



## Karate members' skills to be tested

By Pete Wegman

Members of the University of Nebraska Tae-Kwon-Do karate club will have the opportunity to show how much they have improved this semester when they take part in promotional tests Saturday and Sunday, according to club instructor Bert Kollars.

The promotional tests are used to determine if club members will advance in the succession of karate belts. The belts range from the lowest level, the white belt, through the yellow, green, blue, brown and black belt, the highest belt obtainable.

Members with green belts and above will be tested Saturday in Omaha before five judges. All five judges have black belts between the fifth and seventh degrees (belts range from first through the ninth degree) and some are coming from as far away as Louisiana.

### Lincoln test

Karate club members with white and yellow belts will be tested Sunday at 1 p.m. in Lincoln at the Omaha Karate and Judo Club branch at 27th and Highway 2 before the same panel of judges.

Last weekend, about 15 club members traveled to Omaha to participate in an area tournament sponsored by the American Tae-Kwon-Do Association (ATA).

According to Kollars, the club didn't do as well as he expected against the competition from Chadron State College, UNO, Grand Island, Norfolk, Des Moines, Omaha, Sioux City and East Lansing, Mich.

"Our team really should have gotten first," he said. A team from the Omaha Karate and Judo Club finished first ahead of Kollars' club.

### 200 competed

The 200 competitors participated in such events as team fighting, free fighting and form.

A team consists of three persons who are then involved in a single elimination tournament. The team of Chris Tuey, Steve Ehrlich and Joe McCue from UNL finished fourth.

Free fighting consists of putting all the techniques and combinations a person has learned into one fight, according to Kollars.

"The only difference between it and team fighting is that there is only slight contact instead of full," he said. Kollars added that sometimes full contact occurs because participants become excited in the tournament atmosphere.

### Best individual

Joe McCue and Kevin Lang placed first and second respectively, in the heavyweight brown belt division for the best individual performances in free fighting for the Nebraska club.

In form competition, Tuey placed second in the brown belt division and Charles Brewster was second in blue belt competition.

"Brewster probably did the best for us," Kollars said. "He placed in both the form and free fighting competition."

Kollars said form involves putting together a series of punches, blocks and kicks in different moves.

"It's a type of ritualized exercise," he said.

The tournament was under the direction of Hank Lee, vice president of ATA, who holds a seventh degree black belt. Only two men in the United States possess higher degree belts.

## sports

Rugby team—win or lose

## Club wants chance to play

By Scott Jones

UNL's Rugby Club would like to modify a sports adage. Their version is: It's not whether you win or lose, it's whether you get to play.

The rugby team is challenging UNL's baseball team for the most cancelled games in one season. UNL was to play Kansas State last Saturday, but the Wildcats already had a match.

Club President Jim Cunningham said St. Benedict's College in Atchison, Kan., offered to replace Kansas State. But after nine players already had left Friday for the match Saturday, St. Benedict's called and said, "they weren't ready to play," Cunningham said.

Two Kansas City teams have also declined to play.

The club will try again this weekend with a match against a Harlan, Ia., team Sunday and a match against the Kansas City Bulls either Saturday in Omaha or here Sunday.

"We're getting kind of letdown," Cunningham said. "It's kind of discouraging to get all these matches cancelled."

"I'm sure we can beat the Harlan team and I'm hoping that if we can whip them we can get

the enthusiasm up."

Cunningham said rugby is a game where "you go out on Saturday and knock each other's brains out, but are still good friends afterward." The host team also throws a party for the visiting team after the game.

But if the game against Harlan Sunday is like last year's rough contest, Cunningham said, the fellowship may suffer.

"Two guys got bit which shows you what happened last time," he said.

UNL will also play in the St. Patrick's Rugby Fest in Omaha April 19.

"With eight teams it should be a real dynamite tournament," Cunningham said. "If we can go there and do well, which I know we can, it should help."

"The Omaha club has big plans for the meet and should show us a good time."

In games thus far the men's team beat Kansas State, 4-0, in the rain-soaked Big 8 Tournament and tied the Omaha Rugby Club, 6-6, March 15. The women's team beat Missouri, 4-0, in the Big 8 meet and beat Omaha, 8-0.

## Practices may turn benchwarmers into stars

The annual gridiron warfare of spring practice has begun at Nebraska, with Husker coach Tom Osborne hoping to turn an alarming number of question marks into exclamation points.

Perhaps the three most vital positions on the team will be manned by players who warmed the bench most of last season.

Graduation has left the quarterback, wingback and linebacker spots wide open and hotly contested.

Osborne and his staff have only 20 spring practices to sort out all the talent and decide who can be of help in the fall.

At any rate, the Huskers should possess the most team speed they've had since the days of Johnny Rodgers. They will need it since practically every Big 8 team will have a sprinter or two.

Of course, the best team in the conference next fall, in the country for that matter, will be Oklahoma. There is no getting around it.

However, as Missouri and Wisconsin proved in their games with Nebraska last year, the best team doesn't always win.

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When the KC-Omaha Kings announced they were severing Omaha from their operation, some Omahans began to clamor for an ABA franchise.

The idea might not be as far-fetched as it seems, particularly if NBC contracts to televise some ABA games next season as rumored.

The mythical team's only professional competition in the area would be the Omaha Knights.

However, there is the suspicion that Omahans would be reluctant to turn out to see players they hadn't heard of.

This argument bears weight since they turn out in only modest numbers to watch internationally famous cagers.

If the team was a loser, there would be more tumbleweeds than spectators in Civic Auditorium before long.

Maybe it isn't such a good idea after all.

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Nebraska baseball fans, braced for another long spring, were pleasantly surprised to see the Huskers sweep a three game series from Oklahoma State this weekend.

The Cowboys entered the wind-blown series with a better-than-respectable record, but were victims of Husker rallies in all three games.

The sweep put Nebraska at the top of the league standings but the College World Series, held only 50 miles from UNL, is still a light year away.

steve taylor

## taylor sports

Blocking the road from Lincoln to Rosenblatt Stadium are the Oklahoma Sooners, who at last check were 26-2.

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Former Villanova basketball star Howard Porter's lawsuit against the NCAA is getting little sympathy and lots of horselaughs.

Porter, now with the Detroit Pistons, is claiming he was a victim of player monopolization by the NCAA.

Even with the rather vague charges, Porter thinks he is justified in asking for \$30 million.

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Congratulations are in order for the Nebraska gymnastics team, which finished fifth best in the country and the top team in the Big 8.

Not enough praise can be heaped on coach Francis Allen, whose dedication, determination and promotion has brought Nebraska gymnastics to national contender status.



Photo by Kevin Higley

Senior Chuck Jones, safety candidate for the UNL football team, does an agility drill during Husker spring workouts. The team held its first scrimmage Wednesday.