

Moss lone qualifier for national swim meet

By Scott Jones

Winning two events at the Big 8 swimming meet two weeks ago has not given freshman Bryan Moss a loose tongue about his swimming ability.

The fact is that he hasn't had anybody to talk to, at least during practice the last two weeks. He is the only Husker to qualify for the NCAA meet at Cleveland State University next Thursday through Saturday.

"Even with one other guy you could still talk to someone," Moss said. "But now I guess it's more serious than before, which is the way it should be."

Won two events

Moss won the 100-yard breaststroke in 58.215 seconds and the 200-yard breaststroke in 2:09.10, both Big 8 records. The national qualifying times were 2:12.5 in the 200 and 1:00.5 in the 100.

Moss had been beaten only once in the 200 in duals prior to the Big 8 meet, but his best time was 2:14.4. The 100 is not offered in dual meets.

Most of Nebraska's duals were in the old Coliseum pool, but Moss said swimming in Oklahoma State's new pool at the Big 8 meet didn't account for the improvement.

"I just didn't get as tight as I usually do," he said. "The pool usually doesn't make a lot of difference. It's the competition."

Moss's time in the 100 is fourth best in the nation.

John Hencken, world record holder from Stanford, has the best time—56.88. Hencken also leads in the 200 with a 2:03.16.

Best chance in 100

Moss said his best chance to finish in the top 12 scoring positions will be in the 100-yard breaststroke. "It's (his 100 clocking) closer to the world record than the 200. It may turn around in the way it comes out, but I feel better in the 100."

Husker swimming coach John Reta said Moss "looks very strong in practice now."

"I'm hopeful he can get in the top 12 because at the nationals you're talking about guys who are medal winners in the Olympics."

Moss, also a 1976 Olympics hopeful, began swimming at Omaha Northwest as a sophomore to stay in shape after gymnastics season.

Gymnast, too

He was on the gymnastics and swimming teams again as a junior but gave full time to swimming his senior year.

"You have to swim year-round if you want to do anything," he said. "It's not just something you do in season and then quit and come back next year. You just can't do that."

As a high school senior, Moss set a new state record in the 100-yard breaststroke.

The day he mailed in his pre-registration form to attend Nebraska, Moss said he received an offer from Arkansas.

"I'm not saying that I resent it, but it was just kind of funny."

"This is where I wanted to come so it didn't matter that I got any other offers."

Although the Huskers finished last in the Big 8 meet for the fourth consecutive year, Reta said 10 varsity records were broken.

Pat Murphy, a freshman from Coronado, Calif., finished sixth in the 1,650-yard freestyle, setting a new varsity record. He covered 1,000 of those 1,650 yards in record time and set a third mark in the 500-yard freestyle.

Career bests

Reta said everybody on the team had their career best times at the Big 8 meet, but added that the competition was stiff. Sophomore Jack Alexander, for example, was second last year in the 400-yard individual medley but was eighth this year, although his time improved by seven seconds.

Other Husker scorers in the Big 8 meet were John Williams, 11th in the 100-yard backstroke; Scott Ruser, 11th in the 200-yard backstroke and 10th in the 200-yard individual medley; and Terry Seymour, 12th in the 200-yard breaststroke.

The Huskers are scheduled to swim in the new field house next year, but Reta said its delayed construction has hurt recruiting.

"I think the new pool will be a boost when I can actually take a recruit in and show him the pool and say, 'This is where you're going to swim.' I think just talking about it has cost us some recruits because it was supposed to be done in December of this year."

sports

Fund-raising rodeo to draw 20 colleges

By Pete Wegman

Members of the University of Nebraska Rodeo Association (UNRA) are planning a rodeo at the State Fairgrounds Coliseum April 11 to 12, according to club President Steve Lauer.

Lauer said the rodeo, which is expected to attract teams from 20 colleges, is the club's major fund-raising event. Money will be used to purchase equipment and provide travel expenses for club members traveling to rodeos.

Seven per cent of the gate receipts will be donated to charity. Last year's monies will be presented to the Shriners this year, and will be appropriated by them to their four Nebraska burn clinics.

30 years old

The rodeo club was organized about 30 years ago on the East Campus. At that time it was the only organization on that campus, according to Lauer. The club has since grown to include 70 members, about half men and half women.

