

OU, ISU favorites in Big 8 wrestling tourney

Coach Orval Borgialli's UNL wrestling team's season ends this weekend with the Big 8 Conference championship in Norman, Okla.

State University should be considered the favorites for the title.

He said, "It's hard to pick between the two. I've always said holding the meet at home is worth 20 points but I

don't think Oklahoma can challenge Iowa State and Oklahoma State."

Borgialli said the Huskers best hopes for points are at 134 with Bill Karpowicz and at 167 with Cliff Myles.

"They are more mature both mentally and physically than the other kids," Borgialli said. "I'm not saying some of our younger kids don't have a chance though."

"Heavyweight George Rambour hasn't flipped any of his Big 8 opponents this year but he's only lost by one point to all three of them."

Borgialli also said that on any given day 126 pounder Agron Vasha could place in the Big 8.

"Agron has wrestled well for a freshman, winning 19 matches," he said.

Vasha has the best overall record on the team this season 19-13.

Senior Pat Arthur could have problems at the Big 8, Borgialli said. He has compiled a 13-14-1 overall record wrestling at 134, but will wrestle at 142 this weekend.

The Huskers have only 12 wrestlers on the squad entering the Big 8 compared with the 38 that started the season.

The Huskers finished fifth in last year's meet out of six teams. The two Kansas schools do not field wrestling teams.

The last time Huskers won the conference championships was in 1949 when the conference was the Big 7.

Only four other teams have won the championship since its beginning in 1929. Kansas State won three titles in the 1930's and ISU has won five titles, including last years.

The two Oklahoma schools have dominated the meet. Oklahoma State has won 13 titles OU 17. They tied for the top spot in 1968.

sports



Photo by Kevin Higley

The Loup City Red Raiders took a step toward winning the Class B Girls Basketball Tournament Thursday with a 45-20 victory over Alliance. This year's tournament is the first state girls basketball tournament in 53 years.

Records tumble in Big 8 meet

Records tumbled like a flimsy house of cards Thursday at the Big 8 Conference swimming and diving championships at the UNL Sports Complex.

Big 8 records fell in all five events Thursday as pool records at the new UNL facility were completely shattered.

Paul Nash of Oklahoma State University (OSU) knocked three seconds off the Big 8 record in the 500-yard freestyle with a 4:33.4 time. The old record had been set in Thursday's preliminaries by Brad Williams of the University of Oklahoma (OU). Williams finished second in the finals. The pool record had been 4:48.3 set by Nash in an OSU-UNL dual meet this season.

Kirk Jones of Iowa State University (ISU) broke his 200-yard individual medley mark in the prelims and then proceeded to break it again in the finals. His time of 1:55.3 cut the Big 8 record by a second and a half and the pool record by six seconds.

The times in the 50-yard freestyle were so fast that last year's champion Jon Mixdorf of ISU finished eighth this year. Kevin DeForrest of the University of Missouri (MU) won the finals and set a new Big 8 record in the prelims with a time of 20.766 seconds.

Tom Anagnos of the University of Kansas (KU) broke the Big 8 one-meter diving record with a point score of 453.18 and the 400-yard medley relay was won by ISU in a Big 8 record time of 3:27.5.

UNL placed only one swimmer and two divers in the first five events. Sophomore Mark Crowder took fifth place in the 50-yard freestyle with a 21.3 second clocking. Divers Rick Grahn and Geoff Thiele finished in 10th and 12th respectively.

First day team total scoring is ISU-116, OU-85, MU-78, KU-77, the University of Colorado 75, OSU-68 and UNL-28.

Big 8 tennis stronger, so is UNL

An improved UNL tennis team will host the Husker Invitational today and Saturday.

Teams included in the meet are Wichita State University, the University of Kansas and Doane College.

This year's men's tennis team is greatly improved over last year's 17-16 season, said coach Jim Porter.

"We have good depth this season, much deeper than last year," Porter said. "We're still not consistent, but most of our players have sound games."

The Huskers opened their season two weeks ago with a dual meet against Wichita State University. Sophomore Russ Wiltze and junior Jeff Schmahl were the only Husker victors as the Shockers won 7-2.

"We had some close matches, but they just didn't go our way," Porter said.

The Huskers also were scheduled to play Oklahoma State the same weekend, but the Cowboys were forced to cancel because of illness, Porter said.

The Huskers number one singles player is sophomore Phil Woog. The next four spots are held by Schmahl,

freshman Cris Wilcox, sophomores Dan Sloboth, Wiltze and Kent Lysgaard.

"We're having challenge matches now," Porter said, "so things could change."

Challenging for a position in the top six are juniors Bill Jackson and Dan Weaver, sophomore Kevin McDermott and freshman Larry Rugg, Porter said.

The team now practices at the Sports Complex tennis courts.

"We are going to practice at the Sports Complex until the weather gets better," Porter said. "Then we'll move outside."

"If we play up to our potential we should finish better this year," Porter said.

UNL finished sixth in the seven-team Big 8 Conference meet last year. Porter said he expects improvement.

"If we play up to our potential we should improve on last year's finish. The only problem is the Big 8 is getting stronger too. I do think we can surprise some people this year," he said.

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