

Husker West Coast losses don't dampen tourney hopes

By Jim Hunt

UNL's volleyball team saw its perfect record ruined on the West Coast last week.

But Husker volleyball coach Pat Sullivan said her team is ready for the Region VI Association of Intercollegiate Athletics for Women (AIAW) Tournament.

The regional tournament is scheduled for Nov. 18 to 20 in Wichita, Kan.

The Huskers returned Sunday from a week-long trip to California where they compiled a 2-7 record. The team had a 36-0 record before the West Coast encounters.

The two Husker victories came against California State at Fullerton (CSF) and Long Beach State University (LBS). The Huskers defeated CSF in a best of five match 15-8, 15-11, 15-11 and 15-10. The Huskers defeated the LBS 49ers 15-11 and 15-11.

Husker losses on the trip were to Pepperdine 6-15, 10-15. The University of California at Los Angeles' number two team, 9-15 13-15; and to Occidental College, 5-15, 15-1, 10-15, 17-15 and 14-16.

The Huskers also participated in the National Women's Invitational Tournament at UCLA, Nov. 5 and 6, dropping four matches and tying one in the tournament.

The team lost to Stanford 10-15, and 6-15; California State at Northridge 13-15 and 4-15; the University of Southern California 5-15 and 7-15; and Lamar University of Texas 15-17 and 7-15.

The Huskers tied a match with the University of California-Berkeley, 15-17 and 4-15.

Sullivan said the team was intimidated by some of the California schools.

Husker swimmers begin season at home Saturday

UNL's swim teams—both men and women—take to the water Saturday in their season opener against the University of Wyoming at the UNL Sports Complex.

The women also will have to contend with Kearney State College at the Husker's new pool, which Husker men's coach John Reta called "very fast."

"The wave dissipation is great," he said. "The Girls State Meet proved that, as evidenced by their performances."

Reta said when the girls high school meet was held last week, the Husker men had to practice in their old home, the Coliseum pool.

"They could really feel the difference," he said. "The kids can do a lot more in the new pool. They're not swimming over each other, and they have more space and freedom for workouts. It also has lane markers just like at the Olympics."

Reta said Wyoming also has a new swimming pool and their coach has recruited swimmers "from all over the globe."

The Cowboys have not had a meet yet this year, but judging from the Big 8 Relays last year, they have some quality performers, Reta said.

Wyoming competed in last year's Big 8 relays because the Western Athletic Conference (WAC), of which it is a member,

held relays too far away from the school, according to Wyoming men's coach Frank Vicchy.

Vicchy said Wyoming and UNL are "tremendously similar teams."

"We have a new pool just as Nebraska and have high expectations of getting out of the cellar," Vicchy said.

Last year Wyoming finished last in the WAC and the Huskers finished last in the Big 8 Conference.

Wyoming returns seven lettermen, five who scored in the WAC championships last year. However, Wyoming's best swimmer may be freshman Mark Jarosz.

Jarosz was a high school all-American from Niagara Falls, N.Y., where he set five state records.

"Jarosz can swim about anything," Vicchy said. "We will use him primarily as a fly and freestyler."

Reta said the Husker's workouts are going along fine and the members "definitely have a damn good attitude."

Reta received criticism from former and present team members last year for his coaching habits, but he said no similar problem exists this year.

The meet begins at 2 p.m. with the men's and women's races alternating. Tickets cost \$2 for adults and \$1 for students.

