

nebraskan sports

Small shot putter topples Goliaths

Freshman Debbie Raddatz has a David and Goliath act going as a shotputter for the UNL women's track team.

Every week, the 5 ft. 4 in., 140 lb. Raddatz competes against bigger women, yet she has placed in the top three in all four UNL meets. Last week, she hurled the shot put 40 foot 1 1/4 inches against Kearney State College to surpass the 40-foot qualifying mark for the May 13 through 15 national meet. She is the first Husker to qualify.

"Sometimes when I get up against gigantic people, I have a tendency to go, 'Oh, no,'" she said. "I'm pretty little for a shotputter, so I try to make up with speed."

Raddatz, a physical education major, won the state Class A shot put title last year as a senior at Lincoln Northeast High School. She said she first became interested in track, and the shot put in particular, in junior high school.

"That was the only thing I could compete in," she said. "I wasn't any good in running."

One of the adjustments she has had to make from high school is competing with a larger shot. The high school shot is eight pounds; the college shot is a pound heavier.

"It throws my balance off just a little," she said. "My biggest problem is I never get my leg underneath me."

She said she also is bothered by a lack of knowledge of her competitors.

"You don't have an idea of how far your competitor is throwing," she said. "It's kind of scary—I like to know what I have to shoot for."

The Huskers have a final tuneup Saturday at the University of Nebraska at Omaha for the Big 8 Conference meet the following weekend. Raddatz said she is shooting for a finish in the top three at the conference meet and that the winner probably will need a 43-foot effort.

In the outdoor season, she said that in addition to the shot, she will try the javelin and possibly the discus.

According to coach Roger Capan, there now are only 16 on the first-year women's team. That lack of depth was apparent in the Huskers' 79-12 loss to Kearney State, which has had a team for several years. Raddatz said such established teams are able to attract better athletes.

"We don't have a lot of depth; that's the biggest problem," she said, "but eventually we'll be up there."

on record | Say goodbye to peace, quiet- 'Wild Bunch' rides in soon

By Larry Stunkel

Whatever your impression was of the adolescent invasion during the state high school wrestling tournament Feb. 20 through 22, multiply it by three and you know what to expect during the state high school basketball tournament March 11 through 13.

For those of us who like things tranquil, neat and orderly, the basketball tournament can be a trauma. Having survived three such events, I have compiled a list of things to do (and not do) during the tourney.

First, it is necessary to be able to identify these urchins. The older you are the harder this is. The most obvious way is by the letter jackets. Not only do they give you an idea of where the kids are from, but also who the leaders are (best determined by the amount of paraphernalia hanging from their jacket insignia).

Since high schoolers adhere to the same principle of following their leader as sheep do, this knowledge is potentially useful in crowd control.

In preparation, a good host will go the store and buy plenty of Sominex (for himself), Ripple Wine, Clearasil and trash cans with paper bags for lining them.

One should also be down anything that has "University of Nebraska" on it, or anything else that would make a potential souvenir (in the past this has ranged from bowling pins from the Union Lanes to street signs).

UNL scouting duties divided

By Jim Hunt

Just as preparation is important for every basketball game, scouting the opponent is an important part of that preparation.

Scouting duties on UNL's basketball team are divided between assistant coaches Moe Iba, Lonnie Porter and Jennings Austin, and depend on each coach's recruiting schedule, Porter said.

The Husker basketball coaching staff tries to scout every opponent personally but sometimes is limited by time and travel arrangements, Porter said. This season, every team except California's St. Mary's College was scouted personally.

The staff was able to look at St. Mary's team on a movie loaned to UNL by the University of Southern California. Porter said films don't tell the entire story of the game, however.

"It is a lot better to scout in person," Porter said. "We don't rely on outside people to scout for us (UNL)."

"They can't tell you the small intricate details like which phases of our offense would work best against their defense and what would be our best defensive matchups," he added.

Porter said his scouting routine consists of writing his report immediately after a game. He then goes back to his motel room and prepares his finished form, which he goes over again the next morning at breakfast or on a plane returning to Lincoln.