Lauer, a senior animal science major from Cozad, said the club members are evenly distributed throughout the state.

"We've got a couple of members from Omaha, some from Norfolk and some from the western part of the state," he said.

Lauer said dues for the club are \$2 per semester and there is a \$5 initiation fee. The club operates on receipts from the rodeo, money from dues and money appropriated by the Fees Allocation Board (FAB).

According to Lauer, the club asked for \$900 from FAB last year and received about \$600. He said the club would probably request the same amount again this year.

Six-member teams

The club, which practices at the Ray Bouhy Arena at 33rd and Leighton Streets, has six-member male and female teams. Members are chosen by the male and female team captains, Jack Fudge and Vickie Kennedy.

The men participate in bareback, saddle bronc and bull riding, calf and team roping and bulldogging. Women compete in barrel racing, goat-tying and breakaway roping.

Lauer said all roping events, bulldogging and barrel racing are judged on time. The others, "the Rustock events," are judged on a point system, he said.

The club has participated in one rodeo this year. A five-man team traveled to East Lansing, Mich., in late February for an indoor rodeo, but did not fare too well, according to Lauer.

Young team

"We have a very young team," he said. "We haven't done enough rodeoing yet this spring to know how good we'll be."

The Nebraska club belongs to the National Rodeo Association (NRA), which sponsors and oversees intercollegiate rodeos.

UNL belongs to the NRA's Great Plains Region. The top two individuals in each event in every region after the six spring rodeos advance to the national rodeo held in June in Bosman, Mont.

Lauer said the club has only one member, freshman John Mundorf from Norfolk, who has a good chance to attend nationals.



Baseball, softball teams

Weather hampers practice

By Becky Morgan

The usual February and early March snows have again caused practice problems for UNL's baseball and women's softball teams.

The baseball team, which left for its annual spring trip Tuesday, has not practiced outside. The women have practiced outside only three times, according to coach Terry Baumbach.

They open their season here today against St. Mary's of Omaha. "The ground is somewhat soft," said Baumbach, "but as far as I know the game is still on."

The women have their entire infield back from last year, Baumbach said.

Six freshmen

Six freshmen survived Monday's final cut including Jan Bartels who will pitch today's opener.

"I don't think it will hurt us to have not practiced much outside," Baumbach said. "Everyone else is in the same boat."

The women will play today at 6 p.m. on their field behind the Women's P.E. Building.

Last year's team finished with a 7-5 record.

To break even in wins and losses is Coach Tony Sharpe's and the UNL baseball team's spring road trip goal.

Tough competition

They will face what Sharpe called tough competition beginning with Oral Roberts University (ORU), in Tulsa, Okla. this week.

"ORU and Arkansas University are top teams," he said. "If we can break even against them and on the trip I think we'll have accomplished a great deal."

UNL began their play at ORU Wednesday after a doubleheader was canceled with Northwest Missouri.

From Oral Roberts, the team travels to Fayetteville, Ark. for two doubleheaders with Arkansas University. They open conference play March 28 and 29 against Kansas University at Lawrence.

18 back for KU

Sharpe said it will be tough to begin conference play on the road. He added that KU had 18 players back from last year and that they and the University of Oklahoma will be Big 8 title contenders.

"We haven't been outside yet," Sharpe said. "We've been in the fieldhouse all winter. So there will be some adjustments when we finally get our first practice outside at ORU."

"The kids have been looking good inside," Sharpe said. "We hope to be a more consistent team this year."

Team as good as last six

Sharpe said he and assistant coach Bob Gates thought that the team is as good right now as any team they've had in the past six years.

Juniors Dave Buehrer and Randy Benish and sophomore Kirk Eymann return to bolster front line pitching.

Eymann ended last year's season with four wins and four saves. Buehrer led the team with a 4.07 earned run average.

The Huskers also return the top six hitters from last year's squad, including catcher Doak Fowler who tied for the Big 8 lead in home runs.

sports shorts

The NU trap shooting club will hold tryouts Saturday at the Lincoln Gun Club, 4855 N. 48th, at 1 p.m.

They will look at prospective members and hold tryouts for the Cornhusker

regional trap shoot in Norfolk April 12. Kansas State won the event last year while Nebraska finished second.

For additional information, call Frank Hoppe, 467-1807.