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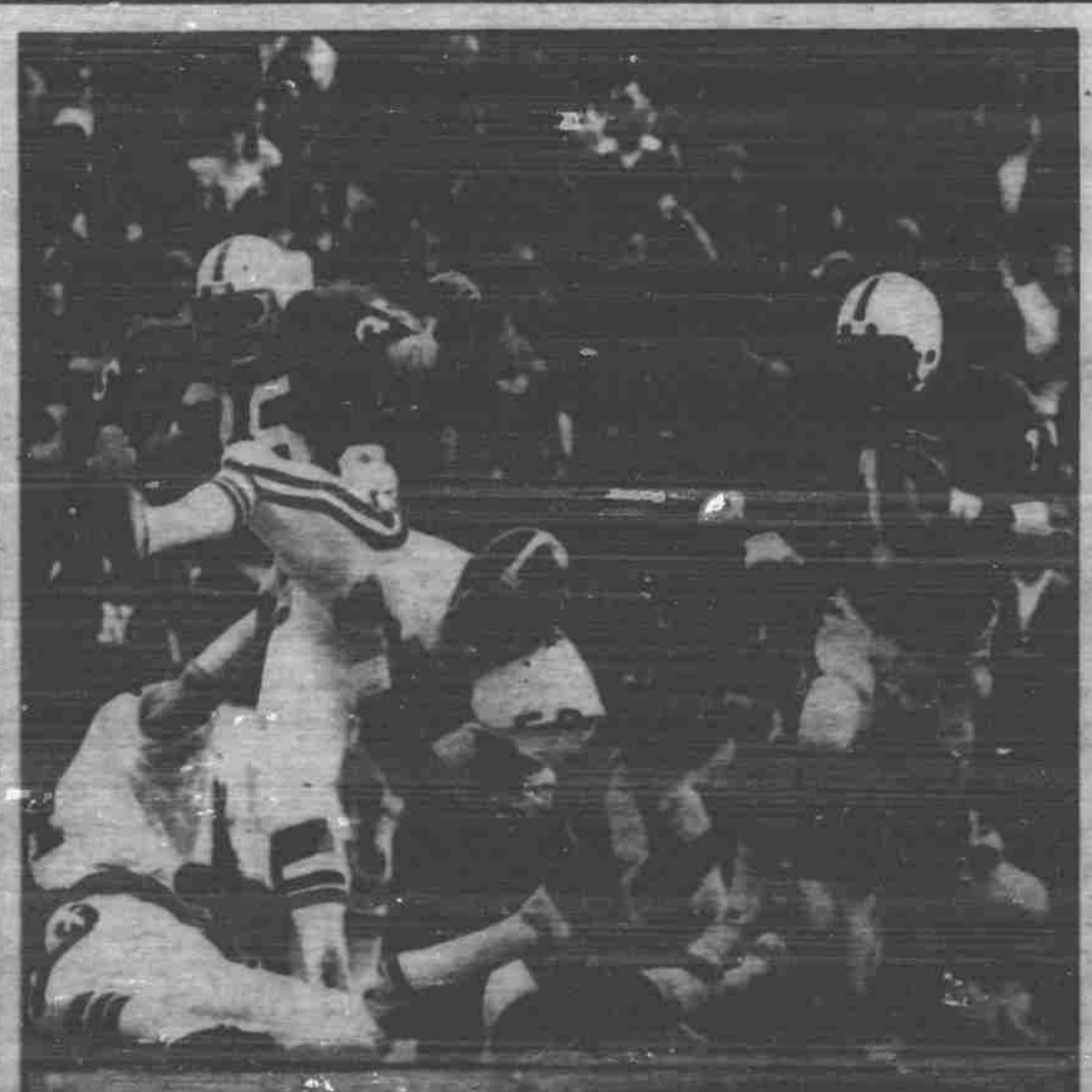


Photo by Ted Kik

High-stepping Richard Bera (35) and Vince Ferragamo (15), shown above against Oklahoma State University last Saturday, pace the Huskers in rushing and passing, respectively. Bera has carried 110 times for 538 yards, a 4.9 yard average. Ferragamo, the Big 8 passing and total offense leader, has connected on 129 of 200 attempts for 1,616 yards and 16 touchdowns. Ferragamo now has passed for 2,769 yards in his career at UNL and ranks fourth among Husker all-time passers. He needs 267 additional yards to move past Bob Church and into third place. Junior Monte Anthony has gained 528 yards this year and 2,016 for his career. He needs 55 yards against Iowa State to move into fourth position among the all-time Husker rushers.