among their rosters in recent years with their promising conference start and reckless play.

Their early success in the Big 8 conference also stirred premature championship speculation, which naturally made it all the more disappointing once the losses began to pile up.

Of course every Husker fan has a theory as to why Nebraska finished fourth in the conference, rather than on top.

The most widely accepted one could be teemed the "Cipriano Incompetency" theory. Other fans prefer to subscribe to the "No Talent Aside from Fort" theory.

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Had the Huskers salvaged a few more of those close games, Nebraska fans would now be packing their bags for some tournament site instead of theorizing.

Practically everybody will be back next year (including Cipriano), and the new Coliseum will radiate an atmosphere of big time college basketball that might prove inspiring.

Besides, with the NCAA, NIT and Commissioners tournaments, there will be 56 post season berths open.

With the rash of post-season tournaments nearly upon us, I hereby offer my predictions which, surprisingly, no one has asked for.

The winners:

NBA-Buffalo Braves
NCAA-Maryland
NIT-South Carolina
Commissioners-Southern Cal
Nebraska Class A-Omaha Central
Class B-Ord
Class C-Friend
Class D-Shickley

Does anyone really believe in All-Star Wrestling?

Apparently some do, because people are turning out in record numbers around the country to see such events as "Texas Death Matches" and "Battle Royales."

A wrestling card in Omaha a few weeks ago drew a bigger crowd than all but one of Creighton's games.

Over 8,000 people paid their hard-earned money to see a series of contrived flips, off-target punches that nonetheless drew blood and kicks to the head.

Viewers wishing to see those bone-crushing matches for nothing can tune in KETV Channel 7 on Sunday evenings or they can watch the equally believable "My Partner the Ghost" on another station.

sports shorts

UNL's ski club will sponsor a party Wednesday at 8 p.m. for anyone interested in the ski trip over spring vacation. The party will be held at the Chateau Lafleur 1045 N. 63 St. For further information call Dea Ferris, 474-1425.

The UNL Recreation Department will sponsor a canoe trip March 13 to 15.

Canoes and equipment will be furnished. For additional information contact the Recreation office, 1740 Vine St. 472-3467.

Jerry Fort was named to the Big 8 all-conference team selected by the United Press International Tuesday.

Fort already holds the

Nebraska all-time scoring lead with 1,369 points, while scoring more field goals (576), and attempting more field goals (1,341) than any player in UNL history.

Joining Fort on the All-Big 8 team were Alvin Adams of Oklahoma, Hercl Ivy of Iowa State, Willie Smith of Missouri, and Chuckie Williams of Kansas State.

Women swimmers' talent like family heirlooms

By Becky Morgan

Swimming talents are like family heirlooms to the four UNL women swim team national qualifiers.

Inheriting diving skills from a brother and sister is Ginny Kincade.

Kincade, a senior at UNL, will compete in the one and three meter diving events at the Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) National Swimming and Diving Meet this weekend at Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz.

Kincade's sister Susie, who is on the UCLA swim team, also will be at AIAW National meet. An older brother Rick is a diving coach at UNL.

There will be 75 divers at the meet, Kincade said. "This year has been my best season, but I have no idea how I'll fare at Nationals," she said.

Comparing her increased success this year over last, Kincade said it was because this is the first year UNL has had a diving coach for the women, she said.

Another UNL diver qualifying for National competition is Nancy Dykes.

Swimming has always been in the Dykes family, she said. "We used to mess around at the pool as kids trying different dives. That's what got me seriously interested."

Dykes, a junior from Omaha, received her first instruction at age 14. She dove competitively as a senior at Northwest High School.

This will be Dykes first trip to Nationals. "I'm going with the attitude to do the best I can," she said. "I know I can learn a lot from watching the other divers."

Two-time qualifier in the 50-yard breast stroke Ruth Spencer, Omaha junior, said her family started swimming because it was the easiest thing to do.

"The pool was close, so we all learned how to swim. I've been swimming competitively since the age of 11," she said.

Known as the Spencer gang, Ruth and her five brothers and sisters formed a summer team. Two brothers, Tip, a sophomore, and, Rick, a freshman, are swim team members at Northwest Missouri State College.

Last year, Spencer placed in the upper 3rd (27th in a field of 77) in the nationals meet.

"I'm really excited about Nationals this year," she said. "We've had our best season. I've got to give a lot of credit to Sullivan (swim team coach Pat). She really brought the team along."

Competing nationally in the 50-yard backstroke will be junior Deb Peterson.

"It will be interesting to watch the other swimmers," she said.

Peterson has been swimming for 12 years and has a younger sister who swims in competition.

There will be about 700 swimmers at the AIAW Nationals, Sullivan said.

There will be teams from throughout the nation, she said. Arizona State, Miami and UCLA are favored.

"Kincade has a good chance for placing among the top 12 divers," Sullivan said.

"She will be competing against 75 other entrants in the one-and three-meter competition."

The four qualifiers and Sullivan will fly to Arizona Wednesday, and return Sunday.

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