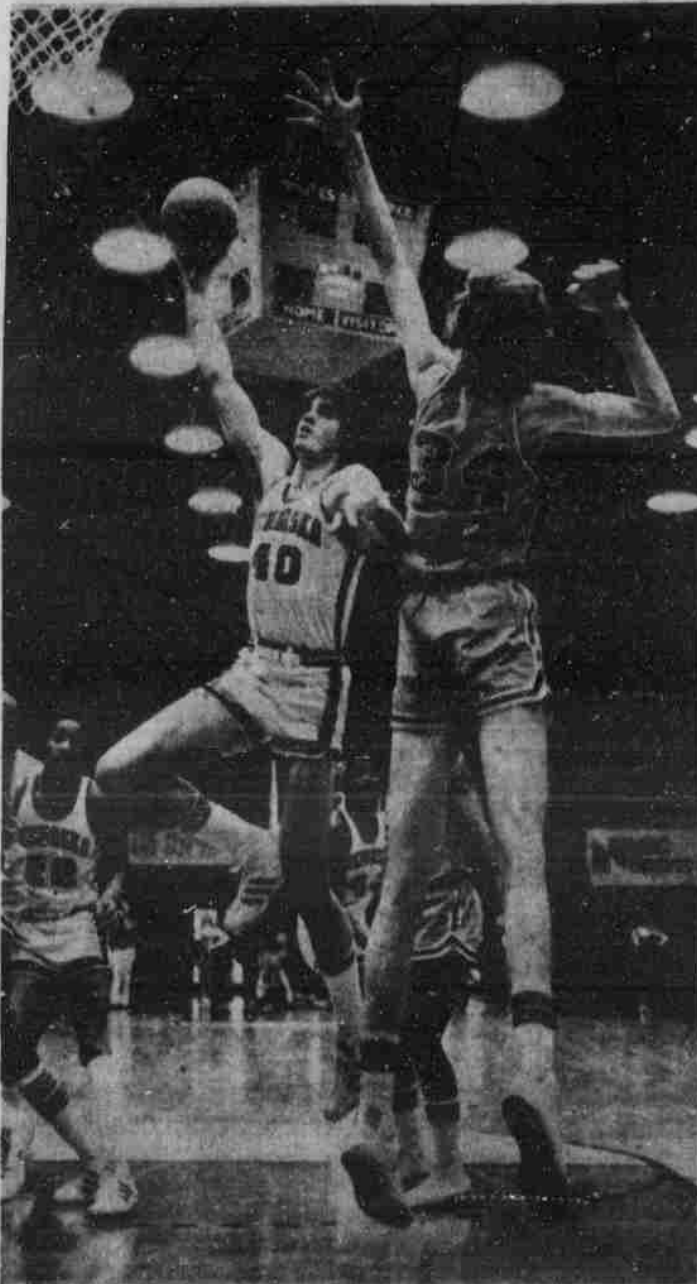


Photo by Ted Kirk

Senior center Larry Cox puts up a hook shot over Oklahoma State University's 7 ft. 3 in. freshman center Lonnie Boeckman. UNL won the game, 60-54, Feb. 28.

The report then is discussed by the coaches, he said. Iba decides the defensive scheme to be used and both Porter and Iba review the defensive matchups, which they usually agree on about 95 per cent of the time, Porter said. The coaches then discuss the matchups with the Huskers.

"We spend a lot of time watching films of our previous games," Porter said. "We keep looking for things that worked or didn't work."

"When we look at films we don't usually go back more than one or two years," he said. "We might go back further if the team has changed to a formation that they used in the past."

Porter said the Big 8 Conference schools loan each other films of opponents. However, a school is forbidden to send films of a Big 8 team to another school, he said.

Other scouting rules established by the Big 8 are that no films can be taken at the Big 8 preseason tournament and that a school can scout another Big 8 school only once after the Big 8 tournament. In each game a team must declare who it is scouting.

Saturday's game against the Iowa State University Cyclones (ISU) will be the last one scheduled for the three seniors on the Husker's squad. Seniors Jerry Fort, Larry Cox and Steve Willis will lead the Huskers in the last game in the Coliseum. Tipoff is 7:35 p.m.

The Huskers, 18-8 overall and 9-4 in Big 8 play, still have hopes for a post-season tournament bid. A combination of a Husker win and a Kansas State University loss to Oklahoma State University Saturday would force a tie between the two schools and a playoff for second place in the conference and a possible NCAA tournament bid. The Huskers also are hoping for a bid to the National Invitational Tournament in New York City.

UNL will go into the game with a two game win streak, the latest being a 62-58 victory over the University of Kansas—only the second win at Allen Fieldhouse in Husker coach Joe Cipriano's 13 years at UNL. The Cyclones snapped a seven game losing streak Wednesday when they upset a much improved University of Oklahoma team 62-57.

sports shorts

The Lincoln Track Club is sponsoring an indoor meet Sunday at Doane College in Crete. Anyone not on a high school or college team is eligible. There are nine events for men in three age brackets: 18-29, 30-39, 40 and over. Women have three events in 18-29 and 30 and over age brackets. Entry fees will be taken at the Doane Fieldhouse starting at 12:30 p.m. Competition starts at 1:30 p.m. and medals will be awarded to the top three in each event. For more information, contact Forrest Doling, 432-8456.

UNL's rugby team participated in the Tulane University—Mardi Gras Rugby Tournament in New Orleans Feb. 23 through 29, finishing sixth of eight teams.

UNL lost to the University of Wisconsin, 14-3 and to Tulane 12-7. The Huskers defeated Toronto University 9-4.

Despite the sixth place finish, the UNL club won the tournament's party trophy.

Husker senior basketball center Larry Cox has been named to the Academic All-Big 8 Conference basketball team for the second consecutive year.

Cox, a business major from Denver, has compiled a 3.28 grade point average.

Others named to the team are junior guard Cris Barnhouse and sophomore forward Ken Koenings from the University of Kansas, senior guard Clark Maughan of Oklahoma State University and Kansas State University's Bobby Noland, a senior forward.

Season tickets purchased for UNL basketball will not be accepted at the state high school basketball tournament March 11 through 13, according to UNL ticket officials.

UNL students will be classified as adults and must pay \$2 a ticket for each tournament session.

Tickets for the Thursday and Friday games will go on sale at 10:30 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. on those days. Tickets for the Saturday games will go on sale at 10:30 a.m. and 5 p.m.

UNL staff and faculty members' tickets also will not be accepted during the tournament.

Bob Johnson, UNL 190 lb. wrestler, won one of two individual trophies awarded at the Big 8 wrestling championships Feb. 27 through 28 in Ames, Iowa.

Johnson won the Most Pins in Least Aggregate Time trophy, pinning two opponents in 4:05.

Applications are being accepted for the Collegiate Cross-Country Bike Ride starting June 21 in Pueblo, Colo. Bicyclists will travel on the Trans-America Bike Trail and will arrive in Richmond, Va., about 45 days later. Riders will cover 50 to 70 miles each day and will camp and stay in youth hostels. A maximum of 12 will travel in each group of riders.

Currently, college students from 20 states have joined. If interested, write to Collegiate Bikesentennial, 615 Nevada, Sausalito, Calif., 94965, and enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope.